

Communication, Social Justice and Democracy IAMCR WG conference/ECREA 2026 pre-conference

*Communicating narratives, imaginaries,
and epistemes of hope*

7 September 2026

Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism,
Charles University, Prague

Conference Programme

Version 4 September 2026



Photo by neida zarate

Venue

Address: Hollar Building, Smetanovo nábřeží 6, 110 01 Prague

Main entrance: Smetanovo nábřeží 6

Accessibility entrance: Divadelní 995/7

If you need to use the accessibility entrance, please inform us in advance so that we can facilitate your entry.

If you have any additional accessibility needs, please let us know, and we will do our best to accommodate them.

Rooms' location

Room H013 – Ground floor

Rooms H112 & H115 – First floor

Room H215 – Second floor

Courtyard access through main building

Reaching the venue

By metro: Národní třída stop // **By tram:** Karlovy lázně or Národní divadlo stops

Wi-Fi

Eduroam and guest Wi-Fi will be available at the venue.

Photography consent

If you would like to withdraw your consent to appear in conference photographs, please let us know by email.

For any additional queries, please contact maedbh.pierce@fsv.cuni.cz

Organisation and support

The conference is endorsed by the [International and Intercultural Communication ECREA section](#), and is hosted by the [Culture and Communication Research Centre](#) (CULCORC) and the [Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism](#) (ICSJ) (Charles University).

The conference is financially supported by the [International Association for Media and Communication Research \(IAMCR\)](#) and the [Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism](#) (ICSJ).

Communicating narratives, imaginaries and epistemes of hope

Joint Communication, Social Justice and Democracy IAMCR Working Group conference & ECREA 2026 pre-conference

7 September 2026

Institute of Communication Studies and Journalism,
Charles University, Prague

Conference programme overview

Time	Session/ Activity	Room
8:30 – 8:55	Arrival and registration	H013
9:00 – 10:30	Opening Keynote session: Hope, change and critique	H215
10:30 – 10:50	Coffee break	Courtyard*
10:50 – 12:30	<i>Parallel sessions 1-3</i>	
	Session 1: Hydropolitics of sustainable futures in public discourse	H115
	Session 2: (Youth) voices of hope: Digital media, civic imagination and identity	H215
	Session 3: Creative practices of hope: Art, performance and cultural imagination	H112
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break	Courtyard*
13:30 – 15:10	<i>Parallel sessions 4-6</i>	
	Session 4: Narratives and poetics of hope in democratic practice	H215
	Session 5: Governing democracy: Policies of hope and public disillusionment	H115
	Session 6: Politics and discourses of hope in peace and conflict	H112
15:10 – 15:30	Coffee break	Courtyard*
15:30 – 17:10	<i>Parallel sessions 7-8</i>	
	Session 7: Hope as democratic practice: Communication, citizenship and civic engagement	H112
	Session 8: Assemblages of hope: Media, protest and political imaginaries	H215
17:15 – 17:30	Closing	H215

**The breaks may need to be held indoors depending on the weather.*

Conference programme

Opening	
Keynote session <i>Hope, change and critique</i>	
Keynote speakers:	
Ilija Tomanić Trivundža , <i>University of Ljubljana, Slovenia</i> Presentation: <i>A non-paper on post-hope by the Ministry of High-Beam Headlights and Better Future of Cyber Yugoslavia</i>	
Nico Carpentier , <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i> Presentation: <i>From hope to change: Stimulating participation in the fields of media and the arts through interventionist research</i>	
Chair: Vaia Doudaki, <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	
Room: H215 // Time: 9:00 – 10:30	
10:30 – 10:50	
Coffee break	
1. Hydropolitics of sustainable futures in public discourse Chair: Danilo Rothberg, <i>Unesp - São Paulo State University, Brazil</i> Room: H115 // Time: 10:50 – 12:30	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Mihaela Chirac Condrea <i>University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Framing hope in media discourse on renewable energy: The Romanian 'green connectivity' project
Sergül Nguyen <i>Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands</i>	News media imaginaries of the future of climate
Elisabeth Wennerström <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Holding hope by resistance in nature and culture articulations, highlighting Swedish environmental journalistic assemblages

Danilo Rothberg, Vinícius Lauriano Ferreira, Fernando Oliveira Paulino <i>(1) Unesp - São Paulo State University, Brazil; (2) State University of Londrina, Brazil; (3) University of Brasília, Brazil</i>	Hydropolitics of water and the hope for a sustainable future
2. (Youth) voices of hope: Digital media, civic imagination and identity Chair: Nico Carpentier, <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i> Room: H215 // Time: 10:50 – 12:30	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Mitsuko Matsumoto, Pilar Lacasa, Nerea Rúbio <i>(1,2) University of Alcalá, Spain; (3) University of Seville, Spain</i>	Spanish-speaking young people's multimodal performance of future imaginaries and hope on tiktok
Anastasia Coste Stiegelbauer <i>University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Communicating hope in times of change: A mixed-methods analysis of Romanian youth organisations in 2022
Thawab Hilal, Hanan Badr <i>University of Salzburg, Austria</i>	Podcasting hope: Youth, climate, and civic imagination in Jordan
Maedbh Pierce <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Hoping for bi+ self-determination: A discourse theoretical analysis of bisexual identity articulations in bi+ community media outlet 'Bisexual Women Quarterly'
Uxía Sánchez Lorda <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	The ambivalent potential of hope: Hegemony, resistance, and the politics of femininity in #thatgirl and #cleangirlaesthetic online trends

