

## Stefania Milan, Ph.D.

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### CURRENT POSITION

Assistant Professor, Department of Communication and Information Sciences, Tilburg University; Founding Director, Data J Lab ([datajlab.nl](http://datajlab.nl)), Tilburg University  
Research Fellow, The Citizen Lab, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto



### EDUCATION

- 2009** Ph.D. in Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute. Dissertation: 'Stealing the fire. A study of emancipatory practices in the field of communication'. Supervisor: Donatella della Porta. Jury: Robert A. Hackett (Simon Fraser University), David A. Snow (University of California, Irvine), Rainer Bauböck (EUI). Research supported by a four-year grant of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 2006** Master of Research in Political and Social Sciences, European University Institute.
- 2003** BA and MSc ('*Laurea*') in Communication Sciences (108/100), specialization in Mass Communications, University of Padua, Italy. Dissertation: '*La comunicazione al Forum Sociale Mondiale. Un'analisi dei media della società civile a Porto Alegre*' (The World Social Forum and Communication. An Analysis of Civil Society Media in Porto Alegre).

### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Digital media and social justice  
Internet activism; Hacktivism; Networked collective action  
The politics of code; Hacker culture  
'Big Data' techniques and data epistemology; Data journalism  
Participatory governance of cyberspace; Transnational policy activism  
Research methods: virtual; digital; participatory and action-oriented

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*Social Movements and Their Technologies: Wiring Social Change*, Palgrave Macmillan (November 5, 2013)  
*Media/Society: Industries, Images, and Audiences*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, co-authored with David Croteau and William Hoynes, 2011, Sage USA.

#### Articles in Refereed Journals

- "Networked Collective Action and the Institutionalized Policy Debate: Bringing Cyberactivism to the Policy Arena?," co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Policy & Internet*, 5(2013), pp. 7–26.
- "Desperately seeking politics: Political attitudes of participants in three demonstrations for social justice in Italy", co-authored with Donatella della Porta et al., *Mobilization*, 17(3), pp. 349–361.
- "Government change and policy continuity. A case study of policy on civil society media in Japan", co-authored with Gabriele Hadl, 関西学院大学先端社会研究所紀要 (*Annual Review of the Institute for Advanced Social Research*), 7, pp. 17–32.
- "'Social science is police science'. Researching grassroots activism", co-authored with Arne Hintz, *International Journal of Communication*, 4(2010), pp. 837–844.

- “At the Margins of Internet Governance: Grassroots Tech Groups and Communication Policy”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *International Journal of Media and Culture Policy*, 2009, 5 (1&2), pp. 23-38.
- “We Wanted to Do It Ourselves. Dimensioni sociali e tecnologiche delle pratiche emancipatorie nel campo della comunicazione digitale”, *Quaderni di Sociologia*, 49(1/2009), pp. 43-60 ('We Wanted to Do It Ourselves. Social and technological dimensions of digital emancipatory communication practices').
- “On the edge: AMARC Europe between 'movement entrepreneurs' and the grassroots. Notes from the Bucharest meeting”, *Telematics and Informatics*, 27(2), 2010, pp. 200-204.
- “Communication for development in practice: a four-step path to implement community media needs in development projects”, *Development in Practice*, 19(4-5), 2009, pp. 598-609.
- “Movimenti sociali e governance della comunicazione globale: la sfida della partecipazione nei processi decisionali transnazionali”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Partecipazione e conflitto*, 2/2009, pp. 111-134 ('Social movements and governance of global communications: the challenge of participation in transnational decision-making processes').
- “What makes you happy? Insights into feelings and muses of community radio practitioners”, *Westminster Papers in Communication and Culture*, 5(1), 2008, pp. 25-43.
- “Towards a new vision for communication governance? Civil Society Media at the World Social Forum and the World Summit on the Information Society”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Communication for Development and Social Change*, 1/2007, pp. 1-23.
- “Democrazia/e e democrazia/e della comunicazione: mediattivismo tra esperimenti di emancipazione e campagne di riforma”, *Rassegna Italiana di Sociologia*, 2006(4), pp.557-582 ('Democracy/ies and communication democracy/ies: media activism between reform and emancipation').
- “Medios comunitarios y regulación. Una perspectiva de comunicación para el desarrollo”, in *Investigacion y Desarrollo*, 14(2), pp. 268-291 ('Community media and regulation. A communication for development perspective').
- “Communication Civil Society: participation as the main benchmark of Civil Society Media. The case of the third World Social Forum,” *Redes.Com. Revista de Estudio para el Desarrollo Social de la Comunicacion*, 1/2005, pp. 241-264.

