

## Editorial

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How do given media organisations frame intractable international conflicts? What explains the discrepancies of coverage when they arise? In this issue, Ravale Mohydin examines the Kashmir dispute and the revocation of Article 370 from the Indian constitution in August 2019. This prevented the possibility of a long-promised UN-sanctioned plebiscite in the territory. Mohydin compares the news framing of American CNN and Turkish TRT World before and after the revocation. In general, CNN addresses Kashmir as a security issue, before and after the revocation, whereas TRT World foregrounds humanitarian dimensions of the dispute. Mohydin explains how news frame patterns for both media organisations were shaped by their political-economic organisation, geopolitical priorities of coverage, and the global communications environment. Lluís Mas-Machon, Frederic Guerro-Sole, Xavier Ramon and Laura Grande demonstrate how dominant news framings of national conflicts can be strategically manipulated by news media groups and news publications. In this case, the Spanish newspaper *El País*' coverage of the Catalan independence movement reflected the structural biases of patriotic journalism—a credo embedded within the political-economic system inherited after the death of Franco. During October 2017, a sample of news stories revealed a pattern of reportage which demonised “them” (the Catalans) and personalised “us” (the Spanish). At the same time, *El País* depicted Catalan viewpoints as an indicator of fake news strategems—an association which deflected attention from the excesses of patriotic journalism.

Ying Zhou and Yu Xiang shift our attention to social media communication in tertiary institutions. Their interviews with academic and administrative staff at a Chinese university found that obligatory WeChat use brought high workloads, stringent monitoring of individual performance, intense emotional involvement and general surveillance from Party officials (especially concerning weekend functions). Crucially, work-life boundaries were dissolved amidst institutional expectations of constant availability. During the Covid 19 pandemic, staff anxieties worsened as they were compelled to use university-designated online teaching platforms. Zhou and Xiang's case study and findings will resonate with many readers of this journal.

General critiques of social media technologies are explicated in a special section on *The Social Dilemma*, a Netflix documentary film directed by Jeff Orlowski. Paschal Preston introduces four critiques by Robin Mansell, Graham Murdock, Eugenia Siaperia and Yuqi Na. Each contributor draws upon their research expertise to evaluate the film's understanding of social media forms, practices and impacts.

Todd Nesbitt's review of Randy Nichol's and Gabriela Martinez (eds) *Political Economy of Media Industries: Global Transformations and Challenges* (2019) acknowledges the research of Janet Wasko, a founding scholar in our field. The edited collection features articles on the film industry, other media industries and contemporary themes in the political economy of communication. This publication and its review are especially welcome—Janet Wasko and many of the contributing writers have strongly supported this journal.