

Disentangling populism: Reception and effects of populist communication

**COST Training School for PhD students, Post-docs and Early Stage Researchers
(Travel grant available)**

**May 8-12, 2017
Bucharest, Romania**

Aim of the Training School

The Training School on *Disentangling populism: Reception and effects of populist communication* aims to explore the intricacies of populist communication in light of the challenges that the rise of populism throughout Europe poses to mainstream understandings of democracy. While a great deal of scholarly attention has been directed at the study of populist politics and ideology, less systematic preoccupation has been shown for research on the communication practices used by populist parties and politicians, on the complex relationship between populism and the media and, not ultimately, on the effects that populist discourse might have on citizens in terms of mobilizing them and, possibly, engaging their support for populist parties and actors.

As a part of the COST Action IS1308 *Populist Political Communication in Europe* (<http://www.ntnu.edu/populistcommunication/populist-political-communication-in-europe>), this Training School seeks to further advance theoretical and methodological knowledge in the field of populism research, particularly with respect to reception and effects of populism communication. The School targets mainly young researchers across Europe (PhD students, post-docs, Early Stage Researchers), interested in intensive training in populist-related topics and research methodologies.

Organization

The School comprises 5-day long lectures and a workshop combined, which will give the participants the opportunity to attend talks on different topics relevant to populism research and to take part in an intensive workshop. The School benefits from the participation of renowned scholars from across Europe who will deliver lectures on the following topics:

1. *Conceptualization of populist communication*, by Benjamin de Cleen, Communication Studies Department, Vrije Universiteit Brussels
2. *Populism and the media*, by Frank Esser, IPMZ – Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research – International & Comparative Media Research, University of Zurich
3. *Research methods for populist communication*, by Jörg Matthes, Department of Communication, University of Vienna
4. *Effects of populist communication*, by Linda Bos, Amsterdam School of Communication Research ASCoR, Universiteit van Amsterdam

The Welcome speech will be given by Claes de Vreese, Chair of Political Communication at Amsterdam School of Communication Research ASCoR, Universiteit van Amsterdam.

In addition to the abovementioned talks, the intensive workshop will include paper presentations and discussions. Participants will have the opportunity to thoroughly present their ongoing research projects and to get feedback both from discussants assigned to their papers and from the audience. Two weeks before the beginning of the School, participants are invited to submit a full paper (approx. 6000 words), which will be sent to an assigned discussant for review (also from among the attendees). The workshop will include a 15 min presentation of the paper, followed by the reaction given by the discussant (10 min) and a discussion (20 min).

Application and travel grant

Application consists of an extended abstract (800-1000 words), a letter of motivation (500-800 words) and an academic CV. The abstract should describe the research project relevant to the aim of the Training School and/ or to the objectives of the COST Action (for further info, check the Working Groups section of the website, <http://www.ntnu.edu/populistcommunication/wg>). The letter of motivation should state why the applicant is suited and motivated to attend the School.

Applicants are eligible for a COST grant covering travel and accommodation. To receive the funding, applicants must attend all 5 days of the School. No more than 20 participants will be accepted.

Complete applications should be sent (as a single PDF document) before February 1, 2017 to the organizers, Elena Negrea-Busuioc (elena.negrea@comunicare.ro) and Nicoleta Corbu (nicoleta.corbu@comunicare.ro).