



Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands
CSC PhD 2019 Project Description

School/Department:	School: Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication Department: Media and Communication
Project Title:	Integrating through the Digital: Analyzing the Role of ICTs and Social Media in Refugee Settlement Processes in China
Abstract:	<p>The phenomenon of massive forced migration is not new in our global history. In recent years, however, increasing numbers of asylum-seekers and refugees have dominated headlines and political agendas across Europe, the U.S., China and elsewhere. The diversity and scale of most recent arrivals have deepened and broadened these challenges and put into test the capacity of countries and regions to integrate the newcomers. More recently, China's economic growth and political influence have led to a significant increase in the number of refugees entering the country to settle temporarily or permanently. In the past 20 years, China has experienced the massive influxes of displaced people coming from neighboring countries, such as North Korea and Myanmar. Despite China's growing potential to the global refugee regime, little is still known about the country's approach to managing refugee settlement as well as the perspectives of refugees experiencing integration in Chinese society. Both the extension and depth of the refugee integration challenge for host societies across the planet require an unprecedented need for integral and innovative approaches to their management, mainly because current global trends point to an increase and intensification in the coming years.</p> <p>This project seeks to tap into research on the relationships between refugee migration and communication processes, and contribute to the research field by exploring the issue in the Chinese context of refugee integration, using different methodologies and with a focus on the inherent linkages between media, society and political authorities in the management of migration and integration processes. Digital technologies have been important in assisting refugees not only in their arduous journey to their destination country, but also in their early experiences of settlement in the new country. For many, the smartphone represents a crucial resource for the acquisition of information about the routes and methods of travel, as well as for navigating through the complexities of socioeconomic life in the host country. Similarly, refugees rely on digital media to maintain ties with family and friends (Leung et al., 2009), create new ties in the host society (Alencar, 2017), and learn the language and cultural norms of their new community (Rodríguez-Jimenez & Gifford, 2010). In spite of the increasing importance of technologies in</p>

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	<p>the lives of displaced people, there is little agreement on whether and how digital media can be employed for refugees' settlement. Specifically, the challenges linked to digital literacy and accessibility among refugees as well as digital practices within governments and organizations to manage and support this vulnerable group have not yet been fully explored.</p> <p>The <i>integrating through the digital</i> project proposes an interesting and exemplary research project to effectively understand the potential risks and opportunities associated with the deployment of technologies for refugee integration in non-Western countries. This research takes China as a starting point to examine interdependent vulnerabilities with and potentials for digital responses to refugee settlement experiences. This project sees these as increasingly interlinked with and dependent upon interactions between individual and contextual forces and relations of power shaping refugee integration settings. By focusing the project on a threefold set of empirical research contexts, specifically (1) <i>the refugees experiencing integration</i>, (2) <i>the landscapes of power</i> involved in the integration process, and (3) with readily available <i>digital media initiatives</i> oriented toward refugee settlement, the project effectively encompasses key sites that are essential for responding to this research call.</p> <p>This project is innovative in at least three ways: 1) its cross-actor approach offers an important contribution to a growing but fragmented area of research; 2) it will conduct a longitudinal study of digital practices among refugees, state and non-state actors; and 3) this project applies both new and traditional methods of ethnography to the analytical framework.</p>
<p>Requirements of candidate:</p>	<p>Master degree: Yes</p> <p>Candidates must have earned a (research) master degree in one of the fields Media Studies, Communication Sciences, Migration Studies, Cultural Studies, Anthropology or Sociology. In addition, candidates should have experience with doing qualitative research, and are requested to show affinity with the proposed topic.</p> <p>IELTS Grade: 7.0 (minimal 6.0 per component) or TOEFL: 100 (minimal 20 per component)</p>

