

Agenda	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Harvard-World Bank Workshop</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Role of the News Media in the Governance Reform</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Agenda</b></p>
<b>Organization and sponsorship:</b>	The CommGAP Program at the World Bank and the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at KSG.
<b>Meeting schedule:</b>	9.00am Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> May until 1.30pm on Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2008
<b>Meeting location:</b>	The Malkin Penthouse, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 79 JFK Street, Cambridge, MA 02138.
	<b>THURSDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008</b>
<b>9.00-9.30 Thursday</b>	<b>Arrival, registration, and buffet breakfast available in the Malkin Penthouse</b>
<b>9.30-10.00 Thursday</b>	Welcome and announcements about local arrangements Thomas Patterson (Joan Shorenstein Center, KSG), Paul Mitchell (World Bank) Sina Odugbemi (World Bank), and Pippa Norris (Harvard)
<b>10.00-11.00 Thursday</b>	<b>1.1 The ideal role of the news media in the public sphere</b>
	What are the most appropriate normative standards and the ideal functions of news media systems? In particular, what are the watch-dog, agenda-setting and gate-keeping roles of the news media? How far do these roles contribute to strengthening democratic governance and human development?
	Paper-givers: Pippa Norris (Harvard) and Sina Odugbemi (World Bank)
	Discussant: Thomas Patterson (Joan Shorenstein Center)
<b>11.00-11.15 Thursday</b>	Coffee and tea break
<b>11.15-12.30 Thursday</b>	<b>1.2 Diagnostic tools and performance indicators</b>

	<p>What evidence and what diagnostic tools are available to compare how effectively journalists are performing in their roles as watch-dogs, agenda-setters and gate-keepers in different societies? How are the core components of media freedom monitored and operationalized by alternative quantitative indices, based on 'expert' judgments, and are these measures valid, robust, accurate, and reliable? Do new measures and methodologies need to be developed and additional sources of data gathered? What do the available indices suggest about the functions of the news media, including cross-national comparisons worldwide and also evidence of trends over time? Can the indices be transformed into typologies and classifications for comparing these roles? The aim of this session will be to bring together representatives from some of the main organizations monitoring media freedom and communications systems worldwide to compare practices and evidence.</p>
	Paper-giver: Andrew Puddenphatt (Global Partners)
	Discussant: Antonio Lambino (World Bank)
<b>12.30-1.30 Thursday</b>	<b>Buffet lunch- Malkin Penthouse</b>
<b>1.30-2.30 Thursday</b>	<b>2.1 State responsiveness to natural crisis and disasters</b>
	<p>One of the classic roles of the news media is to raise awareness of social needs and development challenges. This process involves agenda-setting: emphasizing the importance of certain problems in news headlines and thereby prioritizing issues of concern. The process also involves framing: triggering interpretive frameworks shaping how to think about social problems and their potential solutions. Does this function thereby strengthen government responsiveness to social problems arising from natural crisis and disasters, such as famines, floods and pandemics? This is the well-known claim of the eminent economist Amartya Sen. Under what conditions does the news media succeed, and fail, in their agenda-setting role when covering natural crisis and disasters?</p>
	Paper-giver: Susan Mueller (University of Maryland)
	Discussant: William Crawley (IDS, Sussex University)
<b>2.30-3.00 Thursday</b>	Coffee and tea break
<b>3.00-4.00 Thursday</b>	<b>2.2 Donor responsiveness to humanitarian crisis and development aid</b>
	<p>This topic focuses upon how far the international news media highlights coverage of natural and manmade humanitarian disasters in developing countries overseas, and how far this process thereby heightens concern in public concern and the responsiveness of donor governments in sponsoring humanitarian aid and technical assistance.</p>
	Paper-giver: Douglas A. van Belle (University of Wellington)
	Discussant: Steve Livingston (George Washington University)