## Book Chapters

- “Hacktivism as a radical media practice”, forthcoming in the *Routledge Companion to Alternative and Community Media*, edited by Chris Atton, Routledge, 2014
- “The ethics of social movement research”, forthcoming in *Methodological Practices in Social Movement Research*, edited by Donatella della Porta, Oxford University Press, 2014
- “Cloud Protesting” and “Alternatives to Commercial Social Media Platforms”, forthcoming in the *Sage Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics*, edited by Kerric Harvey and J. Geoffrey Golson, 2014
- “Demonstrations, organizing”, co-authored with Lorenzo Zamponi, forthcoming in the *Sage Encyclopedia of Social Media and Politics*, edited by Kerric Harvey and J. Geoffrey Golson, 2014
- “At the Margins of Internet Governance: Grassroots Tech Groups and Communication Policy”, co-authored with Arne Hintz (reprint), forthcoming in *Critical Studies in Communication and Society*, edited by Cao Jin and Reagan Leslie Shade, Beijing: Peking University Press, 2014
- “Communication rights between political opportunities and mobilization frames: A historical perspective”, co-authored with Claudia Padovani, forthcoming in *Communication Rights and Social Justice. Historical accounts of transnational mobilizations*, edited by C. Padovani and A. Calabrese, Palgrave Macmillan, 2014
- “The Guardians of the Internet? Politics and Ethics of Cyberactivists (and of their Observers)”, *Methodological and Conceptual Issues in Cyber Activism Research*, edited by Beng Haut Chua, Jonathan Benney, Peter Marolt and Sun Jung, National University of Singapore, 2013, pp. 167-191.

- “Communication rights”, and “Indymedia (The Independent Media Center)”, *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Social and Political Movements*, edited by David A. Snow, Donatella della Porta, Bert Klandermans, and Doug McAdam, Sage, 2013, pp. 231-232 and pp. 603-605.
- “WikiLeaks, Anonymous, and the Exercise of Individuality: Protesting in the Cloud”, *Beyond Wikileaks. Implications for the Future of Communications, Journalism and Society*, edited by Benedetta Brevini, Arne Hintz, and Patrick McCurdy, Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 191-208.
- “User rights for the internet age: online policy according to ‘netizens’”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *The Handbook on Global Media and Communication Policy*, edited by Robin Mansell and Marc Raboy, Blackwell, 2011, pp. 230-241.
- “Grassroots Tech Activists and Media Policy”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Encyclopedia of Social Movement Media*, edited by John Downing, Sage, 2010, pp. 217-221.
- “Media Activists and Communication Policy Processes”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Encyclopedia of Social Movement Media*, edited by John Downing, Sage, 2010, pp. 317-319.
- “Community media activists in transnational policy arenas”, in Howley, Kevin, ed., *Understanding Community Media*. Thousand Oaks: Sage, 2009, pp. 308-317.
- “Community media and regulation. Re-writing media policy from a communication for development perspective,” in *World Congress on Communication for Development: Lessons, Challenges, and the Way Forward*, Washington DC, World Bank Publications, 2007 (e-book).

