

(IN)FORMING CONFLICT PREVENTION,
RESPONSE AND RESOLUTION:



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THE ROLE OF MEDIA
IN VIOLENT CONFLICT

INFOCORE Working paper (03/2014) Mission Statement WP1 “Journalistic Production”

© Thomas Hanitzsch

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU), München, Germany

How to cite this paper: Hanitzsch, T. (2014). *Mission Statement Work Package 1 “Journalistic Production”*. INFOCORE Working Paper 2014/03. Munich: LMU. Online available at <http://www.infocore.eu/about-infocore/structure-of-the-project/>

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Mission Statement WP1 “Journalistic Production”

With respect to INFOCORE’s six specific conflict/war cases, WP1’s mission is to analyze news production¹ as ‘the product of teamwork in media outlets’ (Nossek, 2008). WP1 focuses on conflict-related news in the regions selected for the INFOCORE project in order to *identify key access points for media assistance programs, develop strategies to build social support for free media, combat hate speech, and foster peace and reconciliation*. News is produced and ‘judged to be newsworthy by journalists’² (Harrison, 2006: 13) and disseminated by their respective news media. Another mission of WP1 is to *provide detailed knowledge of how media and policy actors can cooperate to build policy capabilities for understanding ongoing conflict and formulating/implementing suitable policies*.

In this context, WP1 studies journalistic professional news values and news routines, their **interactions** with **sources**, **audiences** and other actors, and various **contextual factors** that **influence** the production of conflict-related news. WP1 also generates knowledge about **journalism cultures** and the **transformation of journalism** through assessing the backgrounds and professional orientations of journalists in Macedonia & Kosovo; Syria, Israel & Palestinian Territories; Burundi & Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as in the decision making centers such as France, Germany and Great Britain, and Brussels.

In addition, WP1 looks at **work patterns and routines** in different phases of conflicts, as well as use the analysis of the perceptions of other actors (**political actors**³, **NGOs**⁴, **publics**⁵) involved in the **news production process** to identify strategies of **interaction between conflict journalists and other actors involved in the news production process**. Specifically, WP1 analyzes the primary constraints within the news production process on conflict journalists’ **performance, freedom, and editorial autonomy** and determine the influences of **contextual factors**, the **organizational environment**, and **actor interactions** on the news production process.

References

- Harrison, J. (2006). *News* (1st ed.). London: Routledge.
- Nossek, H. (2008). News. *The International Encyclopedia of Communication*. Donsbach, W. (ed). Blackwell Publishing. Blackwell Reference Online. 07 February 2014
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¹ See a separate definition of News Production

² See a separate definition of Journalists

³ See a separate definition of Political Actors

⁴ See a separate definition of NGOs

⁵ See a separate definition of Publics