4.00-6.45 Thursday	Free time
7.00-9.00 Thursday	<b>Conference dinner: Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy Street, Cambridge</b> (6.45 Meet in the lobby of the Charles hotel and walk across with escort)
	<b>FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2008</b>
9.00-9.30 Friday	<b>Buffet breakfast in the Malkin Penthouse</b>
9.30-10.30 Friday	<b>3.1 Corruption and the watchdog role of the mass media</b>
	'Watchdog' journalism reflects the role of investigative journalism which holds powerful public officials and institutions responsible for their decision and actions and the impact of these on social, economic and political life. Watch-dog journalism should be particularly important when highlighting problems of corruption, malfeasance, cronyism, and scandal in government, thereby raising standards in public life and limiting the abuse of public office. But how active are journalists in reporting these sorts of stories in many developing countries, and does reporting which focuses too aggressively on exposing the personal and private life of public figures thereby contribute towards public cynicism and deter future leaders from dedicating themselves to a career in public service?
	Paper-giver: Sheila Coronel (Columbia University)
	Discussant: Ellen Hume (MIT)
10.30-11.00 Friday	Coffee and tea break
11.00-12.00 Friday	<b>3.2 Government performance, collective accountability, and the news media</b>
	Does news coverage of government performance contribute towards an informed public? One of the critical roles of journalists is to report how well the government performs in delivering basic public services, such as health care and schooling, as well as providing broader indicators of government effectiveness, such as on economic growth and foreign policy. Through processes of framing and priming, and by providing a wide range of expert evaluations, the news media provide a prism which the public can use to assess public officials and understand public policy debates, promoting government transparency and accountability. But such reporting can be fall sort of the ideal standards for many reasons, even in democracies with high levels of press freedom, for example where reporting fails to engage in substantive policy debates, or where it gives excessively unbalanced and partisan coverage of the government and public policy processes.
	Paper-giver: Katrin Voltmer (University of Leeds)
	Discussant: J.H. Snider (iSolon.org)
12.00-1.00 Friday	<b>Buffet lunch Malkin Penthouse</b>
1.00-2.00 Friday	<b>4.1 The structure and functions of the broadcasting industry as a public</b>

	<b>forum</b>
	Communication policy regulating the structure of the news industry can play a decisive role in determining coverage of governance issues in the public sphere. In particular, the balance of public and commercial broadcasting varies substantially worldwide. Does public service broadcasting continue to retain a distinctive role in providing balanced information about news and public affairs, providing a platform for all interests and viewpoints, in the traditional model established by the British Broadcasting Corporation, or has the diversity of private news channels now available made this redundant? What is the role of community radio, both state-owned and commercial, as a public forum? What is the role of new information and communication technologies in the public sphere, including the Internet and mobile telephony, in widening the diversity of voices in the public sphere? Recommendations from the workgroup.
	<b>Paper-giver:</b> Marius Dragomir (Open Society Foundation)
	<b>Discussant:</b> Charlie Beckett (Polis)
<b>2.00-3.00 Friday</b>	<b>4.2 Election campaigns, balance, and the mass media</b>
	Does campaign coverage in election campaigns provide a level playing field for parties and candidates from all political persuasions, interests, and social sectors? This issue is particularly important in transitional autocracies and in consolidating democracies where one major party is predominant, and where the opposition parties and reform movements have difficulty in getting their message out to rally popular support.
	<b>Paper-giver:</b> Holli Semetko (Emory University)
	<b>Discussants:</b> Matt Baum (Joan Shorenstein Center) and Richard Davis (Brigham Young University)
<b>3.00-3.15 Friday</b>	Coffee and tea break
<b>3.15-4.00 Friday</b>	<b>4.3 Limits on press freedom and regime support</b>
	How far can autocracies strengthen popular support by silencing dissent and manipulating the news? The many ways that autocracies seek to control the media are well documented. What is less clearly established, however, is how far states with restrictive media environments thereby succeed in manipulating public opinion and strengthening their support at home. The cumulative result of years, or even decades, of tight media control in restrictive and isolated states such as Burma and North Korea is usually assumed to have a powerful impact upon citizens. This paper will look at new survey evidence for the effects of limits on press freedom for patterns of regime support.
	<b>Paper-givers:</b> Pippa Norris (Harvard) and Ronald Inglehart (University of Michigan)
	<b>Discussant:</b> Danny Jara (CIDA)