#### **Others Scientific Publications (Selected)**

- “Messages that Make an Impact: Civil Society Rethinking its Communication Strategies”, co-authored with Mario Lubetkin, *CIVICUS State of the Civil Society Report 2013*, pp. 278-283.
- “In Search of Transparency: From ‘Using’ to ‘Shaping’ Technology”, co-authored with Arne Hintz, *Global Information Society Watch*, 2012, pp. 34–37
- “The Italian anomaly”, *Index on Censorship*, 42(1), pp. 12-15.
- “Il governo come piattaforma: Verso un approccio critico e consapevole alla rete e alla sue applicazioni”, *Annali della Pubblica Istruzione*, 5/2012, pp. 1-12 (‘Government as platform: Towards a critical and self-aware approach to the web and its applications’).
- “Centocinquantuno. Un breve viaggio nelle celebrazioni dell’anno passato”, *Ricerche Storiche XLIII(2)*, edited by Francesco Catastini, pp. 337-339.
- “When politics and technology speak the same language. Stewardship in cyberspace according to cyberactivists”, *Stewardship Paper Series*, Canada Center for Global Security Studies (March 2012).
- “Cloud protesting: Dissent in times of social media”, blog post for The Citizen Lab, <http://citizenlab.org/2011/10/cloud-protesting-dissent-in-times-of-social-media/> (October 2011).
- “The OccupyWallStreet movement is a cloud”, Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University, <http://hausercenter.org/iha/2011/10/27/the-occupywallstreet-movement-is-a-cloud/>; published also by Nonprofit Quarterly (October 2011).
- “Toward an epistemology of engaged research”, introductory essay for the edited series of the IJoC/SSRC Forum on ‘Making Communication Research Matter’, *International Journal of Communication*, 4(2010), pp. 856-858.
- “Digital emancipatory communication practices as ‘protest by doing’”, *Lo Squaderno*, 14, pp. 50-53.
- “The way is the goal. Interview with Maqui, Indymedia London/IMC-UK Network Activist”, *International Journal of Electronic Politics*, 1(1), pp. 88-91.
- “Brazilian community media under siege,” *Community Media Review*, the Alliance for Community Media, Washington D.C., fall 2004 issue, December 2004, pp. 16-17.

## TEACHING

### **Tilburg University (the Netherlands) / 2012-present**

*Research Skills: Research Interview*, MA course

*Digital Storytelling*, MA course

*Precision Journalism*, MA course, co-taught with G. Chrupala

### **Central European University, Budapest (Hungary) / 2008 –2012**

*Digital Research Methods*, MA/PhD course, Winter 2012

*Digital Technologies and Society*, MA course, Winter 2011

*Political Communication*, MA course, Winter 2011

*Digital Methods Workshop: Research in a digital environment*, MA/PhD course, Winter 2011

*Global Media, Governance and Civil Society*, MA course, co-taught with A. Hintz and K. Coyer, Winter 2008

### **University of Lucerne (Switzerland) / 2008 –2010**

*Democracy, Cosmopolitanism and the Global Civil Society*, BA seminar, 2010

*Governance and Democratization of Global Media*, graduate seminar, Spring 2009

### **European University Institute, Florence (Italy) / 2008-2009**

*Theory and Methods in Research on Political Participation and Associational Life*, taught by Donatella della Porta (teaching assistant)

*Transformations in Democracies: An Introduction to Political Sociology*, by Donatella della Porta (TA)

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

Postdoctoral grant, Canada Center for Global Security Studies, University of Toronto, September 2011 to August 2012 (about CA\$50,000 plus mission and fieldwork funding)

Excellent Teaching Award (*'Hervorragende Lehre'*) for the academic year 2008-2009, University of Lucerne, Switzerland, course 'Governance and Democratization of Global Media'

PhD research grant of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, September 2005 to August 2009 (about €54,000, plus annual research fund of €2500)

European Social Research Council (ESRC) grant, Central European University/ESRC Summer School in Non-Governmental Public Action, July 2007

Travel grant of the Institute of Development Studies (University of Sussex, UK), OURMedia conference, Sydney, April 2007 (UK£1500)

Annenberg School of Communication (University of Pennsylvania), Annenberg/Oxford Summer Institute in Global Media Policy, University of Oxford, July 2005 (UK £1800)

