

# Foreword

*The 16th Nordic Conference for Media and Communication Research* was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> - 17th August in Kristiansand, Norway. Hosts of the meeting were the Norwegian media and communication researchers. More than 320 scholars from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden gathered to discuss current research and research findings. Colleagues from the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, and Russia also attended.

As usual, the conference programme comprised working groups, plenary sessions and a number of social and cultural events. Working groups have been the core of every Nordic conference to date, and the sixteenth conference was no exception. Nearly 200 papers were presented and discussed in 25 different working groups:

1. Media and Global Culture
2. The Structure and Economics of Mass Media
3. Local and Regional Media
4. Mass Media History
5. Film History
6. Television Research
7. Radio Research
8. Political Communication
9. Journalism Research
10. The Sociology and Aesthetics of News Reporting
11. Reception and Audience Studies
12. Children, Youth and the Media
13. Media Education
14. Popular Culture
15. Film and Television Fiction
16. Visual Culture
17. The Language and Rhetoric of the Media
18. Media Constructions of Gender
19. Public Relations and Purposive Communication
20. Mediated Risk and Crisis Communication
21. Digital Texts (Hypertext)
22. Digital Culture
23. Sport and Media
24. Media and Ethnic Minorities
25. Media and Communication Theory

A number of conference papers have been revised by their authors for publication in this special issue of *Nordicom Review*. The articles, which were selected in collaboration with the working group chairmen, serve as indicators of the breadth and depth of inquiry in the field of media and mass communication research in the Nordic countries today. All addresses to the plenum are included here, as well.

May I take this opportunity to thank the authors for the time and effort they have put into making this anthology possible.

The Nordic conferences for media and communication research play an important role in the development of the research field in the Nordic countries. We hope that the contents of this anthology will also interest our colleagues abroad.

Göteborg in June 2004

*Ulla Carlsson*  
Editor

