Grants and Fellowships 2017





University of Helsinki, the Faculty of Law, Professor Taina Pihlajarinne THE LEGAL CHALLENGES OF CREATING NEWS BY USING AI

Utilization of AI in news production raises new legal questions that demand research. The research project examines the legal challenges of creating news by using AI. A key issue is how copyright regulation should be evaluated and developed in that context and by what kind of legal tools could be utilized in order to ascertain the functioning of news production markets. Furthermore, the project studies questions relating to liability for damages caused by content created by using AI.

€215,000

University of Tampere, Faculty of Management, Sami Borg PhD

VOTING ADVICE APPLICATIONS 2020

The project will provide a comprehensive analysis on voting advice applications (VAA) and on their use in the Finnish elections. The study will explore the current role of VAAs in political journalism, and their frequency, content and quality in the upcoming presidential elections (held in early 2018). The analysis is based on new data from different user surveys and from interviews of the key producers of the most important VAAs.

€136,500

University of Helsinki,

The Consumer Society Research Centre, Associate Professor Minna Ruckenstein FORGET MEDIA DISRUPTION – ALTERNATIVE FUTURES FOR BUSINESS AND WORK With digitalisation, new forms of media use, marketing and business are emerging, some of which are already well-established in the industry and can limit alternative and more sustainable business practices. The project produces new ways to explore media changes and possible future developments. For outlining alternatives, the project takes advantage of three hypothetical research orientations: post-data giants, post-marketing, and post-human work. University of Turku, Faculty of Social Sciences, Arttu Saarinen PhD POLITICAL BUBBLES AND MEDIA – POLITICAL PARTY MEMBERS' AND SUPPORTERS' MEDIA BEHAVIOR AND MEDIA TRUST IN THE POST-TRUTH ERA

The project studies the media behavior and levels of media trust among the supporters and members of political parties. It especially focuses on determining the most media critical citizens in addition to their political affiliations and position in society. The study is based on survey data gathered from party members and supporters concerning attitudes and networks.

€106,300

Laurea University of Applied Science, Neurolab, Jyrki Suomala PhD AI AS FAKE MESSAGE DETECTOR

Coherence theory descibes behaviour as abductive reasoning. Personal goals, evidence and emotional contents are components in abductive reasoning. The study analyzes 100 fake messages and 100 reliable messages according to these three components. Totally 20 parameters will be produced based on this manual analysis in order to produce artificial intelligence (AI) program, which can estimate the level of the reliability of messages. AI helps to reveal fake messages.

€99,240

University of Jyväskylä,

Karina Horsti PhD "DISENFRANCHISED" – INTERNATIONAL MOBILIZATION STRATEGIES IN THE POST-TRUTH ERA IN FINNISH, FRENCH AND US COUNTERMEDIA

This comparative project studies how Finnish, French and US countermedia mobilize a "disenfranchised" community of prosumers from people who are losing trust in the mainstream media.



€114,600



Aki Petteri Lehtinen PhD

TRUTHFUL JOURNALISM: THE CHANGES IN PUBLIC VOCABULARY AND HENCE IN CONCEPTUALIZION REVEAL CHANGES IN OUR THINKING AND BEHAVIOR

During an era of "post-truth", "false news" and "alternative truths" it is imperative to distinct truthful journalism from other information flood, which goes all the way to downright propaganda. The research will provide solutions by clarifying the concept of truthfulness in journalism.

€70,000

University of Jyväskylä,

the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, Tommi Kotonen PhD

RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM AND SOCIAL MEDIA IN FINLAND – COMMUNICATIONAL CHANGE AND ITS EFFECTS ON ORGANIZATION, MOBILIZATION AND IDEOLOGY

The research studies which kind of new models of communication the extreme right in Finland has adopted after the breakthrough of social media, why these particular channels of communication have been chosen, what kind of radical nationalist identities the Internet environment produces, and what are their effects on mobilization, recruiting and offline activities.

€67,600

University of Tampere, Faculty of Social Sciences, History, Heikki Kokko PhD

AGE OF POST-TRUTH NOW AND IN THE MIDDLE OF 19TH CENTURY

The rise of the age of post-truth is essentially connected with the development of the global data networks and the social media. There was the same kind of turning point in Finland in the middle of the 1800's when the Finnish-speaking public sphere arose for the first time. In that case also the people's ways of thinking and their cultural categories were on the move. What can we learn today of this past?



