

Call for Papers: UEA PGR Conference 2023 – Communication in Uncertain Times

We are pleased to announce the University of East Anglia School of Politics, Philosophy, Language and Communication PGR Conference to take place **8th June 2023** in person on the theme of **Communication in Uncertain Times**.

About the event:

This is a multidisciplinary conference aimed at exploring the role and fate of communication in these uncertain times. We are living through a period of social, political, financial, and environmental crises which are accompanied by uncertainty in all areas of life, with significant social and political implications. Uncertainty in this context refers to both precariousness and probability, while communication is understood in the widest sense; from mundane everyday conversations to sophisticated political speeches. It is of vital importance to understand, respond, and overcome these crises and uncertainties, as only through communication can we widen our world in a way that creates a broader, public space.

In relation to the general theme of the conference, we welcome abstracts related but not limited to the following themes:

- Political issues, such as challenges of communicating government decision-making and policy implementation. It could also address the role of communication in crises and in shaping public opinion on political issues, as well as the ethical and moral dimensions of political communication. In this respect, this theme also includes research on political discourse/ideologies and rhetoric through which political actors communicate their politics, challenge others, and convince people to a particular action.
- Economic issues, such as communication of financial crises, economic policy decisions, recession and high inflation, as well as the role of digital media in shaping public opinion on economic matters.
- Environmental issues, such as communication of climate change, environmental degradation, and natural disasters. It could also explore issues related to the ethics and responsibility of communicating environmental uncertainty.
- Health issues, such as communication in public health crises, communication and/or translation in health provision situations, health-related disinformation, Covid-19 related communication.
- Issues related to Education/Higher Education, such as the challenges of communicating uncertainty in the context of education and higher education, including discussions of academic freedom, critical thinking, and the role of higher education in shaping public discourse. It could also explore issues related to digital media, as well as the development of AI and its challenges for education.
- Imagining and communicating critique in uncertain times, such as the exploration of the meaning of critique, and its role in times of uncertainty. It could also address issues related to ethics and responsibility of critique as well as various ways of communicating critique in particular contexts.

We welcome abstracts applying quantitative or qualitative methodologies such as experimental, diverse methods of discourse/rhetorical analysis, content analysis, case studies, and research based on ethnographic methods.

How to submit a proposal:

Interested researchers are invited to submit max. 300-400 words paper proposals in English that approach these themes from theoretical, practical, and empirical perspectives by **31 March 2023** to pgr.conference@uea.ac.uk.

We are also happy to receive contributions that are still a work in progress.

We aim at providing a safe and friendly environment for developing and refining our ideas regarding these and other relevant topics.

Participants will be informed about our decision by **21 April 2023**.

The UEA campus has extensive accessibility provision, however, please mention if you have any accessibility requirements, so we can do our best to accommodate.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided during the event.

Organizing Committee

Arife, Esther, Kasia, Matheus, Prakash