

Introduction

In today's hypermodern society, traditional communication and living norms are stirred by fundamental socio-technical mutations; education is increasingly solicited to keep pace with these mutations in order to adapt the education of young people to the needs of the social and professional environments, such as: the need of self-surpassing, creativity, excessive competition, while also learning notions of active citizenship by participating in collective projects and actions..

The online environment is undoubtedly contributing to the democratization of knowledge, although it also generates the phenomenon of *information pollution* whose effects need to be researched, known, and prevented. E-communication changes most rules in society, including those regarding learning and action by soliciting new competences; the internet is not a neutral communication means, thus it can complete, transform, and even change the other types of communication. The communication phenomena are now in the centre of the society's interests, and the need of a theoretical frame is becoming evident.

Because of these reasons, the *Communication and Education in Knowledge Society Conference* (CESC) was initiated, as an opportunity for researches, academics, doctoral students to reunite and exchange ideas. The present volume gathers the papers presented within the second edition of the CESC Conference which took place in Timișoara (Romania) between November 5-6, 2015. The conference was organized by the West University of Timișoara through its departments of Philosophy and Communication Sciences (within the Faculty of Political Sciences, Philosophy and Communication) and Education Sciences (within the Faculty of Sociology and Psychology). The authors of the studies are from England, France, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Serbia, and the United States of America. All accepted papers were double blind peer reviewed and were also linguistically reviewed.

The internal borders of social sciences are flexible and allow deviations from classical approaches, thus the overall approach of the conference was interdisciplinary, by allowing it to connect as many fields as possible, starting from four general topics: communication, education, political sciences, applied philosophy. The sections of the conference are more or less reflected in the titles of the volume's chapters: *Communication, Journalism and Public Relations, Library Studies; Education, Intercultural Dialogues, E-Learning; Political Sciences, Democratization and Globalization; Applied Philosophy, Ethics and Bioethics, Critical Thought*.

As "information can only be conceived by communicating it,"¹ our editorial endeavour could only be made by offering the volume in open access, as we encourage a large dissemination of our volume. We thank Trivent Publishing for their support!

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¹ Bernard Miège, *Gândirea comunicatională* [Communicational thought] (Bucharest: Cartea Românească, 19980, 101.