About the Contributors

**Mika Markus Merviö** is a Professor of International Relations at the Kibi International University, Okayama, Japan. Previously he has been working at the University of Tampere, Finland, from which he also received his Ph.D. (International Relations). Then he moved to the International Christian University, Tôkyô, Japan as a JSPS researcher and from there to the Miyazaki International University and the University of Shimane, where he worked as a Professor. From 2000, he has been working at the Kibi International University. His research interests include political and social issues, history, art and environment.

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**Shakuntala Banaji** is the Programme Director for the Master’s in Media, Communication and Development in the Media and Communications Department at the LSE. She lectures in World cinema and international media, with a special focus on young people. She has published widely on Hindi cinema, audiences, diasporic youth, creativity, news reception amongst minority youth, the Internet and youth civic participation. Among her recent publications are her 2010 edited collection South Asian Media Cultures, and her 2013 book (co-authored with David Buckingham) The Civic Web: The Online Civic Sphere for Youth in Europe.

**Aziz Douai** (Ph.D. in Mass Communications, Pennsylvania State University) is an Assistant Professor of Communication at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada. His research focuses on new media and activism, Arab media and democracy, global media and international conflict, among other areas of international communications. He is the co-editor of New media influence on social and political change in Africa (IGI-Global, 2013), and the Managing Editor of the American Communication Journal. In addition to contributing to several books, Dr. Douai’s other publications have appeared in the Journal of International Communication, Global Media Journal, First Monday, Journal of Arab & Muslim Media Research, Arab Reform Bulletin, International Communication Research Journal, The Westminster Papers in Communication and Culture, and Journal of Computer Mediated Communication. Dr. Douai serves on the editorial boards of several organizations and publications including Global Media Journal and the American Communication Association.
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Seok-Jin Eom is an associate professor of Graduate School of Public Administration at Seoul National University, Korea and a research associate of the Research Institute of Public Information Management. He received his Ph.D. in public administration from the Seoul National University. He has published a number of papers in academic journals including Government Information Quarterly, Administration & Society and Korea Observer. His current research interests include evolution of e-governance, the relationship between information technology, institutions, and organizations as well as public governance in the era of economic development in Korea.

Michelle Ferrier the Associate Dean for Innovation, Research/Creative Activity and Graduate Studies in the Scripps College of Communication at Ohio University. Ferrier holds a Ph.D. from the University of Central Florida in Texts and Technology with special emphasis on online communities, online learning and new media technologies. She also holds a M.S. from the University of Memphis in journalism. For more than 20 years, Ferrier has been experimenting with and developing content for a variety of digital platforms. She has been a beta tester and early adopter of such technologies as page layout software, direct-to-plate printing, content management systems, website development, online learning and other digital communication technologies.

Jane Fountain is Distinguished University Professor of Political Science and Public Policy and Adjunct Professor of Computer Science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is director of the National Center for Digital Government; a member of the advisory board of the Computational Social Science Institute; and is a former Chair, Vice Chair and currently a member of the World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on the Future of Government. She is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration; the Radcliffe Institute; and, at the University of Massachusetts, a recipient of the Chancellor’s Medal. In 2014 she was named to the U.S. Federal 100 in Information Technology, a list of the most influential government, business and academic innovators in IT. She has a PhD in Political Science and in Organizational Behavior from Yale University where she was a Yale Fellow and a Mellon Fellow.

Knut Fournier joined the City University of Hong Kong in August 2014 as a Graduate Teaching Assistant. He previously worked as a monitoring trustee in competition law in London, Beijing and Brussels, and for the Judiciary branch of the US Federal Government. He is finishing his PhD on Hong Kong competition law at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, and he previously obtained his LLM from King’s College, London. His recent publications include “The Qantas/Emirates Decision - How the Competition Commission of Singapore Used the Net Economic Benefits Exclusion to Regulate the Air Passenger Market”, in the Singapore Academy of Law Journal.