4.00-5.00 Friday	<b>4.4 Post-conflict reconstruction/fragile states and the mass media</b>
	What is the role of the mass media in post-conflict reconstruction? In the early stages of any negotiated settlement, peace-building and conflict reduction, it is particularly important to have a pluralistic news media which fosters tolerance and open communication through balanced coverage of all sides involved in the conflict. But often this process fails where the news media is highly partisan, especially in societies deeply divided by language in separate communities. Recommendations from the workshop
	Paper-givers: Monroe Price (University of Pennsylvania) and Ibrahim al Marashi (Bahcesehir University)
	Discussant: G. Shabbir Cheema (East-West Center, Honolulu)
5.00+	<b>EVENING FREE (see the list of local restaurants in the conference pack)</b>
	<b>SATURDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2008</b>
8.30-9.30	<b>Hotel check out and buffet breakfast in the Malkin Penthouse</b>
9.30-11.00 Saturday	<b>Case-studies of the roles of the news media as watch-dogs, agenda-setters and gate-keepers</b>
	How do the roles of journalists as watch-dogs, agenda-setters and gate-keepers in the public sphere vary across and among different world regions? These papers should take up the issues raised in earlier sections of the workshop and then explore them in depth within particular global regions or in selected comparative case studies within each region.
	Paper-givers: Wisdom Tettey <i>Sub-Saharan Africa</i> (University of Calgary), Silvio Waisbord <i>Latin America</i> (George Washington University), Lawrence Pintak <i>Arab States</i> : (American University of Cairo)
	Discussant: Marguerite Sullivan (National Endowment for Democracy); Alagi Yoro Jallow (KSG)
11.00-11.15 Saturday	Coffee and tea break
11.15-12.30 Saturday	<b>6.1 Policy options strengthening the roles of journalists as watch-dogs, agenda-setters and gate-keepers</b>
	This paper will summarize the key policy options and make recommendations for future action. There are a number of distinct types or levels of intervention. At the most general level, one of the most important issues concerns the <i>constitutional and legal guarantees of freedom of expression and publication</i> , especially following peace-building initiatives and the reconstruction of fragile states, as well as in the deregulation of state broadcasting following the initial transition to democracy.
	Establishing an appropriate <i>legal framework governing communication policies</i> also plays a vital role in the consolidation of democratic states. This includes the implementation of international treaties and agreements, as well as the establishment of effective legal structures governing

	<p>broadcasting licenses, concentration of media ownership, rights to information and official government secrecy, content regulation, and media competition. These policies regulate industry-wide standards and determine the funding for public service and private sector broadcasting. The most appropriate governance structure and the financial, editorial and management independence of public service broadcasting is particularly critical. <i>Institutional capacity building</i> is also important for sustainable solutions, such as fostering professional journalism organizations, press councils, independent media networks, and professional awards to strengthen standards and journalistic cultures. Lastly, at the most specific level, <i>professional journalism training programs</i> and individual capacity building efforts are often employed. While important, it remains the case that individual journalists are often limited from playing their roles as effective agenda-setters, watch-dogs and gate-keepers by multiple structural restrictions and institutional disincentives. Therefore what provisions and interventions reflect best practice in each of these areas? What institutions and agencies have been most engaged?</p> <p>What can be learnt from interventions about the most effective way to promote the roles of the press as watch-dogs, agenda-setters and gatekeepers?</p>
	<p>Paper-giver: Sina Odugbemi and Pippa Norris</p>
	<p>Discussant: Gowher Rizvi (Ash Institute); James Deane (BBC World Service Trust)</p>
<p><b>12.30-2.00 Saturday</b></p>	<p>Optional buffet lunch</p>
	<p>Depart for the airport</p>

**Conference organizers:**

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