

## Doctoral dissertations 2016: Finland

Asunta, Laura: *The role, the goal and the soul of professional public relations: developing a holistic model of PR professionalism*. Jyväskylä: University of Jyväskylä, 2016. 277 p. ISBN 978-951-39-6453-5.

This doctoral dissertation investigates PR professionalism and PR as a strategic expert function. The approach is phenomenographic and the research progresses through four phases: (1) building a conceptual framework, (2) conducting an interpretative study of concepts, (3) conducting semi-structured in-depth interviews among 37 Finnish PR experts, and (4) constructing a holistic model of PR professionalism. The interpretative study of concepts concludes that PR professionalism consists of expertise in management of identity, management of public sphere, and management of relationships, and its core values are respect, responsibility and reflexivity. The interview study outlines five different approaches to the PR professional: Bridge builder, Advocate of the organisation, Advocate of the mission, Strategic facilitator, and Neutral facilitator.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6454-2>

Custódio, Leonardo: *Favela media activism: political trajectories of low-income Brazilian youth*. Tampere: University of Tampere, 2016. 284 p. ISBN 978-952-03-0117-0.

What explains the engagement of low-income youth in media initiatives for political purposes in everyday life? This study investigates ethnographically the uses of media (radio, newspapers, cameras, mobile phones, and internet) and practices of journalism for human rights and social justice among young residents of Rio de Janeiro's favelas. The personal trajectories in media activism are contextualized against the history of political resistance of the poor in Brazil since the 19th century.

The research is based on four years (2011–2014) of ethnographic fieldwork, including conversations, interviews, observations and participation in online and offline actions with young favela residents. Favelas are overpopulated and poor urban areas, which have historically suffered from discrimination, governmental neglect and drug trade related armed conflicts. The key notion of favela media activism refers to individual and collective actions in, through and about media.

The study addresses two research questions: (a) what characterizes favela media activism and (b) what explains the uses of media and the journalistic practices of young favela residents for acts of citizenship. These questions reflect the interrelated core objectives of the study.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-03-0118-7>

Höglund, Maj-Britt: *Re-inventing the Cosmo girl: how a magazine neutralizes competing discourses*. Vaasa: University of Vaasa, 2016. 178 p. ISBN 978-952-476-671-5.

In the case of Cosmopolitan, the reader/friend is epitomized as the Cosmo girl. She is a construction derived from market research; the consumer targeted by both the publisher and the advertisers.

The purpose of the doctoral study is to investigate how the magazine deals with discourses which challenge the discourse of the ideal performance of the Cosmo girl femininity. The material consists of the 12 editorials of Cosmopolitan UK 2004 and 48 feature stories in Cosmopolitan UK 2004 and 2006. This study is set within Critical Discourse Analysis and regards discourse as a creation of identities.

Link: [http://www.uva.fi/materiaali/pdf/isbn\\_978-952-476-672-2.pdf](http://www.uva.fi/materiaali/pdf/isbn_978-952-476-672-2.pdf)

Kaasik-Krogerus, Sigrid: *Normative stories of the formative moment: construction of Estonian national identity in Postimees during the EU accession process*. Helsinki: University of Helsinki, 2016. 280 p. ISBN 978-951-51-1047-3.

The longitudinal research analyzes how Estonian national identity is constructed in the country's largest and oldest daily newspaper in relation to the European Union during 1997–2003. The study combines media studies with political science, EU studies and nationalism studies to scrutinize this period as an example of a formative moment. During this formative moment the EU became the new official Other in relation to which a new temporary community, Estonia as a candidate country, was imagined in the opinion articles of the paper. The study is based on the assumption that national identity as a normative process of making a distinction between 'us' and 'Others' occurs in societal texts, such as, the media. The overall framework consists of critical discourse analysis in three phases, text, discourse practice and sociocultural practice. The empirical data consists of 1780 opinion articles of Postimees.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1048-0>

Kedra, Joanna: *Interpretation of journalistic photographs as an instrument of visual literacy education*. Jyväskylä: University of Jyväskylä, 2016. 106 p. ISBN 978-951-39-6796-3 (pdf)

Images are produced, used and distributed on an enormous scale. However, the skills of understanding, interpreting and using images as well as thinking and learning in terms of images are taken for granted, and thus, they are not sufficiently taught and developed, especially in higher education. The need for introducing visual literacy into the curriculum was identified in late 1960s, but no concrete guidelines have followed.

