

Call for Contributions

Sixth International Visual Methods Conference (IVMC6) National University for Political Studies and Public Administration 16-19 July 2019, Bucharest

Background

NUPSPA (Romanian SNSPA) is delighted to invite researchers, practitioners, academics, and post-graduate students to attend the 6th International Visual Methods Conference which will be hosted by the College of Communication and Public Relations in Bucharest, Romania (www.comunicare.ro). This is part of an on-going series of conferences operating at the junction where academic research and practice meet. Previous conferences were held in Auckland (2011), Brighton (2015), and Singapore (2017).

In a world where grand ideologies do not support or legitimate the public narratives of nation states, corporations, or brands, the overarching theme of the 6th International Visual Methods Conference is the visual component of *les petites histoires* (small stories) - as opposed to *les grandes histoires* (Lyotard, 1993). Such *petites histoires* are told through images, logos, advertising spots, photographs, vlogs, infographics, music videos, digital stories, sketches, signs, documentaries, stencils, caricatures, games or emoticons – and support a different kind of narrative. That is, a narrative belonging, sometimes, to disenfranchised groups, activists, networks, communities, as well as to the new forms of corporate communication.

Within this context, the theme for IVMC6 is:

Epic Images of Mundane Stories

We welcome proposals exploring any of these areas:

- Narrative and visual methods
- Exploring digital visual methodologies, apps, and software
- Visual communication (advertising, social media, graphics and illustrations)
- Visualization of big data analysis, predictive analytics, and info-graphics
- Participatory and critical visual methods
- Visual methods in teaching and learning
- Ethics in visual methodologies
- Visual culture

The core of our programme is built on four open strands designed to capture strong proposals:

- **Visual storytelling**
- **Visual methods**
- **Visual culture**
- **Visual communication for advertising, PR, social development and activism**

We invite scholars and visual practitioners to submit proposals for **panels, papers**, or other types of contributions (e.g. walking workshops) exploring one of the conference themes.

Instructions for Papers

Abstracts for proposed papers should address one of the conference themes in no more than 300 words, and be submitted as a MS Word file or in RTF format (not in the body of an email). Submissions should be double-spaced and should use the Arial font, size 12. Please include:

- A title of no more than 15 words which provides useful pointers on the key topics to be discussed
- Five key words
- A short biography of a maximum 50 words

Where a significant portion of the presentation involves images, choose three (3) representative stills, or a video encoded to a size of no more than 4Mb, and attach this to your email.

All submitted materials should list your name, institution and/or organisational affiliation (if any), your paper or session title, and any media support required. In both your file name and email subject line, please include: [IVMC6; Paper or Session and Family Name]

Please send your materials to ivmc2019@comunicare.ro by 20th Jan 2019.

Late proposals will not be considered. All proposals will be reviewed by the Programming Committee and responded to by March 1st 2019.

Instructions for Panels

A panel will comprise a chair or commentator, and either a call for three or four presentations, or a confirmed set of panelists. Each panel will be provisionally allocated a 90 minutes session in the programme, which will be confirmed when a full panel has been registered.

To submit a panel proposal we invite you to provide a title and abstract addressing one of the conference themes. The panel abstract must not exceed 500 words and, if appropriate, it should include an email address for proposals to be sent to, supported by a short biography of the person(s) submitting and chairing the panel (up to 200 words, including affiliation, and recent publications and activities). Panel chairs are responsible for selecting contributions for their sessions. Alternatively, it is possible to submit complete panel proposals, which should include paper titles and abstracts along with biographical details of *all* presenters. Each Panel session will be given final approval by the Scientific Committee.

The deadline for panel submissions is February 1st, 2019. **Late proposals will not be considered.** Submissions should be sent by email to: ivmc2019@comunicare.ro

Submissions should be double-spaced and in Arial font, size 12.

It is our intention to provide panel organizers with the decision regarding their proposals by February 20th 2019. We expect to commission up to five panels under each theme with the balance being kept open for open submissions.

Instructions for Other Contributions

We would welcome ideas for other forms or contributions, for example walking workshops, participatory workshop, seminars, exhibitions, films, public art or similar initiatives. Proposals should address one of the conference themes in 250 words and be submitted as a MS Word file or in RTF format (not in the body of an email) with five supporting images, if appropriate. Proposals of this kind may come from academics, practitioners, or policy makers.

Submissions should be double-spaced and in Arial font, size 12.

Please contact ivmc2019@comunicare.ro if you have any questions. Proposals should be submitted by February 5th, 2019. Members of the organizing team will work with successful applicants to realize their project.

Late proposals will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.

Publication

The following publication opportunities are available:

1. *Romanian Journal of Communication and Public Relations*
<https://journalofcommunication.ro/index.php/journalofcommunication>
2. *Visual Methodologies*
<http://journals.sfu.ca/vm/index.php/vm/issue/view/14/showToc>
3. A selection of papers as well as some samples from the exhibitions will be included in a *Digital Visual Toolkit of Small Stories* to be published at our publishing house: **comunicare.ro** (<http://comunicare.ro/en/index.php?page=editura-comunicare>).

Registration

All presenters must be registered and have paid the conference fee (where applicable) by May 31st 2019 to be included in the conference program!

- Conference fee (Early Bird, March 15th 2019 - May 31st 2019): € 170
- Conference fee (Full): € 250
 - There is a special fee for postgraduate students (for the whole duration of the conference): € 70
 - Practitioners fee for one day of the conference of their choosing: € 70 (Early Bird, March 15th 2019 – May 31st 2019); € 100 after May 31st 2019
- The conference dinner will be held in at a venue in the center of Bucharest on July 17th (day two of the Conference). We plan to host it at a Romanian traditional restaurant with vegetarian options. The cost of the conference dinner is € 30.