Mary Griffiths (PhD) joined the University of Adelaide in 2006 as Associate Professor, and Head of the Department of Media, where she initiated, designed and implemented digital and participatory media programs. Before that, she held senior positions in Monash University (Communications and Writing, 1985-2004); and in the University of Waikato, NZ (Screen and Media, 2004-2006). She is Associate Editor for the Electronic Journal of E-Government, and presents and publishes widely on the transformative, mediating and enabling aspects of digital technologies in participatory, democratic and civic practices.
**Fadi Hirzalla** is a researcher and lecturer in political science and communication science. He was previously employed at the University of Amsterdam and Utrecht University in the Netherlands. His main research and teaching activities focus on digital media, youth civic participation, interculturalism and research methods.

**Ullamaija Kivikuru** is emerita professor of journalism, University of Helsinki, Finland. Her research interests are media and democracy, development communication and journalism. She worked long as a professional journalist. After returning to the university, she has taught journalism and communication theory at the University of Helsinki and School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Dar es Salaam, plus visited several eastern and southern African university departments responsible for journalism and media studies. She has been the coordinator for a North-South-South network project, financed by the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs for the past 10 years. The Journalism Network brings together students and teachers from university-level journalism education institutions from Finland, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia. Professor Kivikuru has published more than a dozen books about media in Finnish, Swedish and English.

**Marianne LeGreco** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Her work focuses on community-based and participatory research methods, food and nutrition programming in low-income neighborhoods, and the application of organizational communication concepts in health communication contexts. LeGreco earned her PhD in Communication from the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication at Arizona State University, with an emphasis on organizational and health communication. Her current research focuses on refining a qualitative research method called discourse tracing, developing concepts and practices related to kitchen literacy, as well as chairing a Food Council Task Force for Guilford County. She is particularly interested in concepts and theories related to access to resources, policy, and participation.

**Dawn Leonard** has more than 12 years experience in graphic and web design. As the founder of Dawn Leonard Design, she has helped several community-based and non-profit organizations develop an online presence. Dawn graduated from Iowa State University in 2002 with a BFA in Graphic Design, and a minor in music. She also served as the Executive Director of Urban Harvest Greensboro until 2011. In her role as ED, she organized and oversaw day-to-day activities at the community garden including: hosting volunteer groups of all ages; running the CSA (community supported agriculture); and outreach to foster activity at and around the garden. Dawn also helped build a network of support for projects relating to urban agriculture and food access in Greensboro.

**Vildan Mahmutoğlu** works in Galatasaray University/ Communication faculty. Research areas are; local televisions, diaspora and minorities.

**Dalya Y. Markovich** received her PhD in Sociology of Education in 2007 at the department of sociology of education at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem. She is teaching anthropology and education, art education and diversity and education in Beit Berl College. Her current research is broadly concerned with identity and education, and with education and social change in multicultural/multinational societies. She is the editor of Bezalel Journal of Visual and Material Culture.
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**Katherine Ognyanova** is a postdoctoral researcher at the Lazer Lab, Northeastern University, and a fellow at the Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University. She does work in the areas of computational social science and network analysis. Her research has a broad focus on transformations of the media system, political and civic engagement, and the impact of technology on social structures. Her past experience includes work with the Annenberg Networks Network, the Center for the Digital Future, the World Internet Project, the USC Metamorphosis Project, as well as a fellowship with the Federal Communications Commission. Katherine received her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. She holds a B.Sc. in Computer Science, and M.A. degrees in Communication and Virtual Culture. For more information, visit Dr Ognyanova’s website at www.kateto.net or follow her on Twitter at @Ognyanova.

