

## Communication Research in Europe (2002-2013): an analysis of competitive projects approved under the European Union's Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes<sup>1</sup>

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### Abstract

Communication research has become a strategic tool for designing public policies at national and European scale. Research is required to investigate the political, economic and social actors involved in processes of media concentration, convergence and digitalisation, and audiovisual regulation.

This article analyses the Social Sciences and Humanities research projects approved under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programme (2002-2006 and 2007-2013, respectively) in order to detect those that include the study of communication, in a direct or in an interdisciplinary way.

Through the identification of these projects the article aims to establish which European centres have been receiving EU funding to undertake research (basic and applied) and the research lines they are developing. It is not intended to carry out a quantitative analysis but to highlight certain trends regarding European communication research. It is also intended to establish a map on how EU-funded communication research is structured (the coordinators and the participant partners, their institutions and countries).

### 1. Introduction

Communication research has become a strategic tool for designing public policies at national and European scale. Research is required to investigate the political, economic and social actors involved in processes of media concentration, convergence and digitalisation, and audiovisual regulation.

This article analyses the Social Sciences and Humanities research projects approved under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programme (2002-2006 and 2007-2013, respectively) in order to detect those that include the study of communication, in a direct or in an interdisciplinary way.

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This article is a result of ongoing research carried out in the Communication Institute at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (InCom-UAB) within the framework of two projects. One is the R&D project "Transformations of the system of radio and television in Spain in the context of the digitization (1997-2010)" (Scientific Coordinator: Dr Montse Bonet, ref. SEJ2007-65109/SOCI), funded by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science. The other is the "International Group of Studies about Communication and Culture" (Scientific Coordinator: Professor Miquel de Moragas Spà, ref. 2005/SGR-00181), recognised as a Consolidated Research Group by the Catalan Plan for Research and Innovation 2005-2008.

developing. It is not intended to carry out a quantitative analysis but to highlight certain trends regarding European communication research. It is also intended to establish a map on how EU-funded communication research is structured (the coordinators and the participant partners, their institutions and countries).

The Research Framework Programmes are set in the European Research Area (ERA), under the Directorate-General for Research of the European Commission, which regroups all the activities of the European Union in this field. The Sixth Programme is organised into two areas to integrate and promote research, and a third horizontal area structuring the research space.

These guidelines are furthered by the Seventh Research Framework Programme, a new feature of which is a 60% increase in budget. The Programme is organised into four major sub-programmes by each primary objective: to strengthen cooperation between countries and agents (*Cooperation*), to improve existing capacities (*Capacities*), to encourage mobility (*People*) and to foster creativity and excellence (*Ideas-European Research Council*). It also emphasises the main subjects established by European Union, including Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs).

Parallel to the Seventh Framework Programme, some Directorates-General of the European Commission also promote their own programmes and competitive calls.

## **2. Background to Communication Research in Europe**

Historically, communication research has never been considered a priority area by the national and regional research plans of European countries and, generally speaking, investigators have had to submit their research projects to competitive calls falling within the general scope of Social Sciences and Humanities.

For example, in Spain over the two-year period 2005-2006, grants were awarded to a total of 1,579 projects falling within the Social Sciences and Humanities sub-programmes of R&D competitive calls by the Government of Spain's National Programme for Scientific Research, Development and Technological Innovation: only 76 of these (4.8% of the total) were connected with communication (Moragas, Civil, Reguero, G. Sedó, 2007:325).

This does not mean that little communication research is being done in Europe, but rather that investigators, individually or in research teams, have tended to undertake research in a number of disciplines (economics, politics, law, sociology, education, history, etc.) other than communication,

focusing on a specific study objective and often finding alternative funding through competitive calls issued by public authorities.

The work we are presenting here is 'work in progress' that falls within the InCom-UAB's line of research into communication training and research in Catalonia and Spain, and possibly Europe in the near future. It is a line of research that was initiated in the year 2000 by Professor Miquel de Moragas i Spà as a continuation of the work he had been doing since the end of the 1970s and particularly since the publication in 1981 of the book entitled *Teorías de la Comunicación. Investigaciones sobre medios en América y Europa* (Communication Theories. Research into the Media in America and Europe)<sup>2</sup>, which was a review of the main communication research centres in Europe and their investigative backgrounds.

In this study area we would like to emphasise the work of the InCom-UAB investigator and collaborator Daniel E. Jones, who did a great deal of research into communication throughout his life, particularly in Catalonia, Spain and Latin America (trends, topics studied, doctoral theses, specialist journals), with works like the *Directori iberoamericà d'investigació en comunicació 1996. Selecció d'institucions i persones* (1996 Latin-American Directory of Communication Research. A Selection of Institutions and People)<sup>3</sup>, which included, inter alia, research undertaken in Spain and Portugal.

At the beginning of the 1990s, the *European Journal of Communication* published a special volume devoted to "Communication research in Europe: the state of the art" (Sage, June 1990, volume 5, numbers 2-3), containing a review of concepts and an X-ray of mass media research in Europe, and an overview of the situation in Italy, Poland and Finland.

Several years later in 1997, edition number 21 of the journal *Anàlisi. Quaderns de comunicació i Cultura*<sup>4</sup> published a monograph of European research into social communication in collaboration with a number of academics who provided an update on the respective situations of 16 countries: Germany (Hermann Dieter Schröder); Austria (Franz Rest); Belgium (Axel Gryspaerd); Denmark (Stig Hjarvard and Henrick Søndergaard); Spain (Daniel E. Jones); Finland (Risto Kunelius, Kaarle Nordenstreng and Viikko Pietilä); France (Bernard Miège); Great Britain (Peter Meech and Bin Zaho); Greece (Stylianos Papathanassopoulos and Klimis Navridis); Holland (Denis McQuail); Ireland (Farrel Corcoran); Italy (Mauro Wolf); Norway (Marit Bakke); Portugal (Luis Humberto Marcos); Sweden (Peter Dahlgren<sup>5</sup>) and Switzerland (Paul Beaud). In addition to the scientific work published in specialist journals, on a European scale we can find active research centres that produce monographs and comparative studies on related topics, like the European

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<sup>2</sup> Barcelona: Gustavo Gili.

<sup>3</sup> Barcelona: Centre d'Investigació de la Comunicació, Generalitat de Catalunya.

<sup>4</sup> Bellaterra: Departament de Periodisme i de Ciències de la Comunicació (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona).

<sup>5</sup> Participating partner on the Civicweb communication research project, funded by the Sixth Framework Programme.

Audiovisual Observatory (*Yearbook Film, Television and Video in Europe*), the Hans-Bredow-Institut at the University of Hamburg (*International Media Handbook*, biennial), the European Institute for the Media, the Nordic Information Centre for Media and Communication Research (NORDICOM), and the European Institute for Communication and Culture (EURICOM) in Slovenia<sup>6</sup>.

Also worthy of note is the research generated for various sections of conferences held by the principal international academic associations (International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR/AIERI); International Communication Association (ICA); European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA); and the Asociación Española de Investigación de la Comunicación (AE-IC)<sup>7</sup> and by the investigative activities of the UNESCO Chairs in Communication<sup>8</sup>.