This study proposes to apply interpretation of journalistic photographs as an instrument of visual literacy education. The main focus is on the image interpretation process and the kinds of meanings viewers apply to a photograph in the interpretation process. In each of the four articles included in this study, a model or approach to photography interpretation is proposed.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6796-3>

Kivistö, Tapio: *Kohti aikakauslehtien ydintä: suomalainen aikakauslehti, lukijan tarpeet ja mediamurros*. [The core of the magazine : Finnish magazines, needs of readers and digital change.] Jyväskylä: Jyväskylän yliopisto, 2016. 207 s. ISBN 978-951-39-6639-3.

The purpose of this doctoral study is to discuss, whether the core content of magazines and the methods of satisfying the readers' needs could be transferred to the digital media environment and in what way.

The theoretical framework of the study is the notion of media concept. It allows viewing magazines as a vast whole and demonstrates a relationship between content and the audience's needs. In addition, this study utilises the uses and gratifications theory's view of satisfying audience's needs and the audience's needs demonstrated by prior research. The research data consisted of 19 Finnish magazines including women's magazines, family magazines and general magazines as well as magazines geared towards men.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6640-9>

Koivumäki, Marja-Riitta: *Dramaturgical approach in cinema: elements of poetic dramaturgy in A. Tarkovsky's films*. Helsinki: Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, 2016. 155 p. ISBN 978-952-60-6633-2.

In spite of the wealth of screenwriting manuals and guidebooks on how to write a screenplay, there are, nevertheless, few critical academic studies on dramaturgical techniques from the screenwriter's perspective. This thesis, building on the tradition of drama theories, expands and deepens understanding of the contribution and function of the screenplay within the film-making process, generates new knowledge of dramatic writing for film practitioners, and provides a reflection on contemporary dramaturgical strategies, methods and techniques in film-making.

This thesis introduces the dramaturgical approach in film, which is employed as a framework for a dramaturgical analysis of two of Andrei Tarkovsky's films – Ivan's Childhood (1962) and Nostalgia (1983).

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-60-0073-2>

Kotilainen, Noora: *Visual theaters of suffering: constituting the Western spectator in the age of the humanitarian world politics*. Helsinki: University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences, 2016. 472 p. ISBN 978-951-51-2849-2 (pdf).

Visual images picturing suffering of others are in many ways forceful; they move their spectators emotionally and politically. Images of wars, crisis and suffering communicate humanity, the peril it is in, as well as the need to protect it and to alleviate suffering. Emotive images of bodily suffering affect the understanding of not only the immediate crisis they depict but of the surrounding world, the position of the spectators of the images, as well as the position of the spectated (suffering) others. This is a study into the position, significance, framings and utilization of images of atrocity, war and human suffering within the evolvement of the ideas of a shared human community and humanitarian discourse. The visual theaters of suffering are approached within a historical perspective from the times of the Enlightenment onwards, focusing particularly on the era of Western lead humanitarian world politics of the recent decades.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:ISBN 978-951-51-2568-2>

Kumpu, Ville: *Tulevaisuuden kuvittelemisen journalismissa: tekstianalyttinen tulkinta journalismin tulevaisuusmielikuvituksesta*. [The future imaginary of journalism : a textual analysis of journalism as a discursive practice for imagining futures.] Tampere: Tampereen yliopisto, 2016. 250 s. ISBN 978-952-03-0187-3.

The theoretical aim of this study is to define journalism as a discursive practice for imagining futures. The methodological aim is to develop a method for textual analysis suitable for studying futures imagined in journalistic texts. The empirical aim is to study futures imagined in news texts and editorials related to climate summits and key moments in Finnish agricultural policy.

In this study, imagining futures is defined as a discursive practice that concerns the articulation of the future as an object of knowledge (aiming to predict or foretell it) and as an object of action (aiming to shape the future to a particular direction). Based on earlier research journalism's future imaginary is defined tentatively as a discursive practice that mainly aims to articulate knowledge of the future and is cautious of articulating and participating in efforts to shape futures through action.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-03-0188-0>

Kuuluvainen, Venla: *Supportive Communication in Al-Anon Mutual-aid Groups*. Tampere: University of Tampere, 2016. 176 p. ISBN 978-952-03-0127-9.