3. Creative practices of hope: Art, performance and cultural imagination Chair: Ilija Tomanić Trivundža, <i>University of Ljubljana, Slovenia</i> Room: H112 // Time: 10:50 – 12:30	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Leonid Moyzhes <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Game designing the utopia: Possibility of using the image of supervillains as a vehicle for hope in critical tabletop role-playing games
Ali Minanto <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Street art and spaces of hope: Democratic contestation over urban space in Yogyakarta
Réka Nagy <i>Independent researcher, Hungary</i>	Staging uncertainty, performing hope: Improvisational theatre with participatory elements as climate communication
Yaroslava Kutsai <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Curating hope: How do museums in petrostates envision a better future
12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break	
4. Narratives and poetics of hope in democratic practice Chair: Josef Seethaler, <i>Austrian Society of Cultural Indicators Research, Austria</i> Room: H215 // Time: 13:30 – 15:10	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Kai Moreno Momiejo <i>University of Cambridge, UK</i>	Hope as poetic form: Emancipatory imagination in Byung-Chul Han and María Zambrano
Cherian George <i>Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong</i>	Leaps of faith in counter-polarisation work and why the social sciences must make room for hope
Josef Seethaler, Gabriele Melischek <i>Austrian Society of Cultural Indicators Research, Austria</i>	Democracy, hope, and the media: A fragile triangle (and a historical lesson)
Sebastián Moreno <i>Universidad ORT Uruguay, Uruguay</i>	On the semiotics of hope, or how to construct hope as a sense effect in discourse
Fatma Nazlı Köksal <i>Yeditepe University, Turkey</i>	When hope becomes visible: Affective aesthetics and narratives of hope in digital media

5. Governing democracy: Policies of hope and public disillusionment Chair: Andrea Miconi, <i>IULM University, Italy</i> Room: H115 // Time: 13:30 – 15:10	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Francisco Eduardo Gonçalves, Fernando Oliveira Paulino, Danilo Rothberg <i>(1,2) University of Brasília, Brazil; (3) Unesp - São Paulo State University, Brazil</i>	Devices of hope: Transparency and accountability in democratic governance
Tibor Vocásek <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Semi-peripheral hopes: Imaginaries of AI regulation in Czech and Portuguese media
Anirban Chakroborti <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Reconstructing concepts of hope in India: A linguistic discourse analysis of Independence Day speeches
Giulia Ferri, Andrea Miconi <i>IULM University, Italy</i>	A new hope? Counterintuitive insights from a wide-scale research on political disillusion in Europe
6. Politics and discourses of hope in peace and conflict Chair: David Ongenaert, <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i> Room: H112 // Time: 13:30 – 15:10	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
David Ongenaert, Nico Carpentier <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Peace as a discourse of hope? How journalists in the Czech Republic perceive and report on peace in the context of the Russian-Ukrainian war
Jose David Ortega Chavez <i>University of Winchester, UK</i>	The projection of competing peace narratives in Colombian presidential discourse (2002–2025)
Martina Hrgović, Verena Wassink, Sonja Kretzschmar, Christoph Neuberger, Annika Sehl <i>University of the Bundeswehr Munich, Germany</i>	Designing future dialogue: Evaluating multilingual online deliberation design for peacebuilding
Sofia José Santos, Maria Raquel Freire, Inês Amaral, Moara Crivelente, Beatriz Rodrigues <i>University of Coimbra, Portugal</i>	Contesting hope: Media, inequality and competing political futures in Portugal

Lungta Seki <i>Koç University, Turkey</i>	Articulating democratic hope under backsliding: Opposition discourse across communicative arenas in Turkey
15:10 – 15:30 <i>Coffee break</i>	
7. Hope as democratic practice: Communication, citizenship and civic engagement Chair: Fernando Oliveira Paulino, <i>University of Brasília, Brazil</i> Room: H112 // Time: 15:30 – 17:10	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Alejandro Barranquero Gloria Rosique-Cedillo, Teresa Gil-López <i>Universidad Carlos III de Madrid</i>	Media reform and the politics of hope: Civil society media literacy initiatives in Spain
Giulia Ferri <i>IULM University, Italy</i>	Knowing enough to hope: Media literacy and the unequal conditions of democratic imagination
Kristiina Raud <i>Tallinn University, Estonia</i>	Urban visions, active citizens: Bridging media engagement and civic participation
Diana Fălan <i>University of Bucharest, Romania</i>	Storytelling and multimodality as an enhancer of hope speech: A case study

8. Assemblages of hope: Media, protest and political imaginaries Chair: Vaia Doudaki, <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i> Room: H215 // Time: 15:30 – 17:10	
<i>Presenter/author & affiliation</i>	<i>Presentation title</i>
Athina Simatou <i>National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece</i>	Alternative media practices and narratives as infrastructures of hope: Human rights journalism, decolonial narratives, and the struggle for recognisability
Andrea Villalobos Moreno <i>Pompeu Fabra University, Spain</i>	Imaginaries in dispute: Media framing analysis of development and ecocide in the Tren Maya (2018-2024)
Lital Henig, Christian Pentzold <i>Leipzig University, Germany</i>	Hope in protest: Memory activism and the #bringthemhomenow movement
Marije Nieuwland, Anni Phridonashvili <i>Independent researchers, (1) Netherlands; (2) Georgia</i>	Hope of the homeplace: Endurance of protest on Rustaveli avenue
Vaia Doudaki <i>Charles University, Czech Republic</i>	Pirate airwaves of hope: Protest broadcasting and the enactment of democratic hope in occupied Polytechnio
Closing Room: H215 // Time: 17:15 – 17:30	