Despite the proliferation of scientific work on certain topics of communication, we have not managed to locate any research on communication research being undertaken specifically through competitive calls issued by EU Framework Programmes. In the following sections of this article, we shall attempt to make an initial appraisal of this topic by describing the Framework Programmes, the evolution of their priority lines of research and a specific analysis of the communication projects approved under the last two Framework Programmes.

### **3. The Framework Programmes and Initiatives of the European Union to Foster Research and Their Priorities**

#### **3.1. Concept and Historic Origins of the Framework Programmes**

The first treaties of the European Communities signed in the 1950s and 1960s already referred to the need to coordinate the efforts made by Member States on research matters. However, over those two decades, coordinated research focused exclusively on primary and energy industries (agriculture, steel, coal and nuclear energy). The need for collaborative research was established with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1952, which created the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) comprising the countries of Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany.

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<sup>6</sup> As you will see in section 5 of this article, investigators from the Hans-Bredow-Institut and EURICOM participate in successful research projects under the Sixth Framework Programme.

<sup>7</sup> The AE-IC devoted a special session to "Six Decades of Communication Research in Spain" at its founding international conference (Santiago de Compostella, 30/1-1/02/2008) and organised the round table "International Cooperation and Communication Research in the EU-Latin America" at the ECREA Second European Communication Conference (Barcelona, 26-28/11/2008).

<sup>8</sup> We can find a recent example in the book published by Isabel Fernández Alonso and Miquel de Moragas i Spà *Communication and Culture Policies in Europe* (Barcelona: Generalitat de Catalunya, 2008), with the participation of 15 investigators from 10 European and Latin-American universities, the result of an initiative of the UNESCO Chair in Communication and the Communication Policies Observatory, both of which fall within the InCom-UAB.

In 1957, the very same countries signed a treaty creating the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM). The objectives of both the ECSC and EURATOM were basically economic. Objectives connected with technical and scientific improvement were only mentioned as secondary issues.

It was not until 1974 when the first attempts to establish a common scientific policy were made. At that time the Council of Ministers approved four resolutions on science and technology aimed at coordinating national policies and developing its own science and technology policy<sup>9</sup>.

In the 1980s, the first Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development spanning the period 1984-1987 was approved. Since then, European R&D activities have been strategically coordinated by the multi-year Framework Programmes right up to the current Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013).

Over the years there have been significant changes to the thematic priorities of research, mainly as a result of the socio-economic circumstances of each period. So, at the initial stages, "Energy" accounted for a significant proportion of the Framework Programme's resources because of the oil crisis in the early 1970s. Even though this topic has remained a priority over the years, other topics like "Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)" and "The Environment" have become relatively more important in subsequent Framework Programmes. Research on the topic of Socio-economic Sciences was introduced only fairly recently, and it was not until the Seventh Framework Programme that Humanities were explicitly introduced as a research topic.

### 3.2. The Sixth Framework Programme: Towards the European Research Area (ERA)

In March 2000, the European Council held a special session in Lisbon to reach agreement on a new strategy that would allow the European economy to become the most competitive and sustainable in the world, setting the year 2010 as the horizon<sup>10</sup>. The areas they wanted to strengthen were employment, education, economic reform and social cohesion in a knowledge-based economy. This general declaration of intentions was honed at subsequent summits (Goteborg 2001 and Barcelona 2002), where figures were applied to specific objectives.

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<sup>9</sup> Council Resolution of 14 January 1974 on a programme of research as an instrument of forecasting, assessment and methodology in the European Communities. *Official Journal C 007*, 29/01/1974 P. 0007 – 0007.  
Council Resolution of 14 January 1974 on an initial outline programme of the European Communities in the field of science and technology. *Official Journal C 007*, 29/01/1974 P. 0006 – 0006.  
Council Resolution of 14 January 1974 on the participation of the European Communities in the European Science Foundation. *Official Journal C 007*, 29/01/1974 P. 0005 – 0005.  
Council Resolution of 14 January 1974 on the coordination of national policies and the definition of projects of interest to the Community in the field of science and technology. *OJ C 7*, 29.1.1974, p. 2–4 (DA, DE, EN, FR, IT, NL).

<sup>10</sup> Lisbon European Council 23 and 24 march 2000 Presidency Conclusions: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/summits/lis1\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/summits/lis1_en.htm)

The main objectives that were established referred to employment rates, learning, the information society, and research and development (R&D). In this context the creation of the European Research Area (ERA) became a key feature of the Lisbon strategy. The ERA would allow greater benefit to be drawn from investigators' efforts through the creation of an internal science and technology market. The Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006) thus became the core financial instrument for the foundation of the ERA.

The Sixth Framework Programme had a budget of €17.883 billion plus €1.23 billion for the EURATOM programme; a total of €19.113 billion for a four-year period. The structure of the Sixth Framework Programme was divided into seven thematic priorities. These priority areas were the ones where the European Union wanted to achieve greater competition in a knowledge-based economy with the ultimate goal of generating more and better employment and a higher degree of social cohesion. The overall structure of the programme was divided into three major sections, as shown below:

#### 1 - Focusing and Integrating Community research

- Thematic priorities:
  - Life sciences, genomics and biotechnology for health
  - Information society technologies
  - Nanotechnologies and nanosciences, knowledge-based multifunctional materials and new production processes and devices
  - Aeronautics and space
  - Food quality and safety
  - Sustainable development, global change and ecosystems
  - Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society
  
- Specific activities covering a wider field of research
- Policy support and anticipating scientific and technological needs
- Horizontal research activities involving SMEs
- Specific measures in support of international cooperation
- Non-nuclear activities of the Joint Research Centre

#### 2 - Structuring the European Research Area

- Research and innovation
- Human resources

- Research infrastructures
- Science and society

### 3 - Strengthening the Foundations of the European Research Area

- Support for the coordination of activities
- Support for the coherent development of policies

The thematic priority that included social science projects was *Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society*. This thematic priority aimed to coordinate research efforts in the areas of economics, politics, social sciences and humanities, all of which were essential aspects of being able to understand the emergence of a knowledge-based economy and the new kinds of relationships between citizens in general, and between citizens and their institutions in particular.

### **3.3. The Seventh Framework Programme**

The Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) officially started on 22 December 2006. This new programme was launched with the intention of providing a renewed impetus in terms of achieving a veritable European Research Area (ERA), a process which had begun in the previous period. The major objectives that the Seventh Framework Programme was designed to attain continue to be the betterment of quality of life and the economic growth of Europe, as established by the Treaty of Lisbon<sup>11</sup>. The overall budget of €53.2 billion has increased in absolute terms due to the duration of this programme, and so have the yearly funding figures.

The Seventh Framework Programme is organised into four major sub-programmes – as described below – and two complementary sub-programmes on “Nuclear research and training” and the funding of the “Joint Research Centre”.