This dissertation is located in the field of speech communication and concentrates on the communication of social support, that is, supportive communication, in Al-Anon mutual aid-groups directed towards the friends and family of alcoholics. The aim is to comprehensively understand the elements and functions of supportive communication in the context of Al-Anon. This dissertation adopts the theoretical perspective of supportive communication to meet this aim and composes of four peer-reviewed articles, each focusing on four elements of supportive communication in Al-Anon.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-03-0128-6>

Lehtinen, Aki Petteri: *Journalismin objektiivisuus: pragmaattinen tietokäsitys ja relativismin haaste moniarvoisessa maailmassa*. [The objectivity of journalism : pragmatic objectivity and a challenge of relativism in pluralistic world.] Helsinki: Helsingin yliopisto, 2016. 235 s. ISBN 978-951-51-1075-6.

In this dissertation, the challenges of relativism to journalism are addressed by developing a new comprehensive account of journalistic objectivity as a practical and norm-governed processual method of knowledge acquisition and representation. The concept of pragmatic objectivity offered includes the guiding norms, and sets truthfulness as its measurable aim in the context of liberal democracy. This project is based on philosophical pragmatism.

The research questions critically examined and pragmatically answered in the dissertation are 1) how can journalism as an epistemic practice remain epistemically and ethically autonomous in relation to its relativistic rivals in pluralistic liberal democracies, 2) how to improve and strengthen the professional self-understanding and epistemic action of journalists in an anti-relativist vein, and 3) how to overcome the artificial demarcation between journalism and its academic study that predisposes both to relativism.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1076-3>

Lillqvist, Ella: *Discursive struggle in online media: perspectives on organization-consumer interaction*. Helsinki: Aalto University School of Business, 2016. 160 p. ISBN 978-952-60-6745-2.

While online media have been perceived to empower consumers to have more influence in relation to organizations, organizations also use these media in manipulative ways. In this dissertation, this dynamic is conceptualized as discursive struggle. The dissertation takes a critical and constructionist perspective and draws on a set of "dialogical"—interactional and contextual—theories of communication (such as Bakhtin's dialogism and symbolic interactionism) to examine organization–consumer interaction in social media.

The aim of the dissertation is to understand the discursive processes and cultural and technological affordances involved in the discursive struggle on social media. These issues are examined in four essays.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-60-6746-9>

Luukkola, Pekka: *Laadun taika: valokuvan teknistaiteellisen laadun tekijälähtöinen tutkimus*. [Technical and artistic quality in photographic art.] Helsinki: Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, 2016. 157 s. ISBN 978-952-93-6595-1.

The study deals with technical and artistic quality in photographic art. The production chain from the scene to be recorded to the completed photograph consists of many stages, each of which has an impact on image quality. The aim has been to find out how these stages affect quality and how it is possible to improve the quality at various phases in the process.

Munck, Pirjo: *Valistajista ammattimieheksi: toimittajien ammattilaistumisen pitkä tie 1771–1921*. [From Enlighteners to Professionals: Finnish Journalists Long Road from 1771 to 1921.] Helsinki: Helsingin yliopisto, 2016. 256 s. ISBN 978-951-51-1982-7.

This interpretation of Finnish journalists professionalization is based on exploring professional cooperation, the structural changes of the profession and the development of journalistic culture. The evaluation is made in the economic, political and social contexts. The important part of the research is a socio-economic examination of Finnish journalism between 1771 and 1921. The development of newspaper work into a profession began in Finland in the second half of the 19th century. The professionalization process followed in the footsteps of Nordic colleagues, especially Swedish journalists.

The research focuses on the changes in the social position of journalists and the different defensive strategies the profession used to improve its position. The most effective strategy to improve the occupation's social status was the foundation of professional organisations. The Finnish journalists organized six national congresses between 1876–1900 and founded their first professional organisation, the Finnish Association of Journalists.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1983-4>

Mäenpää, Jenni: *Todeksi tehty valokuva: objektiivisuuden rakentuminen uutiskuvajournalismissa*. [A Photograph Produced as Truth: The Construction of Objectivity within News Photojournalism.] Tampere: Tampereen yliopisto, 2016. 171 s. ISBN 978-952-03-0223-8.