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<p>Supervisor information:</p>	<p>Dr. Amanda Paz Alencar will serve as daily supervisor and co-promotor and Prof. dr. Susanne Janssen will serve as the promotor for this PhD project.</p> <p><u>Personal data:</u> Dr. Amanda Paz Alencar Assistant Professor of Media and Communication, in particular in relation to Media, Migration and Intercultural Communication. Board member of the Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) at Erasmus University Rotterdam Erasmus University Rotterdam P.O. Box 1738, NL-3000 DR Rotterdam The Netherlands Phone: +31 10 408 8629 E-mail: pazalencar@eshcc.eur.nl Visiting address: Woudestein Campus, M8-50, Burgemeester Oudlaan 50, Rotterdam Institutional Homepage: https://www.eur.nl/en/people/amanda-paz-alencar Personal website: www.amandaalencar.com</p> <p><u>List of International Publications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alencar, A., Kondova, K., & Ribbens, W. (2018). The smartphone as a lifeline: An exploration of refugees' use of digital communication technologies during their flight. <i>Media, Culture & Society</i> (accepted for publication). • Lee, J. S., & Alencar, A. (2018). Cultural values and context in news narratives: A comparative study of Dutch, Spanish and Irish television news. <i>International Journal of Communication</i> (accepted for publication). • Alencar, A. (2017). Refugee integration and social media. A local and experiential perspective. <i>Information, Communication & Society</i>, 21(11), 1558-1603, doi:10.1080/1369118X.2017.1340500.¹ • Alencar, A., & Deuze, M. (2017). <i>News for assimilation or integration?</i> Examining the functions of news in shaping acculturation experiences of immigrants in the Netherlands and Spain. <i>European Journal of Communication</i>, 32(2), 151-166. doi:10.1177/0267323117689993.² • Alencar, A., & Kruijemeier, S. (2016). Audiovisual infotainment in European news: A comparative content analysis of Dutch, Spanish and Irish television news programs. <i>Journalism: theory, practice &</i>
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¹ Impact factor 2017: 3.084; ISI Journal ranking 2017: 6/84 in Communication; Scopus Journal Ranking 2017: 6/427 in Communication (Q1, TOP). CITED BY 9.

² Impact factor 2017: 1.500; ISI Journal ranking 2017: 34/84 in Communication; Scopus Journal Ranking 2017: 15/427 (Q1, TOP). CITED BY 3.

	<p><i>criticism</i>, 1-18. Advanced online publication. doi:10.1177/1464884916671332.³</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wojcieszak, M., Azrout, R., Boomgaarden, H., Alencar, A., & Sheets Thibaut, P. H. (2015). Integrating Muslim Immigrant Minorities: The Effects of Narrative and Statistical Messages. <i>Communication Research</i>, 44(4), 582-607. doi:10.1177/0093650215600490.⁴ • De la Hera Conde-Pumpido, & Alencar, A. (2015). Collaborative Digital Games as a Mediation Tool to Foster Intercultural Integration in Dutch Primary Schools. <i>E-learning Papers</i>, 43, 1-11. URL: http://openeducationeuropa.eu/en/elearning_papers • Alencar, A. (2013). Cross-cultural perspectives on framing social reality: A comparative study of Brazilian and Spanish TV news contents. <i>Razón y Palabra</i>, 82, 1-25. URL: http://www.redalyc.org/pdf/1995/199527531044.pdf • Alencar, A. (2013). Las nuevas aportaciones de la televisión digital en los contenidos de la programación y en las formas de consumo de Brasil y España (New inputs of digital television in news contents and consumption patterns of Brazil and Spain). <i>Comunicação Midiática</i>, 8(1), 221-245. • Alencar, A. (2012). La mediatización intercultural del espacio social en los informativos diarios en televisión (Intercultural mediatization of social reality in television news). <i>Comunicación</i>, 9, 1017-1031. • Peregrino, R., & Alencar, A. (2011). Las nuevas tecnologías de la información a servicio de la democratización del conocimiento en los modelos de gobierno electrónico (Information and communication technologies for the • Alencar, A. (2013). Las nuevas aportaciones de la televisión digital en los contenidos de la programación y en las formas de consumo de Brasil y España (New inputs of digital television in news contents and consumption patterns of Brazil and Spain). <i>Comunicação Midiática</i>, 8(1), 221-245. • Alencar, A. (2012). La mediatización intercultural del espacio social en los informativos diarios en televisión (Intercultural mediatization of social reality in television news). <i>Comunicación</i>, 9, 1017-1031. • Peregrino, R., & Alencar, A. (2011). Las nuevas tecnologías de la información a servicio de la democratización del conocimiento en los modelos de gobierno electrónico (Information and communication technologies for the democratization of knowledge in models of electronic governance). <i>Proceedings of the 12th Congreso de Periodismo Digital de Huesca</i> (pp. 398-410). Zaragoza, Spain, Asociación de Periodistas de Aragón. • Alencar, A. (2010). The blind's look reception towards the cinematographic images. In: Antônio Costa Valente; Rita Capucho
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³ Impact factor 2017: 2.119; ISI Journal ranking 2017: 17/84 in Communication; Scopus Journal Ranking 2017: 18/427 (Q1, TOP). CITED BY 1.