Excellent Young Researcher in Communication Award, International Association of Media and Communication Research/UNESCO Award, 2004; UNESCO/IAMCR grant to present my research at the IAMCR 2004 annual conference in Porto Alegre, Brazil (US \$1000)

European Union grants: Erasmus study abroad program (Portugal, 11 months) and Leonardo job market program (England, 3 months)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**2011-2** Postdoctoral Fellow, the Citizen Lab and Canada Center for Global Security Studies, Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto

**2010** Visiting Scholar, Department of Art History and Communication Studies & Media@McGill Research Hub, McGill University, invited by Prof. Marc Raboy, Fall term

- 2008** Visiting Junior Specialist at the Center for the Study of Democracy, University of California, Irvine, invited by Prof. David S. Meyer, Spring Term
- 2007** CEU/ESRC Summer School on Global Processes and Non-Governmental Public Action, Central European University, Budapest, July
- 2005** Annenberg/Oxford Summer Institute on Global Media Policy, University of Oxford, July
- 2001-2** Academic year abroad at the *Universidade Catolica Portuguesa*, School of Social Communication, Lisbon, Portugal

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Advisor in new media, Ministry of Education, University and Research, Italy, February 2012 to April 2013
- Visiting Professor, Department of Political Science, Central European University, Budapest (Hungary), January to June 2011
- Research Fellow, Project “Caught in the act of protest”, European University Institute, March to October 2011
- Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Lucerne (Switzerland), 2008 to 2010
- Project Coordinator, European Union Democracy Observatory on Citizenship (EUDO CITIZENSHIP), Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, European University Institute, Florence; October 2009 to December 2010
- Research Assistant to Prof. Donatella della Porta, European University Institute, 2005 to 2008
- Research Fellow, Project “Communication Rights between local and global: movements networks and transformations in governance processes”, University of Trento and University of Padua (Italy) (2006-2008)
- Research Assistant to Prof. Monroe Price for the book project “Broadcasting, Voice and Accountability: A Public Interest Approach to Policy, Law, and Regulation”, World Bank, summer 2006
- Consultant and researcher, World Association for Christian Communications (WACC; [www.waccglobal.org](http://www.waccglobal.org)), London, October 2004 to July 2005
- Reporter, Inter Press Service news agency (IPS, [www.ipsnews.net](http://www.ipsnews.net)), from 2003 to 2010; assistant to the chief-editor from September 2003 to September 2004. Other freelance collaborations: Carta Maior, Brazil (2003-2004), Unimondo.org, Italy (2002–2003), Il Mattino di Padova, Italy (1998-2001)
- Organization of international conferences: IAMCR (Mexico City, Mexico 2009; Braga, Portugal 2010; Istanbul, Turkey 2011; Durban, South Africa 2012; Dublin 2013); ICA regional conference (Budapest 2009); OURMedia IV (Porto Alegre 2004), OURMedia V (Bangalore 2005), OURMedia VI (Sidney 2007), OURMedia VIII (Dublin 2013)

## **CONSULTANCY**

- DG Communications, Network Content, and Technology (CONNECT), European Commission (2012)
- Ministry of Education, University, and Research, Italy, Office of Direct Collaboration. Area new media: Digital Agenda, infrastructure development, design of online public consultations, digital policy literacy (2012-2013)
- Inter Press Service News Agency. Contextual analysis and business plan for 2012-2014, June 2011 to present
- Pentsamendua: A Laboratory for Thought and Inquiry, Basque Global Initiatives (USA). Media and Communications Group. Consultancy on the use of new media and social networking for dispersed communities and for the maintenance and promotion of ethnic identity, 2009-2010

## SERVICE

Elected Member, International Council of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) (2012-present); co-chair, IAMCR Task Force on Global Media Policy (2012-present)

Non-Commercial User Constituency representative, GNSO Standing Committee on Improvements Implementation, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) (2013-present)

Co-chair of the IAMCR Emerging Scholars Network (2008-2012)

Expert Reviewer, Social Science Research Council, New York

External examiner, various PhD Committees, Anna University, Chennai, India (2011-present)

