

Books Review

FRANCE TELECOM SPAIN FOUNDATION. *Informe Anual sobre el desarrollo de la Sociedad de la Información en España*. Madrid: France Telecom Spain Foundation, 2006. ISBN: 978-84-9601009-0

The report by the France Telecom Spain Foundation has become an essential tool for knowing the status of the information society in Spain. The methodology used includes fieldwork, surveys and qualitative analyses with an extensive battery of indicators that help to present a picture of Spain's technological geography. The eEspaña index indicates the position of Spain with relation to the rest of the countries in the European Union with regard to the penetration and evolution of ICT and internet use by citizens, companies and the government.

Among other aspects the report examines the situation and trends regarding the regulatory framework for telecommunications; connectivity and access and the uses of ICTs and the internet in Spanish homes and the professional sector; research networks, cyber-security, digital journalism, mobile communications, *eConcepts* such as eSanitation, eAdministration, eSociety, eTraining, eHealth and eInnovation and a wide range of other elements that help to evaluate precisely the progression of the information society in Spain.

MICÓ, J. L. *Teleperiodismo digital*. Barcelona: Trípodos (Blanquerna Foundation), Study Papers Collection. 2006. 200 pages. ISBN: 8493335177

The author, a lecturer in communication, reflects in this book on the reconversion of production routines for televised news after the introduction of digital technology. Its pages analyse the impact of new technologies on the structure of items and the appearance of new figures such as *telejournalists*, who edit and narrate news items from their computers.

In the six chapters into which the book is divided, Micó defines the non-linear editing systems and their application in reports, documentaries and news items. With regard to the profile of workers, the author also points out the importance of recycling and the training of professionals in the area of new technologies as a factor to ensure quality news items. *Teleperiodismo digital* is a book that illustrates and outlines the global changes undergone by television news items.

MONTERO RIVERO, Y. *Televisión, valores y adolescencia*. Barcelona: Editorial Gedisa, 2006. ISBN: 84-9784-133-6

In this work, Yolanda Montero Rivero analyses the role of television as a socialising agent and transmitter of values to teenagers. In an attempt to answer the many questions this issue generates, the author has carried out an empirical study of the adolescent reception of television serials. Firstly, the book presents a theoretical approach as to how and what values are transmitted by television and on the psychological dimension of adolescence. Before entering into the empirical analysis, the author then reviews the key studies on serials, adolescents and identity. Finally, she presents the study, whose sample is made up of more than five hundred participants who watch and give opinions on the series *Al salir de clase*. Among the conclusions extracted, she states that teenagers make use of the series to socialise themselves, to protect their identity and the coherence of their value system. However, she concludes that there is no uniformity of adolescent values but rather that how these values are incorporated depends largely on the personal background, experiences and needs of this segment of the population.

MURO BENAYAS, I. *Globalización de la información y agencias de noticias. Entre el negocio y el interés general*. Barcelona: Paidós, 2006. ISBN: 84-493-1902-1

With the aim of filling the gap in bibliographical references on this theme, the author proposes an analysis of the value of new agencies in the twenty-first century. The globalisation of information has redefined the role of new agencies as intermediaries, suppliers and disseminators of content. In the six chapters into which the book is divided, Muro describes the context and challenges of the market which must be faced by agencies in order to adapt to the proliferation of media, particularly digital, with which they must both compete and collaborate.

The author, who has worked as a director at the Efe agency, greatly emphasises the concepts of credibility, added value and integration with new technology as vital steps for an agency to enter the new reality for news. The last chapter presents a summary of the directions to be taken in order to integrate key publishers with competent and coherent business management. The book is aimed at students and teachers of information science, as well as journalists and media professionals.

ROBINS, K. *The challenge of transcultural diversities. Cultural policy and cultural diversity*. Strasbourg: Council of Europe Publishing, 2006. ISBN: 92-871-5968-8

This book contains the conclusions from a cross-national project by the Council of Europe on public policies and cultural diversity carried out by the lecturer and researcher of the City University of London, Kevin Robins. The study aims to provide critical mechanisms to develop democratic cultural policy on European diversity and citizens. Migratory flows have transformed the cultural panorama and the everyday experiences of Europeans and have conditioned competent political agendas at a national, European and global level. One of the main conclusions of the report is a commitment to a cross-national approach in drawing up policies to handle cultural diversity in Europe, which the author calls *transcultural diversity*. The project is complemented by eight studies on cultural diversity and immigration in Europe which are included, in the form of research articles, in the second part of the book. They analyse, among others, cross-national media and new public cultures, the move from “negative” diversity to “positive” diversity, and specific cases in central Europe and the east, as well as the dynamics of the Chinese community in Hungary.

ELIAS ROMÃO, J. E; DE FREITAS CHAGAS, C.M; LEAL, S. (ET AL). *Classificação indicativa no Brasil: desafios e perspectiva*. Brasília: National Secretary of Justice Ministry of Justice, 2006. ISBN: 85-60269-00-6

Which criteria are most suitable when labelling cultural products? In order to promote debate on the classification of shows and audiovisual work, the Ministry of Justice of Brazil has published this book presenting a number of interdisciplinary contributions that argue, from different perspectives, for a democratic classification model. The criteria used to categorise cultural content must ensure both pluralism and freedom of expression, as well as protecting the rights of minors and teenagers.

This work is divided into five parts, focusing on the historical legislative framework of labelling in Brazil; television programming; the ethical content of entertainment and information; monitoring the media; and mechanisms for citizen involvement. Together with the book, the Brazilian Ministry of Justice has also published a manual and DVD explaining what the labelling is and what it is for, as well as describing the new classification model.