Antto Vihma PhD and work group: Jarno Hartikainen, Hannu-Pekka Ikäheimo and Olli Seuri THE POST-TRUTH ERA: IS FINNISH JOURNALISM PART OF THE PROBLEM OR SOLUTION?

Team of scholars and journalists aim to produce a premium-level non-academic book (in Finnish), based on extensive literature review and empiric analysis. The project focuses on post-truth phenomena in different policy fields and concept's applicability in the Finnish media scene.

€57,680

Unesco

GUILLERMO CANO WORLD PRESS FREEDOM PRIZE 2018-2020

The Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize for the 2018–2020. The annual prize honors a person, organization or institution that has made an outstanding contribution to the defense and/ or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world. The support from Helsingin Sanomat Foundation during the last five years facilitated the release of the following laureates: Reeyot Alemu (2013), Ahmet Ik (2014), Mazen Darwish (2015), Khadija Ismayilova (2016) and Dawit Isaak (2017).

€50,850

The Finnish Foundation for Media and Development Vikes MIGRANT ENGAGEMENT INTO PUBLIC DISCUSSION: FREEDOM OF SPEECH AS A HUMAN RIGHT AND CIVIC SKILL IN FINLAND The project's core objective is to enhance understanding of freedom of speech among migrants with non-Western roots as well as to provide them necessary skills for understanding media. Project will also enhance networking and cooperation between Finnish journalists, media researchers and active migrants as well as to improve migrant's practical skills for participating in the public debate. As result at least part of migrants will become active members of public discussion encouraging also others.

€50,000



Open Knowledge Finland, Aleksi Knuutila PhD ACT ON THE OPENNESS OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES, CIVIC TECHNOLOGY AND THE FUTURE OF JOURNALISM

The project studies the impact of civic tech on journalism from an action-research perspective. One part of the project is a registry of visitors to the Finnish parliament, which describes the various groups that influence parliament.

€50,000

Tampere University,

Research Centre for Journalism, Media and Communication (COMET), Laura Ahva PhD POPULIST COUNTER-MEDIA CHALLENGING MAINSTREAM JOURNALISM

The project will study the producers-users and the content of the counter-media sites in Finland and in the Scandinavian context. This research asks the members of the audience themselves, why some of them choose the so-called fake news and partisan sites over traditional journalism and why the credibility of legacy media has eroded in their eyes.

€46,000

Constructive Institute MID-CAREER CONSTRUCTIVE JOURNALISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

The constructive fellowship programme provides journalists an opportunity to spend a year at a world class university in Aarhus, to enable the fellows to explore potential solutions to problems in the fields they are covering. This is inspired by constructive journalism – a response to increasing sensationalism of the media -that aims to facilitate public debate not only around important problems, but also around possible solutions to them.

€40,000

Kaskas Media Oy SKOLAR AWARD 2017

Skolar Award is a project, which supports young scientists' prominent, novel and brave research idea and encourages young researchers all around the globe to communicate their work. In addition, the project's goal is to help broad audience to understand what does it mean to do research and why it is significant especially in the post-truth era of today. Skolar Award brings Nordic science and science communication to the spotlight and culminates to Slush start-up conference in 30.11. – 1.12.2017.

€40,000

Ylioppilaslehden Kustannus Oy, Robert Sundman

THE POST-TRUTH ERA: IS FINNISH JOURNALISM PART OF THE PROBLEM OR SOLUTION? The media consistently fails to show its viewers, listeners and readers that behind each journalistic process are a myriad of editorial decisions. With these choices, the media shines its light on only parts of the truth, leaving others in darkness. "The Truths That Prevailed" is a series of interactive, journalistic exhibitions and a publication that reveals the struggles behind these decisions.

€26,000

Reporters Without Borders Finland, Project Manager Marika Harjusaari

CHANGE – 100 PICTURES FOR PRESS FREEDOM The project "Change – 100 pictures for press freedom" -photography book and exhibition promotes Finnish photojournalism and showcases some of the best photos of Finnish photojournalists. The goal of the project is to support the activity of Reporters Without Borders Finland by making a volume that tells about the changing society, and the individuals in the middle of it. The project culminates to an exhibition and a seminar that promotes freedom of speech and photojournalism.

€25,000



Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences EDUCATION FOR JOURNALISM STUDENTS IN MEDIA LITERACY

Journalism students from different parts of Finland will get special education concerning media literacy. A material will be made based on this education. Students will visit schools in their area and give media education to pupils. During some of the visits students will work for local editorial rooms with journalistic project which will have the inspiration from the discussions the students will have with the pupils. The project will be a part of the tour of Finnish journalists to schools.

