



Governing Freedom: Challenges to media and communication rights in Europe

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2015 – 4pm to 5:30pm

Type: Lecture

Audience: Open to the Public

Speaker: Dr. Katharine Sarikakis

Building: Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Humanities, Main Building (Múzeum krt. 6-8.)

Room: 34

On behalf of the ELTE BTK Institute of Art Theory and Media Studies, we cordially invite you to Professor Katharine Sarikakis' (University of Vienna) open lecture to be held at the Department of Media and Communication.

The lecture interrogates emerging and existing challenges to the governance of freedom of speech through the lenses of multilevel crises in Europe. It explores freedom of expression not solely as a media matter, but as a core element in the construction and governance of communicative spaces, in off-line (for example demonstration and protest, assembly) or online fora (social media, debate). Political, legislative and economic crisis form the basis upon which practices of protection (and violation) of human rights of expression and association are discussed and analysed. The talk utilizes a multiperspectival approach to governance, as a process which entails not only legislative, but also structural and cultural, that is, symbolic dimensions in the shaping of media and communicative spaces in Europe today, making references to specific 'moments' in European realities.

Professor of media industries, media organisation and media governance at the University of Vienna, Dr. Katharine Sarikakis researches national and global communications rights and media governance. Her focus on public policy—addressing communication as technology and process, as well as political and cultural forms of expression—investigates the intervention and involvement of the state in media industries and the lives of individuals as media users.

Sarikakis served as Chair of the Communication Law and Policy Section of the European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA) for six years, where she is currently a reelected member of its executive board. Among other international and intergovernmental organisations, she is a member of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR). She is currently publishing on the problems of control over citizenship through commercial and political surveillance in the forms of cultural policies of copyright, labour and ownership. Her upcoming monograph, *Communication and Control*, is contracted by Palgrave Macmillan.