

Journalism Studies Symposium: Connecting with the Human

May 11, 2026

9:15 a.m. Registration, coffee and light breakfast served

Library Building, 2nd Floor; outside Exposições Room

10-11:30 a.m. Welcome and Keynote address

Catarina Duff Burnay, Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences, UCP

Alexandra Lopes, Director of the Research Centre for Communication and Culture (CECC), UCP

Keynote: Karin Wahl-Jorgensen, Cardiff University School of Journalism

Introducing “Boutique media”: Connecting with the human through epistemic and affective authority

Chair: Ioli Campos, UCP

Room: Exposições

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Paper Sessions

Session 1 – The Human Audience, chair: Jessica Roberts, UCP

Room: Exposições

Beyond metrics: (Mis)attuning in the datafied relationship between journalism and audiences// Julie Vulpius, Roskilde University

Connecting to people from national and linguistic minorities: Public service media programs in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland//Liane Rothenberger, University of Bamberg & Steffen Grütjen, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

Exploring the interactions and expectations between marginalized news subjects and journalists who cover them//Emma Verhoeven, University of Antwerp

Relational journalism: Reconnecting journalists, communities, and the self//Timon Ramaker, Ede Christian University of Applied Sciences

Session 2 – Journalistic Practices, chair: Catarina Valdigem, UCP

Room: Timor

Exploring journalistic practices and the role of journalism in reporting persistent social issues// Jasmijn Kruijt, Linda van den Heijkant, Jeroen Jonkman, Toni van der Meer, & Theo Araujo, University of Amsterdam

Journalistic values in the age of the televised news reconfiguration in digital ecosystem: The case of News Bulletins in Romania//Roxana Chivu, University of Bucharest

New routines and norms in German newsrooms: How the demands of digital media put pressure on local journalism//Andrea Czepek & Melanie Hellwig, Jade University of Applied Sciences

Under pressure: Journalistic practices and newsroom routines in crisis coverage//Sandra Förster, Denise Voci, & Matthias Karmasin, University of Klagenfurt

1-2 p.m. Lunch

2-3:30 p.m. Paper Sessions

Session 3 – AI in Journalism, chair: Ioli Campos, UCP

Room: Exposições

Human-machine agreement in detecting disinformation: Limits of AI sentiment analysis in social media debate//Lukasz Wojciechowski, Katka Fichnová & Michal Radošinský, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra

Journalism in the era of AI campaigns: Hungarian journalists' perspective on using AI in the light of the 2026 elections//Kata Horvath, UCP

Let data speak: Data storytelling in the era of big data and AI//Tomáš Hána, Charles University
Soft news, artificial intelligence, students, and “human” journalism//Mateusz Sobiech & Karolina Burno-Kaliszuk, Maria Curie-Skłodowska University

Session 4 – Confronting Challenges and Social Issues, chair: Nelson Ribeiro, UCP

Room: Timor

Compassionate communication as a response to journalistic sensationalism: An Italian case study on the role of families impacted by crime//Diana Garrisi, Cardiff University

Information disorder in contemporary political communication on social media//Lukasz

Wojciechowski, Katka Fichnová & Michal Radošinský, University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra

Media necropolitics and humanitarian journalism//Changiz Mahmoudzadeh Varzi, UCP

The impact of valence and human presence in news visuals of heatwaves on emotional and risk perceptions of climate change//Linda van den Heijkant & Christel van Eck, University of Amsterdam

3:30-4 p.m. Coffee break

4-5:30 p.m. Paper Sessions

Session 5 – Human Journalists, chair: Manuel Carvalho Coutinho, UCP

Room: Exposições

Shielding the messenger: The role of civil society organisations protecting journalists from online harassment and hate//Susana Sampaio-Dias, University of Portsmouth & Maria João Silveirinha, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa

Take that, Janet Malcolm!: An apology for befriending a source//Russell Frank, Pennsylvania State University

Witnessing from within: The role of human presence and first-person journalism in Bisan Owda's reporting on the conflict in Gaza//Maria Simonato, UCP

Going independent in gaming media: From one place of precarity to another//Ian Farrugia, UCP

Session 6 – Human Perceptions, chair: Karin Wahl-Jorgensen, Cardiff University

Room: Timor

“With no media, I know nothing”: How people get local information in news deserts//Luísa Torre & Pedro Jerónimo, University of Beira Interior

Journalism under prolonged war: Information fatigue and the human scale of local news//Tanya Gordiienko, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

Reconnecting journalism through transparency: Funding appeals and human resilience in Portuguese alternative media//Cátia Ferreira & Carla Ganito, UCP

Authority over truth: A discursive analysis of the identity of fact-checking in Portugal//Luis Pedro Rodrigues, UCP

Join us for a post-Symposium Happy Hour at EUPhoria Bistrô!
on Av. Prof. Egas Moniz, a short walk from UCP: <https://g.co/kgs/jDPsS3x>

**See book of
abstracts here:**