**Milly Perry** has been employed since 1999 with The Open University of Israel, holding management and responsibility positions as Head of the Information Technology School (LLL organizational and educational and training program specialist), Business Development director, Research director and Chief Knowledge Officer, currently she is the “OPMOP Ltd” Technology Transfer Company, CEO and currently the Head of the Academic Development Unit. A few years ago she was appointed member of the steering committee of Israel’s National Science Council, and an advisory Committee member at the National council for the promotion of women in science and technology, Ministry of Science and Technology. Through her involvement in those bodies, as well as her PhD. on Information Science and Knowledge Management and Post.Doc appointment, dealing with INNOVATION in higher education. Dr. Perry has gained strong expertise in higher education knowledge management and ICT change management; formal e-learning program development for managers in technological issues and lifelong-learning projects in industry and the private sector. Dr. Perry served for 4 years as a board member at EARMA, the European Association for Research Managers & Administrators, Brussels. Belgium and now is serving as EARMA ambassador. Dr Perry is serving as an ERC Proof of Concept expert in The European Research Council, a member at the Women Corporate Director (WCD) International Association for Women who serve as directors of corporates, Israeli chapter and a member of WIL European network for Woman in leadership. Currently serving as a member of Public Advisory Board, IDF of The Board Directors forum. Israel.

**Veena Raman** is a lecturer in the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences at the Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Raman teaches courses on political communication and new information technologies, the cultural implications of new media technologies and ethical issues surrounding them, and the role of information technologies in facilitating democratic participation and deliberation. Dr. Raman’s research focuses on political impacts of communication technologies, digital governance, participatory and deliberative democracy, and civic engagement in the context of globalization. Dr. Raman was a post-doctoral research scholar with the Berkeley Center for Globalization and Information Technology prior to moving to Penn State.

**Outi Ratamäki** holds a PhD in environmental policy and a Bachelor’s Degree in environmental law. She has studied large carnivore conflicts in Finland from the perspectives of societal sustainability and governance. She has previously published work on this topic in Journal of Environment & Development, Human Dimensions of Wildlife and International Journal of Information Systems and Social Change. Her current studies at the Finnish Environment Institute deal with governance of ecosystem services.
At the University of Eastern Finland she is working in a project funded by the Academy of Finland (Companion Animals and the Affective Turn: Reconstructing the Human-Horse Relationship in Modern Culture) and in an EU-funded project titled ‘Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Arguments for Our Future Environment’. Dr. Ratamäki is also a board member of the Finnish Society for Human-Animal Studies and the editor in-chief of the Finnish Journal of Human-Animal Studies.

Irene Samanta obtained a degree (B.A.) in Business Administration, M.Sc. in International Marketing from University of Paisley (UK) and Ph.D. from the University of the West of Scotland (UK). Her Ph.D. research was on the modelling the relationships in B2B firms under e-marketing practices. Her main research interests are in the areas of e-relationships, e-marketing, international marketing and research methods. The last years she is working as an Associate Professor in the above fields in the Department of Business Administration TEI of Piraeus. She is moderator in two modules at the M.Sc. in International Business Management and she has taught for six years in M.Sc. in International Marketing of the University of the West of Scotland in collaboration with TEI of Piraeus. She has supervised a large number of M.Sc. dissertations concentrated in the area of electronic relationships and social media. She participates as Researcher in European projects. She is editor and co-editor in several chapter books. She is author or co-author of several papers in various scientific journals, chapter-books, conference proceedings, and several articles in economic journals. She is the co-author of three text books. She participates as an active member in academic associations; include the European Association of Operations Management, European Academy of Management, and the Hellenic Institution of Operational Research. Also she participates in professional associations; include the Industrial and Commercial Chamber of Piraeus and Commercial Association of Piraeus.

Ivan Szekely, social informatist, senior research fellow of the Open Society Archives at Central European University, associate professor at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, and board member of the Eotvos Karoly Policy Institute. His research interests are focused on information autonomy, openness and secrecy, privacy, identity, memory and forgetting, and archivistics.

Bilge Yesil is Associate Professor of Media Culture at College of Staten Island, City University of New York. She is the author of Video Surveillance: Power and Privacy in Everyday Life (2009) and From The Turkish Model? Media, Democracy and the Neoliberal Islamist State (upcoming) to Media in New Turkey: The Origins of an Authoritarian Neoliberal State (forthcoming).