If we ponder the question of what distinguishes a photograph from other types of visual representations, we quite often end up addressing the question of truthfulness. However, the field of photography theory is not united on the question of why the concept of truthfulness is so seamlessly associated with photography. Photography researchers and photographers have, over the past century, had varying opinions of whether truthfulness has more to do with the ontological characteristics of photography as a trace produced by light, or the cultural conventions associated with it. Once a photograph is presented in a journalistic context, it meets the discussion about truthfulness from another perspective. Photojournalism pursues photographs that serve the goals of truthful news reporting. These goals, requirements even, are associated with the concept of objectivity, which is considered as a value, norm and ideal of the occupational ideology of journalism.

This dissertation focuses on Finnish photojournalism professionals such as press photographers, photo editors, image processing staff and managers of visual departments. The central research question concerns the issue of what the professional discourse is like in relation to photographic truthfulness, and how this discourse is fulfilled in actual work practices.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-03-0224-5>

Porttikivi, Merja: *Organisaatioiden diskursiivinen legitimaatio kiistelevässä verkkojulkisuudessa*. [Discursive legitimation of organizations in agonist online public sphere.] Helsinki: Aalto University School of Business, 2016. 190 s. ISBN 978-952-60-6695-0.

The focus of this doctoral thesis is the discursive legitimation of organizations in agonist online public sphere. Theoretically, it draws upon the institutional theory of organizational legitimacy, theories of the public sphere, and the discourse theory of Laclau and Mouffe.

The purpose of the study is to bring new understandings about the construction of organizational legitimacy in the mediated public sphere. The main research problem of the study is: How does the agonist online public sphere function as a discursive arena where the legitimacy of organizations is constructed? The main problem is divided into four different research questions, through which discursive struggle as an antecedent of legitimacy is investigated. The empirical material for the study comprises discourses in three different online materials, i.e. news commenting forums, discussion forums, and Wikipedia. The materials are analyzed with discourse-theoretical and narrative methods.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-60-6696-7>

Poutanen, Petro: *Complexity and collaboration in creative group work*. Helsinki: University of Helsinki, 2016. 90 p. ISBN 978-951-51-1087-9.

The demands of creativity and innovation in working life have increased. The problems of the 21st century are inherently complex and require the creative contributions of multiple stakeholders to solve them.

This dissertation argues that creative collaboration can be approached through the lens of the theories about complex systems. These theories conceptualize creative collaboration as an interactive and emergent phenomenon, in which creativity emerges continuously and unpredictably from the interactions of the actors and elements of the system. This argument is investigated in this study by developing a research framework based on the theories of complex systems and examining creative collaboration through empirical case studies that were conducted in the context of innovation camps. The proposed research framework emphasises three important points of attention when studying creative collaboration: temporal patterns, social mechanisms, and meanings and communication.

The thesis is based on five original articles and an introduction of 90 pages.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1088-6>

Rantala, Varpu: *Secular Possession: Cinematic Iconography of Addiction*. Turku: University of Turku, 2016. 275 p. ISBN 978-951-29-6494-9 (pdf).

Addiction, and the experience of being addicted, is notoriously difficult to describe verbally and explain rationally. Would multifaceted and multisensory cinematic images work better in making addiction understandable? This study enquires how cinematic expression can render visible the experience of being addicted which is invisible as such. The basic data consists of circa 50 mainly North American and European fiction films from the early 1900s to the early 2000s that deal with addictive disorders as defined in the psychiatric DSM-V classification (substance dependence- and gambling disorders).

The study develops an approach for analyzing and interpreting a large volume of digital film data: digital cinematic iconography is a framework to study the multifaceted cinematic images by processing and viewing them in the "digital image-laboratory" of the computer. Images are cut and classified by editing software and algorithmic sorting.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-29-6494-9>

Rohas, Eeva: *Sylviasta, Sylvialle, Sylviana: retoriikka ja merkityksenmuodostus osoitteessa* [www.sylviaplathforum.com](http://www.sylviaplathforum.com). [About Sylvia, to Sylvia, as Sylvia: rhetoric and meaning-making on [www.sylviaplathforum.com](http://www.sylviaplathforum.com).] Jyväskylä: Jyväskylän yliopisto, 2016. 389 s. ISBN 978-951-39-6778-9.