#### 1. COOPERATION - Collaborative Research

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<sup>11</sup> Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on the European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community, signed in Lisbon, 13 December 2007 (DO C306 17.12.2007)

With a budget of €32.365 billion, more than the half of the Seventh Framework Programme's total budget, to fund cooperation between universities, industry, research centres and public authorities. The objective of this programme is to provide support for research aimed at generating new knowledge in the 10 thematic priorities. The ultimate goal of the research is to improve European competitiveness and find solutions to the needs of society at large and the policies implemented by the European Communities. The thematic priorities of the Seventh Framework Programme are as follows:

- Health
- Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology
- Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
- Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and New Production Technologies
- Energy
- Environment (including Climate Change)
- Transport (including Aeronautics)
- Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities
- Security
- Space

## 2. IDEAS - European Research Council (ERC)

This programme constitutes a new feature and a great hope of the Seventh Framework Programme. It has a budget totalling €7.46 billion. The European Research Council (ERC) has been created to manage this programme independently. Unlike the Cooperation programme, it does not have a specific focus, and its basic objectives are to fund research of excellence and attract new talent to Europe.

## 3. PEOPLE - Human Potential, Marie Curie Actions

The objective of this programme is to improve the quality of human potential in community R&D and to increase the number of investigators. The programme is organised in accordance with the Marie Curie Actions.



#### 4. CAPACITIES - Research Capacities

The main objective of this programme is not to generate new knowledge, but to strengthen research and innovation capacities to obtain the maximum benefit from existing knowledge.

These are the four basic programmes of the Seventh Framework Programme. In addition, it is worth mentioning the inclusion of a specific thematic area called "Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities" which, in the Sixth Framework Programme, came under the thematic priority called "Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society".

#### **3.4. The Prioritisation of Communication Topics in the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes**

For the first time, the Sixth Framework Programme introduced the thematic priority called "Citizens and governance in a knowledge-based society". Under Research Area 7 "New forms of citizenship and cultural identities", it also introduced a specific communication topic called "The European Public Sphere and the Media".

The approval of various projects in this thematic area is very probably one of the reasons why the design of the Seventh Framework Programme wanted to prioritise projects directly or indirectly investigating communication topics.

There are two specific communication topics included under 8.5.1 "Participation in citizenship in Europe" of activity 8.5 "The Citizen in the European Union" of the 2009 Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities competitive call published on 3 September 2008. Firstly, we find topic 5.1.1. "Independent media and democracy in Europe", which considers that "independent media are essential for sound democracies – and transition to democracy – as they provide information that helps citizens judge the actions of their political representatives and foster a plurality of views" (European Commission, 2008b:19). Secondly, we find specific topic 5.2.3. "Culture in the creation of a European space of communication", which considers that "the circulation of culture in all of its forms may have consequences for the European integration process" (European Commission, 2008b:20).

The introduction of two specific communication topics is connected with two processes of major importance in terms of being able to progress towards the construction of a true European identity. The first is associated with the consolidation of sound democracies and the plurality of Member States, for which the existence of independent media is essential. The second is associated with the creation of a true

European communication space that goes beyond the boundaries of language and cultural differences. Moreover, the attainment of a European communication space facilitating cultural movement would have significant implications for the process of European integration.

#### **4. Methodology for the Analysis of Communication Projects Approved under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes**

In order to establish which projects dealing directly or indirectly with the study of communication were successful, we used the official resolutions of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research on competitive calls in the area of Social Sciences and Humanities of the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes.

As explained earlier, the Sixth Framework Programme covers competitive calls over the period 2002-2006. As a result, all successful projects have been announced, although the research activities of some projects whose success was announced in 2006 are ongoing. Still in its early stages, successful projects submitted under the first call of the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) have already been announced<sup>12</sup>, and the second call referring to 2009 projects has been opened.

On the basis of the public lists of successful projects from both programmes, we have established our own methodology for detecting the ones we consider to be communication related, using four specific variables:

- a) The project title and acronym
- b) The chief investigator (scientific coordinator) and the associated institution
- c) Partners involved in the project
- d) The project description (synopsis)

We have considered the thematic priority and the topic that each project falls under in particular, plus the project start date and duration, and the grant awarded.

The project synopses written by the research teams contain descriptions of the main research objectives and lines of work they intend to carry out. In most cases, these are the main sources of information from

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<sup>12</sup> Some of the data about successful projects have been published, but not their start dates.

which, implicitly or explicitly, it is possible to ascertain the discipline to which the subject of the study pertains.

This means that there might be other projects that we have not included in our list that indirectly touch on the topic of communication. As we stated in the introduction, the aim of this work is not to give a quantitative compilation, but rather to provide an initial appraisal and an indication of trends in relation to communication research being done under EU Framework Programmes on the basis of the data obtained.

Due to the complexity of the subject of our study, we have concentrated on Social Sciences and Humanities competitive calls. We have not included the resolutions for Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), since we consider these projects to be more technological in nature, belonging to the field of engineering and not communication sciences. A specific methodological approach will need to be taken and subsequent work done on the latter. Likewise, competitive calls from other Directorates-General will be the subject of future analysis.

## **5. Analysis of Communication Research Projects Approved under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes (2002-2006 and 2007-2013, respectively) in the Areas of Social Sciences and Humanities**

### **5.1. General Nature of Approved Projects**

The research projects approved under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes comprise a network formed by a scientific coordinator and a team of partners. Other senior or trainee investigators may also take part actively in the projects in order to advance the proposed research and attain the objectives within the deadline.

The duration of each project varies between 24 and 60 months, and the design of the project includes a series of deliverables to ensure that each participating investigator is properly involved.

By signing the contract or the grant agreement (the Sixth Framework Programme used the term "contract" and the Seventh used the term "grant agreement"), the Directorate-General for Research and the scientific coordinator, via the associated institution, agree to complete the proposed research tasks and to guarantee funding throughout the project execution period.

## 5.2. List of Communication Research Projects Detected under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes

**Table 1: Communication Research Projects detected in the Area of Social Sciences and Humanities under the Sixth Framework Programme (2002-2006) (Priority 7-Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society)**