Reviewer, *British Journal of Sociology*  
*Communication, Culture and Critique*  
*Contemporary Social Science*  
*/Culture Unbound/*  
*Global Media and Communication*  
*Global Media Journal – Canadian Edition*  
*International Journal of Cultural Studies*  
*IAMCR Book Series*  
*Journal of Communication*  
*Philosophy & Technology*  
*Platform: Journal of Media and Communication*  
*Pluto Press (book proposals)*  
*Policy & Internet*

Editorial Board member, *Platform: Journal of Media and Communication*

Member of the scientific committee, New Media and Participation conference, COST action “Transforming Audiences, Transforming Societies” and Bahçeşehir University, Turkey, November 22-23, 2013

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

Non-Resident Research Fellow, Center for Media and Communication Studies, Central European University

Member, COSMOS Center on Social Movement Studies, European University Institute

Member, Movement/Media Research Action Project, Boston College

Research Associate, Stanhope Centre for Communications Policy Research, City University London

Member, Civil Society Media & Policy Consortium

International Studies Association (ISA)

Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GIGANet)

European Sociological Association (ESA)

International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)

International Communication Association (ICA)

European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA)

*Società Italiana di Scienza Politica* (Italian Political Science Society)

## SELECTED GUEST LECTURES and INVITED TALKS

“Is Hacktivism Good for Democracy?,” “A Global Village? Hacktivists, Cyberwarriors, and International Relations” conference, University of Toronto, 26 January 2013

- “The Guardians of the Internet? Politics and Ethics of Cyberactivists (and of their Observers)”, Inter-Asia Roundtable on Cyberactivism, National University of Singapore, 28-30 August 2012
- “Radical internet activism”, offered in the framework of the course *Alternative Media* (2 November, 2011, McGill University Canada)
- “Alternative media and policymaking”, offered in the framework of the course *Alternative Media* taught by Arne Hintz (17 March 2011, McGill University Canada)
- “Emancipatory communication practices from a sociological point of view”, offered to the Movement/Media Research Action Project, December 1, 2010, Boston College, Boston (USA)
- “Stealing the Fire: How social movements create grassroots communication infrastructures” (public lecture), (November 25, 2010, McGill University Canada)
- “Civil society interventions in policymaking”, course *Political Economy of Electronic Media* taught by Roberta Lentz (November 4, 2010, McGill University Canada)
- “Media and democracy in Italy: a brief history of Italian grassroots media”, offered in the framework of the course *Italian Television and Democracy* taught by Chris Hanretty, April 19, 2010, New York University, Florence (Italy)
- “Citizenship regimes in the European Union”, offered in the framework of the *Seminar on EU policy analysis*, taught by Alex Wilson and Igor Guardiancich, February 11, 2010, James Madison University, Florence (Italy)
- “Social movements as policy stakeholders: Notes for a research agenda” (public lecture), January 19, 2010, Central European University, Budapest (Hungary)
- “Emancipatory communication practices” and “Alternative communication and the internet”, undergraduate course on *Globalization and the Media* taught by Dorothy Kidd, University of San Francisco (USA), April 24-25, 2008

