

Special Issue

Rethinking Journalism in the Age of Podcasts: Perspectives, Possibilities, Boundaries

Message from the Guest Editors

Podcasts have evolved from a niche format into a mainstream medium, reshaping content creation, media consumption, and audience engagement. Their unique storytelling techniques, interactive dynamics, and capacity for fostering intimacy and emotional connection set them apart as an innovative media form (Bonini 2022, Lindgren 2021). The rapid evolution of podcasting is driven by technological advancements, new industry players, shifting audience behaviors, and broader societal transformations (Newman & Cherubini 2025, Dowling 2024). While existing research on podcasts has extensively examined content, organizational frameworks, and economic dimensions—particularly within the realm of journalism studies—many fundamental questions remain unexplored. As podcasts increasingly shape media markets and redefine journalism's core functions and identity, there is an urgent need for further exploration. This special issue seeks to advance the academic discourse on podcasting by welcoming contributions that provide new insights, theoretical advancements, and empirical analyses on the role of podcasts in contemporary media landscapes.

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