Priority 7 (Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society)				
Research Area 5 (Articulation of areas of responsibility and new forms of governance)				
Title (acronym)	Scientific Coordinator	Partners	Start date Duration EC Contribution	
Young People, the Internet and Civic Participation (CIVICWEB)	David BUCKINGHAM <b>University of London</b> Institute of Education. Centre for the Study of Children, Youth and Media. School of Culture, Language and Communication London - GB  <a href="http://www.civicweb.eu">http://www.civicweb.eu</a>	2. <b>Lunds Universitet</b> Peter DAHLGREN Lund - SE  3. <b>Universiteit van Amsterdam</b> Lisabet Van ZOONEN Amsterdam - NL  4. <b>Central European University</b> Viktor BOHM Budapest - HU  5. <b>Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona</b> Magdalena ALBERO-ANDRES Bellaterra - ES	6. <b>University of Ljubljana</b> Faculty of Social Sciences Slavo SPLICHAL Ljubljana - SI  7. <b>Istanbul Bilgi University</b> Aydin UGUR Istanbul - TR	1/09/2006 36 months €1,144,987
Social Regulation of European transnational companies (ESTER)	Isabelle DAUGAREILH <b>Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV</b> Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, COMPTRASEC Pessac - FR  <a href="http://ester.u-bordeaux4.fr">http://ester.u-bordeaux4.fr</a>	2. <b>Université Libe de Bruxelles</b> Michel P. M. DISPERSYN Bruxelles - BE  3. <b>Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV, LARE-efi</b> Jean-Marie CARDEBAT Pessac - FR  4. <b>Université Toulouse 2</b> Frank Roger COCHY Toulouse - FR  5. <b>Hamburger Universität für Wirtschaft und Politik</b> Eva KOCHER Hamburg - DE  6. <b>Università degli Studi di Trento</b> . Dipartimento di Scienze Giuridiche Stefania SCARPONI Trento - IT	7. <b>Universidad Castilla La Mancha</b> Joaquín APARICIO TOVAR Albacete - ES  8. <b>Universidad Complutense de Madrid</b> Facultad de Ciencias Economicas y Empresariales Margarita BARANANO CID Madrid - ES  9. <b>Utrecht University</b> Faculty of Law A. Ph. C. M. JASPERS Utrecht - NL  10. <b>University of Essex</b> Department of Law Sheldon LEADER Colchester - NL	1/06/2004 36 months €800,000

<p>Privatisation and the European Social Model (PRESOM)</p>	<p>Herman BÖMER <b>Universität Dortmund</b> Faculty of Spatial Planning Dortmund - DE  <a href="http://www.pressom.de">http://www.pressom.de</a></p>	<p><b>2. Nicos Poulantzas Institute</b> Marica FRANGAKIS Athens - GR</p> <p><b>3. Forschungs- und Beratungsstelle Arbeitswelt</b> Jörg FLECKER Vienna - AT</p> <p><b>4. ECOSTAT Institute for Economic Analysis and Informatics</b> Karoly LORANT Budapest - HU</p> <p><b>5. Université de Paris - Nord 13</b> Jacques Mazier Villetaneuse - FR</p> <p><b>6. Centre d'Études Prospectives d'Économie Mathématique Appliquées à la Planification</b> Christine ANDRÈ Paris - FR</p> <p><b>7. Technische Universität Wien</b> Wolfgang BLAAS Vienna - AT</p> <p><b>8. Technische Universität Delft</b> John GROENEWEGEN Delft - NL</p>	<p><b>9. University of Greenwich</b> David John HALL London - GB</p> <p><b>10. Budapest Corvinus University</b> János LADÁNY Budapest - HU</p> <p><b>11. Fachhochschule für Wirtschaft Berlin</b> Brigit MAHNKOPF Berlin - DE</p> <p><b>12. University of Leeds</b> Malcolm SAWYER Leeds - GB</p> <p><b>13. Akademia Ekonomiczna w Poznaniu (Poznan University of Economics)</b> Tomidajewicz JANUSZ Poznan - PL</p>	<p>1/01/2006 36 months €844,800</p>
<p><b>Priority 7 (Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society)</b> <i>Research Area 6 (Issues connected with the resolution of conflicts and restoration peace and justice)</i></p>				
<p>Crime as a Cultural Problem. The Relevance of Perceptions of Corruption to Crime Prevention. A Comparative Cultural Study in the EU- Candidate States and the EU-States Germany and Greece (Crime and Culture)</p>	<p>Hans-Georg SOEFFNER <b>University of Konstanz</b> Department of Sociology Konstanz - DE  <a href="http://www.uni-konstanz.de/crimeandculture/index.htm">http://www.uni-konstanz.de/crimeandculture/index.htm</a></p>	<p><b>2. University of Tübingen</b> Konstadinos MARAS Tübingen - DE</p> <p><b>3. Centre for Liberal Strategies</b> Daniel SMILOV Sofia - BG</p> <p><b>4. Research Institute for Quality of Life (Romanian Academy)</b> Ioan MARGINEAN Bucharest - RO</p>	<p><b>5. University of Galatasaray</b> Ahmet INSEL Istanbul - TR</p> <p><b>6. University of Zagreb</b> Aleksandar STULHOFER Zagreb - HR</p> <p><b>7. National School of Public Administration</b> Panagiotis KARKATSOU LIS Athens - GR</p>	<p>1/01/2006 36 months €1,094,700</p>

Priority 7 (Citizens and Governance in a knowledge-based Society) Research Area 7 (New forms of citizenship and cultural identities)				
Adequate Information Management in Europe (AIM)	Gerd. G. KOPPER <b>Erich- Brost-Institute for Journalism in Europe</b> Centre for Advanced Study Dortmund DE  <a href="http://www.aim-project.net">http://www.aim-project.net</a>	2. <b>University of Gent</b> Elsa de BENS Gent - BE  3. <b>Tartu University</b> Marju LAURISTIN Tartu - EE  4. <b>University of Tampere</b> Risto Karlevi KUNELIUS Tampere - FI  5. <b>Université de Rennes</b> Erik NEVEU Rennes - FR  6. <b>Loughborough University</b> Peter GOLDING Loughborough - GB  7. <b>Dublin City University</b> Paul MCNAMARA Dublin 9 - IE	8. <b>Università di Perugia</b> Paolo MANCINI Perugia - IT  9. <b>Vytauto Didziojo Universitetas</b> Auske BALCYTIENE Kaunas - LT  10. <b>University of Oslo</b> Sigurd ALLERN Oslo - NO  11. <b>Warsaw University</b> Janusz ADAMOWSKI Warsaw - PL	1/05/2004 36 months €800,000
Democracy in Europe and the Mobilization of Society (DEMOS)	Donatella DELLA PORTA <b>European University Institute</b> Department of Political and Social Sciences San Domenico di Fiesole (Firen ) IT  <a href="http://demos.iue.it">http://demos.iue.it</a>	2. <b>University of Kent</b> Christopher ROOTES Canterbury - GB  3. <b>Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung GmbH</b> Dieter RUCHT Berlin - DE  4. <b>Università degli Studi di Urbino</b> Mario PIANTA Urbino - IT  5. <b>Centre de Recherches Politiques de la Sorbonne - Université de Paris I - Sorbonne - Panthéon</b> Isabelle SOMMIER Paris - FR	6. <b>Instituto de Estudios Sociales de Andalucía (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas)</b> Manuel JIMÉNEZ Cordoba - ES  7. <b>Université de Genève</b> Marco GIUGNI Geneve 4 - CH	1/09/2004 36 months €900,000