This study explores the writings of Sylvia Plath Forum, a discussion forum in the Internet that was launched in 1998. Using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis, Chaïm Perelman's theory of argumentation, Kenneth Burke's idea of identification as the basis of rhetoric, and René Girard's theory of mimetic desire as its framework this study looks into the forum's meaning-making processes and the ways the author Sylvia Plath (1932–1963) and her readers are represented on the forum. Attention is paid especially to meaning-making practices that are connected with literary studies, feminism, medicalization, and cultic phenomena. Furthermore, cultic discourse and fan discourse are understood in this work as two separate meaning-making practices. The definition of cultic discourse is based on Péter Dávidházi's (2002) model of cultic reception but René Girard's theory is also drawn on.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6779-6>

Räsä, Tiina: *Medieritualet som klass- och kulturbundna diskurser och funktioner: Hufvudstadsbladets lucia och konstruktionen av Svenskfinland*. Helsingfors: Helsingfors universitet, Nordica, 2016. 246 s. ISBN 978-951-51-2827-0 (pdf).

Journalisternas språk har en naturaliserande och socialiserande kraft. Medietexter förmår således att både inkludera och exkludera grupper genom ordval och perspektiv. Detta blir särskilt påtagligt i samband med mediernas ritualer, när t.ex. republiken firar sin självständighet eller när Svenskfinland förbereder sig för lucia. I avhandlingen analyseras Hufvudstadsbladets lucia som förmodligen är Finlands äldsta medieritual. I studien fokuseras på medietexter och på de redaktionella skrivpraktikerna från 1950, då medieritualen börjar, fram till 2010-talet.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-2827-0>

Salojärvi, Virpi: *The media in the core of political conflict: Venezuela during the last years of Hugo Chávez's presidency*. Helsinki: University of Helsinki, 2016. 234 p. ISBN 978-951-51-1091-6.

This dissertation investigates the role of media in political conflict during President Hugo Chávez's administration (1999–2013). This conflict is understood as antagonism where the political opponent is seen as an enemy instead of a more equal adversary. In Venezuela, private media were powerful economic and political actors before Chávez's era due to clientelistic tradition.

President Chávez questioned the neoliberal measures taken by previous governments and started to apply his politics of the "socialism of 21st century" in a manner that shaped his government's media policies. Several private media outlets disagreed with his drastic measures and took them as an attack.

Confrontation developed between the private media and state media sectors. This polarized situation offers an excellent case study to focus on the construction of hegemonies in a populist context, and the media's role in it because the society was penetrated by politics.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1092-3>

Seuri, Olli: *Historian journalistinen esittäminen: 1960-luku Helsingin Sanomissa vuosina 2008 ja 2013*. [Journalistic history-making through references to the 1960s in the daily newspaper Helsingin Sanomat.] Tampere: Tampereen yliopisto, 2016. 419 s. ISBN 978-952-03-0258-0.

The aim of the study is to understand how and why journalism represents past the way it does. Theoretical framework of the study is built on journalism studies and historical theory. The empirical data has been gathered from volumes of 2008 and 2013 in HS. The data consists of 3 789 independent news or other journalistic items which refer to the 1960s. Additionally 101 history-based articles or article collections are used separately. Majority of these history-based articles and a greater quantity of references to the 1960s are in the volume of 2008, which points to 2008 being a particular year of remembrance of the 1960s. The analytical framework of this study is built on multiple research interventions. The study starts from a broad content analysis and proceeds to more limited interventions. Both qualitative and quantitative analytical tools are used in addition to source criticism, which is more common in historical research. Different methods and theoretical approaches are characteristic to triangulation: illuminating the subject of the study from different perspectives sheds light on the big picture.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-03-0259-7>

Sommier, Mélodine: *Constructing the secular imagined community: a critical intercultural analysis of discourses of laïcité from Le Monde*. Jyväskylä: University of Jyväskylä, 2016. 95 p. ISBN 978-951-39-6821-2.

The concept of secularism encompasses numerous aspects beyond the regulation of relations between the State and Churches. Using a critical intercultural communication framework, this research project explores the interplay between secularism, culture, religion, identity, and collective representations. Specifically, this study focuses on laïcité, the concept of secularism used in France. Previous studies have criticized laïcité for being biased and contributing to inequalities between communities in France. The pervasive (and false) representation of laïcité as originally and exclusively French has also been criticized. In the light of the concerns raised by previous studies, this study sets out to investigate (1) how knowledge about laïcité was constructed in a selection of articles from the newspaper Le Monde and (2) with which implications regarding power relations in France. The thesis consists of four articles and an introduction.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6822-9>

Tammi, Riitta: *Engaging with media in the fragmented media environment: using multiple methods to discover elements of media engagement*. Helsinki: Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture, 2016. 223 p. ISBN 978-952-60-6623-3.

