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Fengler, Susanne / Eberwein, Tobias / Mazzoleni, Gianpietro / Porlezza, Colin / Russ-Mohl, Stephan (eds.)

**Journalists and Media Accountability**

An International Study of News People in the Digital Age


Mass Communication and Journalism. Vol. 12

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**Book synopsis**

Media accountability is back on the political agenda. Debates about the phone-hacking scandal at Rupert Murdoch’s *News of the World* have shown that the need for free and responsible journalism is more pressing than ever. Opinions, however, differ on the measures that need to be taken. Do existing structures of media accountability – such as press councils, codes of ethics, and ombudspersons – suffice, or do we urgently need new instruments and initiatives in today’s converging media world?

These questions were tackled in an international survey of 1,800 journalists in twelve European and two Arab states conducted by the EU-funded research project, «Media Accountability and Transparency in Europe» (MediaAcT). The results provide a solid empirical basis for the discussions taking place. This book advances research on media accountability and transparency, and also offers innovative perspectives for newsrooms, media policy-makers, and journalism educators. Its systematic comparative design makes it an unprecedented venture in international journalism studies.

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Reviews

« [...] this book provides a useful companion for any student of media accountability and transparency.»
(Martin Eide, Digital Journalism 12/2014)