<p>Media and Ethics of a European Public Sphere from the Treaty of Rome to the "War on Terror"</p> <p>(EMEDIATE)</p>	<p>Bo STRATH</p> <p><b>European University Institute</b> Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies San Domenico di Fiesole (Firen ) - IT</p> <p><a href="http://www.iue.it/RSCAS/research/EMEDIATE/">http://www.iue.it/RSCAS/research/EMEDIATE/</a></p>	<p>2. <b>Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy</b> Anna TRIANTAFYLIDOU Athens - GR</p> <p>3. <b>Lancaster University</b> Ruth WODAK Lancaster - GB</p> <p>4. <b>On - Line More Colour in the Media</b> Wal TER Utrecht - NL</p> <p>5. <b>Dublin City University</b> Paschal PRESTON Dublin - IE</p> <p>6. <b>Humboldt Universität zu Berlin</b> Hartmut KAELE Berlin - DE</p>	<p>7. <b>Université Paris 8 Vincennes</b> Armand MATTELART Saint Denis - FR</p> <p>8. <b>Central European University, Budapest Foundation</b> Andreas KOVACS Budapest - HU</p> <p>9. <b>Pedagoski Institut</b> Igor ZAGAR Ljubljana - SI</p>	<p>1/09/2004</p> <p>36 months</p> <p>€800,000</p>
<p>A European Approach to Multicultural Citizenship Legal Political and Educational Challenges</p> <p>(EMILIE)</p>	<p>Anna Triandafyllidou</p> <p><b>Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy</b> Athens GR</p> <p><a href="http://www.eliamep.gr/en/">http://www.eliamep.gr/en/</a> (web of The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP)</p>	<p>2. <b>University of Bristol</b> Tariq MODOOD Bristol - GB</p> <p>3. <b>Institut National d'Études Démographiques</b> Patrik SIMON Paris - FR</p> <p>4. <b>Europa Universität Viadrina</b> Werner SCHIFFAUER Frankfurt / Oder - DE</p> <p>5. <b>Université de Liege</b> Marco MARTINIELLO Liege - BE</p> <p>6. <b>Universitat Pompeu Fabra</b> Ricard ZAPATA BARRERO Barcelona - ES</p>	<p>7. <b>Latvian Centre for Human Rights and Ethnic Studies</b> Ilze Brands KEHRIS Riga - LV</p> <p>8. <b>University of Aarhus</b> Per MOURITSEN Aarhus C. - DK</p> <p>9. <b>Centre for International Relations Foundation</b> Krystyna IGLICKA Warsaw - PL</p>	<p>1/07/2006</p> <p>36 months</p> <p>€1,294,800</p>

<p>Diversity and The European Public Sphere: Towards a Citizens' Europe (EUROSPHERE)</p>	<p>Yngve Georg LITHMAN <b>Universitetet i Bergen</b> IMER Norway / Bergen Centre for Development Studies Bergen - NO <a href="http://eurosphere.uib.no">http://eurosphere.uib.no</a></p>	<p>2. <b>Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften</b> Rainer BAUBÖCK Wien - AT</p> <p>3. <b>Universiteit van Amsterdam</b> Veit BADER Amsterdam - NL</p> <p>4. <b>Sabancı Universitesi</b> Ayse ONCU Istanbul - TR</p> <p>5. <b>Aalborg Universitet</b> Ulf HEDERTOFT Aalborg - DK</p> <p>6. <b>University of Helsinki</b> Matti SMILA Helsinki - FI</p> <p>7. <b>Institute of Psychology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic</b> Martina KLICPEROVA Brno - CZ</p>	<p>8. <b>University of Osnabrück</b> Michael BOMMES Osnabrueckj - DE</p> <p>9. <b>Tallina ülikool</b> Mikko LAGERSPETZ Tallinn - EE</p> <p>10. <b>Université Libre de Bruxelles</b> Véronique DIMIÉR Bruxelles - BE</p> <p>11. <b>Universidad de Granada</b> Laboratorio de Estudios Interculturales Gunther DIETZ Granada - ES</p> <p>12. <b>Institute of Psychology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences</b> Yolanda ZOGRAFOVA Sofia - BG</p>	<p>1/2/2007 60 months €4,056,373</p>
<p>International Radio Research Network (IREN)</p>	<p>Jean-Jacques CHEVAL <b>Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique</b> <b>CERVL Pouvoir, Action publique, Territoire</b> CNRS/IEP de Bordeaux Paris - FR <a href="http://griren.free.fr/iren.htm">http://griren.free.fr/iren.htm</a></p>	<p>2. <b>London School of Economics and Political Science</b> Peter LEWIS London - GB</p> <p>3. <b>Caricomm Konsult</b> Carin ABERG Uppsala - SE</p> <p>4. <b>Hans-Bredow-Institut für Mediensroschung and der Universität Hamburg</b> Uwe HASEBRINK Hamburg - DE</p> <p>5. <b>Università degli Studi di Siena</b> Enrico MENDUNI Siena - IT</p> <p>6. <b>Asociación de Emisoras Municipales de Andalucía de Radio y Televisión</b> Manuel CHAPARRO ESCUDERO Sevilla - ES</p> <p>7. <b>Université Catholique de Louvain</b> Fédéric ANTOINE Louvain-la-Neuve - BE</p> <p>8. <b>University of Limerick</b> Rosemary DAY Limerick - IE</p>	<p>9. <b>Catholic University of Lublin</b> Stanislaw JEDREJEWSKI Lublin - PL</p> <p>10. <b>Universidad del País Vasco / Eusko Herriko Unibertsitatea</b> Carmen PEÑAFIEL SAIZ Leioa Bizcaia - ES</p> <p>11. <b>Libera Università di Lingua e Comunicazione IULM</b> Livolsi MARINO Milano - IT</p> <p>12. <b>Universitaet Hamburg</b> Hans KLEINSTEUBER Hamburg - DE</p> <p>13. <b>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens</b> George LAVAS Athens - GR</p>	<p>1/03/2004 30 months €350,000</p>



<p>Religions And Values: Central and Eastern European Research Network (REVACERN)</p>	<p>András MATE-TOTH <b>University of Szeged</b> Department of Religious Studies Szeged - HU  <a href="http://www.rel.u-szeged.hu">http://www.rel.u-szeged.hu</a></p>	<p>2. <b>University of Vienna</b> Taras CHAGALA Vienna - AT  3. <b>Pazmany Peter Catholic University</b> Gergely ROSTA Budapest - HU  4. <b>Adam Mickiewicz University</b> Elzbieta ADAMIAK Poznan - PL  5. <b>University of Ljubljana</b> Vinko POTONICK Ljubljana - SI  6. <b>University of Debrecen</b> Gabriella PUSZTAI Debrecen - HU  7. <b>Masaryk University Brno</b> Lubos BELKA Brno- CZ  8. <b>Institute for Social Research in Zagreb</b> Dinka Marinovi JEROLIMOV Zagreb - HR</p>	<p>9. <b>Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" - NIS</b> Daniela KALKANDJIEVA Sofia - BG  10. <b>Ukrainian National Academy of Science</b> Victor YELENSKY Kiev - UA  11. <b>Max Weber Foundation for Social Research</b> Dénes KISS Cluj Napoca - RO  12. <b>Warsaw University</b> Doktor TADEUSZ Warsawa - PL  13. <b>Comenius University in Bratislava</b> Attila KOVACS Bratislava - SK</p>	<p>1/01/2007 36 months €800,000</p>
<p>Values, Equality and Differences in Liberal Democracies. Debates about Female Muslim Headscarves in Europe (VEIL)</p>	<p>Brigit SAUER / Sieglinde ROSENBERGER  <b>Universität Wien</b> Department of Political Science Faculty of Social Sciences Wien - AT  <a href="http://www.veil-project.eu/">http://www.veil-project.eu/</a></p>	<p>2. <b>Aalborg University</b> Birte SIIM Aalborg East - DK  3. <b>University Paris 8</b> Eleni VARIKAS &amp; Yves SINTOMER Saint Denis - FR  4. <b>Freie Universität Berlin - Free University Berlin</b> Sabine BERGHAHN Berlin - DE  5. <b>Panteion University</b> Athena ATHANASIOU Athens - GR</p>	<p>6. <b>Free University Amsterdam</b> Sawitri SAHARSO Amsterdam - NL  7. <b>Middle East Technical University</b> Ayse NUR SAKTANBER Ankara - TR  8. <b>Lancaster University</b> Linda WOODHEAD Lancaster - GB</p>	<p>1/03/2006 36 months €400,000</p>
<p><b>Priority 7 (Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society)</b> <b>Research Area 8 (Actions to promote the ERA in SSH)</b></p>				
<p>CONverging TECnologies and their impact on Social Sciences and Humanities (CONTECS)</p>	<p>Michael FRIEDEWALD <b>Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research</b> Department for Emerging Technologies München - DE  <a href="http://www.contecs.fraunhofer.de">http://www.contecs.fraunhofer.de</a></p>	<p>2. <b>Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe GmbH Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung (Limited Liability Company)</b> Armin GRUNDWALD Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen - DE</p>	<p>3. <b>Daniel Andler</b> Daniel ANDLER Paris - FR  4. <b>Steve Woolgar</b> Steve WOOLGAR Oxford - GB</p>	<p>1/02/2006 24 months €426,200</p>