This research explores fragmentation of media use and the reasons behind and ways of engaging with media. As media landscape has fragmented and the amount of media content has multiplied, it is important to examine those experiences and practices that are associated with the most important media titles and how media use intertwines with the practices of everyday. Previous studies of fragmentation of

media use and selections of media often limit the amount of media, or focus on only one genre, such as news. The novelty of this research is starting from the perspective of the readers and users. The iterative methodological process provides tools also for media publishers for studying the media use of their audiences.

The data was gathered using four qualitative methods: online media diaries, media landscape interviews, ethnographic visits and reading aloud interviews. The analyses focus on the media use of five participant groups (n=55): 16–18 year-old high school students, 18–25 year-old young adults, 35–45 year-old readers of *Tekniikan Maaailma* (special interest magazine of technology and vehicles), 45–55 year-old readers of *Kotiliesi* (women's general interest magazine), and 45–55 year-old readers of *Suomen Kuvalehti* (news magazine). The number of participants varied between the methodical phases.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-952-60-6624-0>

Uronen, Ilkka: *Osaamisen kehittäminen suomalaisella televisiotoimialalla siirryttäessä digitaaliseen tuotantoon ja jakeluun*. [The strategic competence of the Finnish television industry in connection with the post-digitalization shift.] Helsinki: Helsingin yliopisto, 2016. 208 s. ISBN 978-951-51-1051-0.

The Finnish television industry has gradually moved from a production-centered to a customer-oriented business. Knowledge of your customer and the ability to react to change are major competitive advantages in a situation where there is an abundant supply of similar content and services. In this research, customer orientation could be defined as a competence requirement, as well as a business culture which helps the company reform its operations.

The research evaluates the strategic competence of the Finnish television industry in the early 2000s and in connection with the post-digitalization shift. The research is focused on competence in the television industry, the research question being the relationship between competence and business operations. By looking at the television business environment and competences from various perspectives, the research examines the significance of individual, team, and company level competence in the business operations of TV companies. Furthermore, it discloses factors which have an effect on competence and competence development in a company.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1052-7>

Vesa, Juhon: *Päätöksenteon avoimuus ja medioituminen Suomen konsensusdemokratiassa*. [Openness and mediatization of policymaking in the Finnish consensus democracy.] Helsinki: Helsingin yliopisto, 2016. 76 s. ISBN 978-951-51-1093-0.

This article-based thesis examines how openly Finnish policymakers (i.e. politicians, civil servants and interest organizations) act towards public discussion. It studies how policymakers participate in discussions taking place in media publicity, what kind of rules on public communication policymaking institutions include and how institutions have reacted to the strengthening of the norm of openness. The study also asks how strongly policymaking is mediatized i.e. what is the significance of media publicity in policymaking and to what extent does the news media affect policymaking. The article-based thesis is based on two case studies and a survey of members of parliament (MPs). The case studies focus on a social security reform committee (2007–2009) and a government's programme to increase productivity in state administration (2002–2011). Case study data consists of interviews with policymakers and journalists, media articles,

government information material and policy documents. MPs were surveyed on the news media's agenda-setting power (i.e. the media's influence on political institution agendas).

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-51-1094-7>

Westman, Maija-Liisa: *Teatterikritiikki intohimojen näyttämöillä: tapaus Keski-suomalainen: teatterikritiikin ulkoasun, sisällön ja paradigmojen sekä kriitikon aseman muutos 1961-2010*. [Theatre criticism in the newspaper Keski-suomalainen, 1961–2010: how theatre critique has changed concerning the form, the content, paradigms, and the role of reviewer.] Jyväskylä: Jyväskylän yliopisto, 2016. 271 s. ISBN 978-951-39-6621-8 (pdf).

The study is a case study where the objects of analysis are the reviews published in periodical Keski-suomalainen on the performances of Jyväskylä City Theatre between years 1961 and 2010. The beginning is the foundation

of Jyväskylä City Theatre, whereas the last period reflects a turning point of print media. The study moves on both qualitative and quantitative research fields. The qualitative part is framed by the studies of media, aesthetics and cultural politics. Qualitative and quantitative approaches are specifically combined in the analysis of the paradigmatic shift in the general characteristics of the reviews and other pertinent data. The central research questions are concerned with change and power.

Permanent link: <http://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-39-6621-8>