

Joint call for papers

International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) Pre-conference
Japanese Political Economy (JPE)

Pre-conference organizers and special issue editors:
Micky Lee (Suffolk University) m Peichi Chung (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Topic: Media technologies for work and play in Japan

We invite submission of original research articles and essays to both a pre-conference of IAMCR (to be held in June 2018 in Eugene, Oregon*) and a special issue of *Japanese Political Economy (JPE)*.

Rationale: Post-WWII technological development in Japan had astonished the western allies who won the war. Japanese acquisition of media companies abroad during the economic bubble era--most notably Sony's acquisition of Columbia Pictures---alarmed Americans of Japanese ambitions of expanding overseas. Media innovation such as the Sony Walkman and Nintendo game console were pioneers of mobile media devices. However, economic slowdown since the 1990s may have made Japanese media technologies less competitive internationally. (For example, the most popular smartphone companies are not based in Japan; smaller audiovisual firms were acquired by foreign companies.) Nevertheless, Japan is still known for technologies such as video gaming, audiovisual equipment, automation, manga, and animation.

Borne in mind the above, we invite contribution from communication scholars, anthropologists, sociologists, political scientists, historians, and policy-makers to discuss the following areas:

- aging and physical mobility;
- algorithm, artificial intelligence, automation;
- alternative political economic model of media technologies;
- analog and digital media technologies;
- capital, state, empire;
- case study of a technology/company/sector;
- children and education;
- comparative studies of Japan and Asian countries;
- consumption in a political economic context;
- cultural perspective of political economy;
- digital arts and creative industries;
- discourse of Japanese political economy in relation to media technologies;
- environment, green technology, and sustainability;
- financing and investment;
- gender and technologies;
- global corporations and/or local contexts;
- historical contexts of media technologies innovation in pre-WWII Japan;
- ideology, representation, and political economy;
- information flow to and from Japan;
- manufacturing and production;
- materiality;
- migrants, immigration and cross-border communication;

* There is a possibility that the pre-conference may take place in Portland, OR.

- military communication and intelligence;
- state policies and strategies;
- surveillance and security;
- technologies, labor, and work culture;
- tourism and tourist imagination;
- youths and social mobility.

Length:

Research articles (5,000-7,000 words including bibliography)

Essays (3,000-5000 words) (examples are: critical literature review, book review essay, expository essay on a chosen topic.)

We welcome work informed by different traditions of political economy and methodological inquiries; as well as interdisciplinary work that challenges what “media” and “technologies” are.

Timeline:

15th Dec 2017

Abstract (500 words) due to Peichi Chung (peichichung@cuhk.ed.hk) (for submission from Asia) OR

Micky Lee (mlee@suffolk.edu) (for submission outside Asia)

31st Dec 2017

Acceptance/rejection notice from the organizers/editors

April 2018

IAMCR decisions communicated

31st May 2018

Submission of manuscript

20th-24th June 2018

IAMCR assembly in Eugene, OR

30th September 2018

Submission of revised manuscript

Interested parties who would like to submit to the journal but not the pre-conference may contact the organizers/editors. However, priority of publication will be given to those who attend the assembly.

Description of IAMCR and topics of interest can be found at: <https://iamcr.org/>; general information of *JPE* can be found at: <http://explore.tandfonline.com/cfp/bes/mjes-cfp-2016>.

Please send inquiries to: Peichi Chung (peichichung@cuhk.ed.hk) (for submission from Asia) OR Micky Lee (mlee@suffolk.edu) (for submission outside Asia)

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