EU-NESCA Research Dialogue  (EU- NESCA)	Reimund SEIDELMAN	<b>2. Institut d'Études Européennes/Université Libre de Bruxelles</b> Mario TELO, Bruxelles - BE	<b>6. Fudan University</b> Bingram DAI Shanghai - CN	1/4/2006
	<b>Justus-Liebig - University Giessen</b> Institute of Political Science Giessen - DE  <a href="http://www.ist-world.org/ProjectDetails.aspx?ProjectId=15c08257844b48c78bde464b468d930f">http://www.ist-world.org/ProjectDetails.aspx?ProjectId=15c08257844b48c78bde464b468d930f</a>	<b>3. Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques</b> David CAMROUX, Paris - FR	<b>7. Korea University</b> Song- Hoon PARK Seoul - KR	36 months
		<b>4. University of Warwick</b> Shaun BRESLIN Coventry - GB	<b>8. Chulalongkorn University</b> Apirat PETCHSIRI Bangkok - TH	€400,000
		<b>5. Institute of European Studies Macao</b> Maria do Ceu ESTEVES Macao - SAR - MO	<b>9. University of Canterbury</b> Martin HOLLAND Christchurch - NZ	

**Source:** Own compilation, from European Commission, 2007.

With regard to the project coordinators' institutions, it is worth noting the European University Institute, which led two research projects under the same competitive call, with the same start and end dates, and two different scientific coordinators.

**Table 2: Communication Research Projects Detected under the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013). Priority 8: Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (Activity 3-Major trends in society and their implications)**

Priority 8: Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (Activity 8.3. Major trends in society and their implications) <i>Research Area 8.3.3 (Cultural interactions in an international perspective)</i>				
Title (acronym)	Scientific Coordinator	Partners		Start date / Duration EC Contribution (estimated)
Gender, Migration and Intercultural Interactions in the Mediterranean and South East Europe: an interdisciplinary perspective  (GE.M.IC)	Dr. Maria STRATIGAKI  <b>Panteion University of Political and Social Sciences</b> Centre for Gender Studies EL-Athens	<b>2. International Centre for Minority Studies and Intercultural Relations</b> Marko HAJDINJAK BG-Sofia	<b>6. Consorci Institut d'Infància i món Urbà</b> Claudia PEDONE ES- Barcelona	(the start date has not been made public yet)  36 months  €1,019,280
		<b>3. University of Cyprus</b> Department of Education Zelia GREGORIOU, CY – Nicosia	<b>7. "EUROBALKAN" Institute, Skopje</b> Research Centre in Gender Studies Katerina KOLOZOVA FYROM- Skopje	
		<b>4. Università di Bologna</b> Dipartimento di Politica, Istituzioni, Storia Sandro MEZZADRA, IT-Bologna	<b>8. Bilkent University</b> Department of Political Science Dilek CINDOGLU TR – Ankara	
		<b>5. Universitatea Dunarea de Jos Din Galati</b> Dept. of English - Faculty of Letters Gabriela Iuliana COLPICA RO- Galati		

<p>Generating Interethnic Tolerance and Neighbourhood Integration in European Urban Spaces</p> <p>(GEITONIES)</p>	<p>Prof. Maria Lucinda FONSECA</p> <p><b>Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa</b></p> <p>Department of Geography / Centro de Estudos Geográficos PT-Lisbon</p>	<p><b>2. Universiteit van Amsterdam</b> Institute for Migration and Ethnic Studies (IMES) Flip LINDO NL - Amsterdam</p> <p><b>3. Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften</b> Institute for Urban and Regional Research of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Josef KOHLBACHER AT - Wien</p> <p><b>4. Universidad de Deusto / University of Deusto</b> Faculty of Political Sciences and Sociology Maria Luisa SETIEN ES - Bilbao</p>	<p><b>5. University of Macedonia</b> Department of Economic Sciences Lois LABRIANIDIS EL - Thessaloniki</p> <p><b>6. University of Warsaw</b> Centre of Migration Research, Faculty of Economic Sciences Aleksandra GRZYMAŁ-KAZŁOWSKA PL-Warsaw</p>	<p>(the start date has not been made public yet)</p> <p>36 months</p> <p>€1,462,753</p>
<p>Media and Citizenship: Transnational Television Cultures Reshaping Political Identity in the European Union</p> <p>(Media &amp; Citizenship)</p>	<p>Prof. Christina SLADE</p> <p><b>Universiteit Utrecht</b></p> <p>Faculty of Humanities NL-Utrecht</p>	<p><b>2. Universität Bielefeld</b> Institute for World Society Studies, Faculty of Sociology Ingrid VOLKMER DE- Bielefeld</p> <p><b>3. University of Leeds</b> Institute of Communications Studies Myria GEORGIOU UK - Leeds</p>	<p><b>4. Örebro University</b> Dept. of Humanities Leonor Maria CAMAUÉR SE- Örebro</p> <p><b>5. Université Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris – 3</b> Communication, Information, Medias Michael PALMER FR- Paris</p>	<p>(the start date has not been made public yet)</p> <p>36 months</p> <p>€1,240,225</p>

**Source:** Own compilation, from European Commission, 2008a, and Dissard, 2008.

### 5.3. Communication Starting Grants Awarded under the Seventh Framework Programme. Competitive Call 2008.

It is also important to point out that according to the CORDIS web site, in the first Starting Grants competitive call of the Ideas programme (ERC), one of the projects funded is connected with communication research. The project is called *The impact of mass media on public policy* (MEDIA AND POLICY), it has total a grant of €799,945 and will last for 60 months. The project, being undertaken by David Strömberg and his team at the University of Stockholm, will analyse the role that the media play in the processes of shaping governments' public policies.