€22,000

Johanna Vehkoo

THE LIE DETECTOR'S HANDBOOK

The Lie Detector's Handbook offers practical tools for detecting all kinds of fakery on the web. The book will also take in-depth looks into how mis/disinformation works. Confirmation bias is a strong psychological force that makes us believe what fits our chosen world view. What are the most effective ways to battle disinformation with facts? The book will also contain investigations into various ways that conspiracy theories and other forms of disinformation affect people's lives.

€17,200

University of Tampere,

Faculty of Communication Sciences, Guest Professor Jussi Pullinen A YEAR OF DIGITAL JOURNALISM

The project "A year of digital journalism" maps and shares best practices in digital news media, especially in digital distribution. First, as an experimental teaching project spanning from autumn 2017 to spring 2018 seeks to distribute a journalistic whole on digital platforms alone. The project will report on the behaviour of social media algorithms in a media context. Secondly, an international seminar will share best practices in digital distribution and other topics more widely.

€12,480

Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences Youth NEWSROOM AT UNESCO'S WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY EVENT ON MAY 2017

Group of Finnish future journalists works for an international Youth Newsroom at Unesco's World Press Freedom Day event on May 2017. Along with this working they will produce a journalistic product about press freedom situation globally year 2017 for Finnish audience and build an interactive social media campaign to strenghen Finnish people need to support and protect freedom of press.

€10,320

Bjerregård Mogens Blicher

MEDIE AND POLITICS IN CONFLICT IN EUROPE A European project on media freedom including follow-up academic studies, a debate-book, a conference in Gdansk for 200 invited participants and follow-up mechanisms from the conference. The aim is to focus on the increasing conflict between journalists/media and politics/governments in a number of European countries and to reach out to the European citizens in order to increase the comprehension for the need of a free, independent and pluralistic media landscape.

€10,000

Aalto University,

Arts, Design and Architecture, Department of Media, Professor Merja Salo

HELSINKI PHOTOMEDIA 2018 – PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE POST-TRUTH CONDITION

Helsinki Photomedia is an international, biennial photography research conference organised by four Finnish universities. The next conference takes place in March 2018, under the theme Photography and the Post-Truth Condition.

€9,000

HELSINGIN SANOMAT FOUNDATION | GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS 2017



Photographer Heidi Piiroinen THE INVISIBLES

A survey of the phenomena of the Roma beggars in Europe by journalist Kimmo Oksanen and photographer Heidi Piiroinen. This project contemplates the effects of the phenomena of the Roma beggars, the situation they face in different societies and the hate-speech targeted at them. Who are they and why are they here?

€6,000

Suvi Turtiainen

#FINLAND 100 FROM RUSSIAN PERSPECTIVE

An investigative journalism project, which tries to find out how the Kremlin and Russian news media portray and frame the Finnish independence 100 years ago and its celebration in 2017.

€5,500

Nordic Press Association (NPA) Young media makers promoting Active citizenship

Journalists have a unique chance to promote active participation in society. In a 5-day seminar, 40 young media makers from Nordic countries will get inspired for new ways of doing journalism and media content that create a momentum for political and societal engagement. The result of the seminar will be a handbook that is a guide for active citizenship-oriented journalism in the Nordic sphere, as well as a series of mobile journalism reports that support the handbook as best practice examples.

€2,400

Silja Raunio OXFORD, REUTERS INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF JOURNALISM

Laura Kangsluoma, Stefani Urmas USC ANNENBERG SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION & JOURNALISM

Mari Lukkari

EUROPÄISCHE JOURNALISTEN FELLOWSHIPS – PROGRAM, FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

Risto Salminen FUDAN UNIVERSITY, SHANGHAI

Elina Hiltunen

WORLD PRESS INSTITUTE, WPI FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS

Anna-Sofia Berner COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY JOURNALISM SCHOOL

Aura Lindeberg CONSTRUCTIVE INSTITUTE, AARHUS, DENMARK

Ville Juutilainen, Ilkka Karisto, Anu-Elina Lehti, Ninni Myllyoja, Kati Pietarinen, Eveliina Salomaa summer investigative reporting course, columbia university graduate school of journalism

Fellowships total	€545,878
Grants total	€1,444,870
Total of grants and fellowships	€1,990,748