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “When the 'global public' responds: Internet governance and collective action”, co-authored with Roxana Radu, 8<sup>th</sup> GIGANET annual symposium, Bali, Indonesia, 21 October 2013
- “SOPA, PIPA, and global internet policy-making”, panel ‘The Contentious Politics of the Internet: New Actors, Practices, and Expertise in Digital Policymaking’, 8<sup>th</sup> Interpretive Policy Analysis conference, Vienna, 3-5 July 2013
- “Rethinking counter-hegemony in times of social media”, OURMedia conference ‘Dealing with crisis: Community, Alternative, Citizen’s and Social Media in Times of Change, Dublin’, June 24-25, 2013
- “WikiLeaks and networked collective action”, panel ‘Beyond WikiLeaks: “One step forward: Translation against the clash of organizational cultures”, panel ‘Challenging Communication Research Through Engaged Scholarship’, International Communication Association, London, June 2013
- “Cloud protesting. How is protest changing in times of social media”, European Communication Research and Education Association conference, Istanbul, October 2012
- “Cloud Protesting. Mobilization and Dissent in Times of Social Media”, Canadian Communication Association annual conference, Hamilton, CA, May 2012
- “Challenging Digital Gatekeepers: Exploring International Policy Initiatives for Free Expression Online” and “Dynamics of Cyberactivism: Organisations, Action Repertoires, and the Policy Arena”, International Communication Association, Phoenix, Arizona, May 2013
- “Cloud protesting. How is protest changing?”, Unlike Us conference, Amsterdam, March 2012
- “Struggling for Open Information Environments: Civil Society Initiatives for Media Policy Change”, iConference, Toronto, February 2012
- “WikiLeaks as a catalyst for cyberactivism”, Expert panel on “Beyond Wikileaks: Journalism, Politics and Activism One Year After Cablegate”, McGill University, 29 November 2011 (invited contribution)
- “Wikileaks from the hacktivist perspective”, Roundtable on “The significance of Wikileaks: Law, society, politics”, IAMCR annual conference, Istanbul, July 2011 (invited contribution)

- “Social movements and media policy change: Emerging policy reform frames in Latin America”, IAMCR annual conference, Istanbul, July 2011
- “Dynamics of Cyberactivism: Organizations, Action Repertoires, and the Policy Arena”, with Arne Hintz, ECPR conference, Reykjavik, Iceland, August 2011
- “Exploring Information Governance Activism: Action Repertoires, Strategies and Agendas”, with Arne Hintz, ECPR conference, Reykjavik, Iceland, August 2011
- “Social movements and tech activism: The role of prefigurative action, informal networks and technological development”, with Arne Hintz, International Studies Association, Montreal, March 2011
- “Effecting Governance Reform From Below: Strategic Litigation as a Tool for Social Change”, with Benedict S. Wray, 4th Annual Toronto Group Conference for the Study of International, Transnational, and Comparative Law, Toronto, January 2011
- “Stealing the Fire. How Social Movements Create Online Grassroots Infrastructure”, European Sociological Association, mid-term conference of the Social Movement Network, Florence, January 2011
- “Defining Emancipatory Communication Practices”, IAMCR annual conference, Braga, July 2010
- “Embodying the alternative through prefigurative action: Utopias in cyberspace”, Alternative Cultures conference, Budapest, April 2010
- “Activist networks in global governance: informal civil society and formal policy processes”, with Arne Hintz, European Consortium on Political Research (ECPR), Joint Sessions, Lisbon, April 2009
- “Digital methods: risks, challenges and opportunities for qualitative research”, European Sociological Association, Lisbon, September 2009
- “Emancipatory Models of Communication”, presentation at the Media/Movement Research Action Group weekly meeting, Boston, April 2008
- “Studying grassroots activists and policy: research methods for a fruitful dialogue”, with Arne Hintz, ICA Pre-Conference on “Bridging the Activist-Scholar Divide”, Montreal, May 2008
- “Inside, outside and beyond: towards a new model of collective action”, with Arne Hintz, ECPR conference, Pisa, September 2007
- “Networks of radical tech collectives: social logic and technological dimensions of emancipatory practices in the field of digital communication”, New Network Theory conference, U. of Amsterdam, June '07
- “Our media go to Europe: transnational networks for policy advocacy”, OURMedia annual conference, University of Western Sidney, April 2007
- “Transnational Mobilisation(s) on Communication and Media Justice: preliminary reflections on movement formation. The case of community media”. Feltrinelli International Colloquium, Cortona, Oct. 2006
- “Transnational activist networks in communications governance. Potentials and challenges of their involvement in policy processes”, IAMCR Working Group on Global Media Policy, Cairo, July 2006
- “Communicating Civil Society: participation as the main benchmark of Civil Society Media. The case of the third World Social Forum”, Participatory Communication Research, IAMCR, July 2004

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

Excellent English | Italian | Portuguese | Spanish  
 Fair French  
 Basic Dutch | German