#### 5.4. General Trends

##### a) The Proportion of Communication Research Projects

Under the Sixth Framework Programme, of the total of 169 projects approved under Priority 7 (*Citizens and Governance in a Knowledge-based Society*) and Priority 8 (*Scientific Support to Policies*), we have located 14 projects relating to communication (representing 8.28% of the Social Sciences and Humanities total). The total funding that these projects received was €14,111,860 (equivalent to 0.07% of the total budget of €19.113 billion, including the EURATOM programme).

Under the Seventh Framework Programme, in the first competitive call we have located three projects relating to communication under Priority 8 (*Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities*) of a total of 65. The funding that these projects received was €3,722,258. It is worth recalling, however, that the total budget of the Seventh Framework Programme is over 60% higher than the previous Framework Programme's budget, and that the duration of the current Framework Programme is seven years as opposed to five years for the Sixth Framework Programme. A representative assessment of the trend will need to be done again for upcoming competitive calls. As mentioned earlier, we have also detected a Communication Starting Grant (ERC) in the sum of €799,945.

##### b) Communication as a Research Topic versus Communication as a Medium

Overall, we have detected two major trends associated with communication projects under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes. Firstly, there are projects analysing communication as the main research topic, and secondly, there are projects using communication as a medium to analyse another research topic.

Under the Sixth Framework Programme, we have found the following projects that study communication directly as the research topic: *Young People, the Internet and Civil Participation* (led by David Buckingham from the Institute of Education at the University of London, United Kingdom) and *Adequate Information Management in Europe* (led by Bernd G. Kopper from the Erich-Brost-Institute for Journalism in Europe, Dortmund, Germany), which analyses production routines as the topic of the proposed research. Under the Seventh Framework Programme (ERC), we have detected the project called *The impact of mass media on public policy*, which was awarded a Starting Grant and is being undertaken by David Strömberg and his team at the University of Stockholm.

Of the projects using communication as a medium, we have identified the following: *Social regulation of European transnational companies* (led by Isabelle Daugareilh from the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique at Montesquieu University, France); and *Privatisation and the European Social Model* (led by

Hermann Bömer from the University of Dortmund, Germany). Both deal with interdisciplinary communication to analyse their research topics.

The project called *Crime as a Cultural Problem. The Relevance of Perceptions of Corruption to Crime Prevention. A Comparative Cultural Study in the EU-Candidate States and the EU-States Germany and Greece* (led by Hans-Georg Söffner from the University of Konstanz, Germany) uses an analysis of the media to detect the role they play in the perception and prevention of corruption in each country studied.

*Democracy in Europe and the Mobilization of Society* (led by Donatella Della Porta, from the European University Institute, Italy) studies the political opportunities generated by social movements and alternative strategic media used by their own actors, as a citizen participation medium.

Along similar lines we find *Media and Ethics of a European Public Sphere from the Treaty of Rome to the "War on Terror"* (led by Bo Strath from the European University Institute, Italy) which, by analysing the media, identifies 'crisis periods' and their relationship with the emergence of European public spheres.

The project called *A European Approach to Multicultural Citizenship Legal Political and Educational Challenges* (led by Anna Triandayllidou from the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy in Athens, Greece) uses media discourse analysis as a process for studying the dimensions of integration and diversity as the basis for preventing what is termed as 'panic about multiculturalism'.

Along similar lines we have located the following projects: *Religions and Values: Central And Eastern European Research Network* (led by András Mate-Toth from the University of Szeged, Hungary); and *Values, Equality and Differences in Liberal Democracies. Debates about Female Muslim Headscarves in Europe* (led by Brigit Sauer and Sieglinde Rosenberger from the University of Vienna, Austria). Both examine debates in the media as a way of analysing cultural and religious diversity.

The project called *CONverging TECnologies and Their Impact on Social Sciences and Humanities* (led by Michael Friedewald from the Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation, Munich, Germany) studies the phenomenon of technological convergence as a medium in the European knowledge-based society's process of transformation. While, on the other hand, the project called *EU-NESCA Research Dialogue* (led by Reimund Seidelmann from the Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Germany) uses the Internet as a medium for establishing a network of research studies between Europe and Asia to strengthen the European Research Area.

Along other lines we find the project called *Diversity and the European Sphere: Towards a Citizens' Europe* (by Yngve Georg Lithman from the University of Bergen, Norway), which studies various communication spaces as the subject of contribution to European public spheres. We also find the project called *International Radio Research Network* (led by Jean-Jacques Cheval from the Centre National de la

Recherche Scientifique de Paris, France), which suggests creating an international network of investigators and radio professionals.

With regard to projects under the Seventh Framework Programme, we find the project called *Gender, Migration and Intercultural Interactions in the Mediterranean and South East Europe: An Interdisciplinary Perspective* (led by Maria Stratigaki from the Panteion University of Political and Social Sciences, Athens, Greece), which uses intercultural dialogue as a medium for studying the impact of migratory mobility and cultural diversity.

Along similar lines we also find the project called *Generating Interethnic Tolerant and Neighbourhood Integration in European Urban Spaces* (led by Maria Lucinda Fonseca from the Faculty of Arts at the University of Lisbon, Portugal), which uses intercultural communication as a process (medium) for succeeding in integrating immigrants.

Finally, the project called *Media and Citizenship: Transnational Television Cultures Reshaping Political Identity in the European Union* (led by Christina Slade at Utrecht University, The Netherlands) uses the media as the research topic, especially for doing an empirical analysis of the role of Arabic-language television and its impact on the integration of multicultural societies in Europe.

#### c) Thematic Lines of Research

From point b) above, it is clear to see that ultimate goal of those projects where communication is the research topic is to increase citizen participation and consolidate the democratisation of systems (CIVICWEB) or to analyse the role of the media in integrating immigrants (MEDIA AND CITIZENSHIP). Other projects analyse the plurality of the media, and the one about the European Research Council (ERC) (MEDIA AND POLICY) examines the ways in which the media influence the design of governments' public policies.

#### d) Composition and Geographical Distribution of Teams

The research projects analysed have teams of between three and 13 members. The leadership of the following countries is worthy of note: Germany (coordinating five projects, having 12 partners and participating in total in 13 projects); France (coordinating two projects, having 12 partners and participating in 11 projects); Italy (coordinating two projects, having six partners and participating in six projects); and the United Kingdom (coordinating one project, having 11 partners and participating in 11). Spain does not lead any, but has 10 partners and participates in eight projects.

Therefore, we could assert that the five big European States head participation in communication research projects. Worthy of special mention are Holland (coordinating one project, having eight partners and

participating in eight); Greece (coordinating two projects, having five partners and participating in seven); Hungary (coordinating one, having six partners and participating in four); and Austria (coordinating one project, having five partners and participating in five). In Scandinavian countries, we find Norway (coordinating one project, having one partner and participating in two); Sweden (one starting grant, having three partners and participating in four projects); and Finland (participating in two projects as a partners). In Baltic countries, we find Estonia (participating in two projects); and Latvia and Lithuania (both participating in one project).

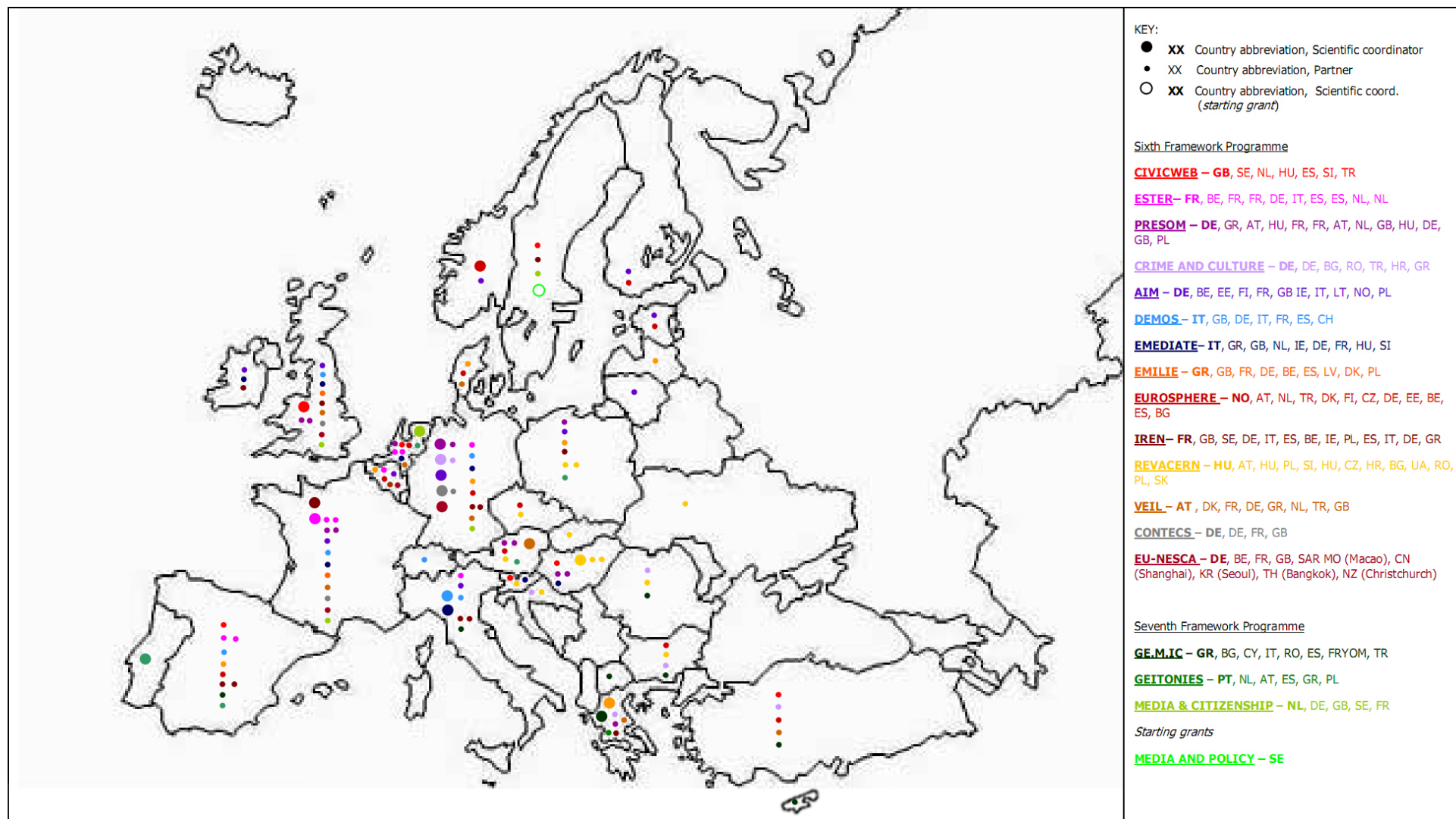
With regard to EU Member States, neither Luxembourg nor Malta participates in any of the detected communication research projects. With regard to candidate countries, worthy of note is Turkey, which participates in five projects.

As far as the gender of the scientific coordinators is concerned, nine were men and five were women in projects under the Sixth Framework Programme (64.29% and 35.71%, respectively)<sup>13</sup>. For the three projects under the Seventh Framework Programme, all are coordinated by women, but it will be necessary to wait for upcoming competitive calls to do an overall assessment of the gender of the scientific coordinators leading European communication research projects.

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<sup>13</sup> For the calculation purposes regarding gender, the VEIL project is coordinated by two female scientific coordinators, but it has been counted as a project led by only one female investigator.

**Map 1 - Geographical Distribution of the Scientific Coordinators of and Partners in Communication Research Projects Detected under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes (in the Area of Social Sciences and Humanities) <sup>A B</sup>**



(A) The dots indicate the location of the scientific coordinators' and partners' institutions in their respective countries. The dots may not indicate the exact location of the town or city where an institution is located due to the small dimensions of the map.

(B) EU-NESCA project partners from Asia and Australasia are shown in the project list (column on the right), but not on the map (continent of Europe).

Source: Own compilation, from European Commission, 2007a, European Commission, 2008a, and Dissard, 2008.



## 6. Conclusions

To sum up, we can confirm the European Commission's tendency to actively strengthen communication research in Europe through the Sixth Framework Programme and more explicitly through the Seventh Framework Programme, with the aim of securing a more economically, socially and culturally cohesive Europe in order to be able to progress towards the objective of a more competitive Europe on the world stage.

With regard to specific projects, communication projects undertaken under the Sixth and Seventh Framework Programmes have so far been led mainly by France, Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy, and these countries also account for a high percentage of participation as partners in projects. Spain participates in 10 but still does not lead any.

Communication research, which is being given priority in the areas of Social Sciences and Humanities, is associated with processes linked to the consolidation of sound democratic systems in Europe and the development of a common European identity. Over the coming years (2009-2013) it will be necessary to establish whether the specific topics of communication continue to be prioritised and in what way. On the path towards gender equality, it seems that female participation in European communication research project leadership may alter the trend of the Sixth Framework Programme, where the percentage of male coordinators was 64.29% and the percentage of female coordinators was 35.71%.

With the continuing desire for improvement, in recent years the European Commission has become concerned about the way in which research is communicated via the media to society at large, and has supported initiatives to promote the dissemination of scientific work being carried out in Europe (European Commission, 2007b).

It remains to be seen how three issues that we consider fundamental are resolved. Firstly, how the results of basic and applied research funded by the European Union are assessed. Secondly, how European, national and regional communication research strategies can be coordinated in an effective manner so as to create synergies and be of benefit to everyone, checking to see if the European Research Area (ERA) does actually lead to an internal market for science and technology. And thirdly, how any progress reaches society at large and works to its advantage, through an appropriate dissemination strategy allowing the respective actors who design public policies to take better decisions and actions.

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