⁴ Impact factor 2017: 3.391; ISI Journal ranking 2017: 3/79 in Communication; Scopus Journal Ranking 2017: 9/427 (Q1, TOP). CITED BY 3.

	<p>(Eds.), <i>Avanca / Cinema</i> (pp. 110-115), Avanca, Portugal, Cine Clube de Avanca Editor. doi:320724/10-978.989.96858.0.2</p> <p><i>Book-monograph/Book-editorial</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alencar, A. (2012). <i>La mediatización intercultural del espacio social en los informativos diarios en televisión</i> -Intercultural mediatization of social reality in television news- (Doctoral dissertation). University of Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela. Retrieved from: https://dialnet.unirioja.es/servlet/tesis?codigo=110448 • Ledo Andión, M., Campos Freire, F., Castelló Mayo, E., Pérez Pereiro M., Rodríguez Vázquez, A. I., Gómez Viñas, X., Alencar, A., Roca Baamonde, S., Salgueiro Santiso, M. J. (2011). <i>Lusofonía, Interactividade e Interculturalidade</i>. Santiago de Compostela: Unidixital. <p><i>Book chapters</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alencar, A. (forthcoming, September 2019). Forgotten Refugee Crises. Spatial practices and social interactions within Venezuelan refugee movements to Brazil. In Koen Leurs, Kevin Smets, Myria Georgiou, Sakia Witterborn, Radhika Gajjala (Eds.), <i>Sage Handbook of Migration and Media</i>, London: Sage. • Lopez-Gomez, A., Barreiro, S., Alencar, A. (forthcoming, 2019). 'the EU', in Aida Vallejo (Ed.), <i>Documentary Film Festivals. History, Politics, Industry</i>, Palgrave, pp. 144-153. • Alencar, A., & De la Hera Conde-Pumpido, T. (2018). Mediating Intercultural Integration through Collaborative Video Games. In Gita Sukthankar, Kiran Lakkaraju, Rolf T. Wigand (Eds.), <i>Social Interactions in Virtual Worlds</i> (pp. 11-42), Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. • Alencar, A. (2014). TV News for Promoting Interculturalism. A Novel Step towards Immigrant Integration. In F. Ubierna Gomez & J. Sierra Sanchez (Eds.), <i>Miscelania sobre el Entorno Audiovisual en 2014</i> (pp. 513-532), Madrid, Spain: Editorial Fragua. • Rodríguez Vázquez, A. I., Alencar, A., Roca Baamonde, S., Gómez Viñas, X., Salgueiro Santiso, M. J. (2010). Iniciativas de Pesquisa no Ciberespaço Lusófono (Research initiatives in Lusophone cyberspace). In: Moisés de Lemos Martins, Rosa Cabecinhas, Lurdes Macedo. (Eds.), <i>Anuário de Comunicação Lusófona</i> (pp. 137-155). Minho, Portugal, Grácio Editor. <p><i>Journal-(Guest) Editorship</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alencar, A., Vicente, M., & Mena, N. (Eds.). (forthcoming, 2019). From Fragmentation to Integration. The Role of Communication in Refugee Crises and Resettlement Processes [Special issue]. <i>International Communication Gazette</i>. • Tsagkroni, V., & Alencar, A. (Eds.). (forthcoming, May 2019). Refugee Crises Disclosed: Intersections between Media, Communication and Forced Migration Processes [Special issue]. <i>Media and Communication</i>, 7(2).
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Personal data:

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List of International Publications (past 5 years)

- Brandellero, A., **Janssen, S.** & Verboord, M. (2018) "Do you remember rock 'n' roll radio? How audiences talk about music-related personal memories, preferences, and localities. In: S. Baker, C. Strong & L. Istvandy (Eds.): *The Routledge Companion to Popular Music and Heritage*.
- Mols, A., & **Janssen, S.** (2017). "Not interesting enough to be followed by the NSA": An analysis of Dutch privacy attitudes. *Digital Journalism**, 5 (3), 277-298. Special issue on Journalism, Citizenship and Surveillance Society. Online first on 5 October 2016. DOI 10.1080/21670811.2016.1234938
- A. Bennett & **S. Janssen** (Eds.) (2017). *Popular Music, Memory and Heritage*. Abingdon: Routledge
- Kersten, A. & **Janssen, S.** (2017). Trends in cultural journalism. The development of film coverage in cross-national perspective, 1955-2005. *Journalism Practice**, 11 (7), 840-856. Online first on 12 July 2016. DOI 10.1080/17512786.2016.1205955
- Bennett, A. & **Janssen, S.** (2016). Popular music, memory and heritage. *Popular Music and Society**, 39(1), 1-7. DOI 10.1080/03007766.2015.1061332
- Hoeven, A. van der, **Janssen, S.** & Driessen, S. (2016). Articulations of identity and distinction: The meanings of language in Dutch popular music. *Popular Music and Society**, 39(1), 43-58. Online first on 28 July 2015. DOI: 10.1080/03007766.2015.1061344
- Verboord, M. & **Janssen, S.** Internet and Culture. (2015). In J.D Wright (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences and Behavioral Sciences. Second Edition* (pp. 587-592). Oxford: Elsevier. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-097086-8.10439-8>
- **Janssen, S.** & Verboord, M. (2015). Cultural Mediators and Gatekeepers. In: J.D Wright (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences and Behavioral Sciences. Second Edition* (pp. 440-446). Oxford: Elsevier. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-097086-8.10424-6>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Verboord, M., Kuipers, G. & Janssen, S. (2015). Institutional recognition in the transnational literary field, 1955-2005. <i>Cultural Sociology*</i>, <u>9(3)</u>, 447-465. DOI: 10.1177/1749975515576939• Verboord, M., & Janssen, S. (2015). Arts Journalism and its packaging in France, Germany, the Netherlands and The United States, 1955–2005. <i>Journalism Practice*</i>, <u>9(6)</u>, 829-852. Online first on 24 July 2015. DOI: 10.1080/17512786.2015.1051369• Brandellero, A. & Janssen, S. (2014) Popular music as cultural heritage: Scoping out the field of practice. <i>International Journal of Heritage studies*</i>, <u>20(3)</u>, 224-240. Online first on May 2, 2013: DOI: 10.1080/13527258.2013.77929• Berkers, P., Janssen, S. & Verboord, M. (2014). Assimilation into the literary mainstream? The classification of ethnic minority authors in newspaper reviews in the United States, the Netherlands and Germany, 1983-2009. <i>Cultural Sociology*</i>, <u>8 (1)</u>, 25-44. Online first on June 5, 2013: DOI: 10.1177/1749975513480960• Brandellero, A., Janssen, S., Cohen, S., & Roberts, L. (2014) Popular music, cultural memory and cultural identity. <i>International Journal of Heritage studies*</i>, <u>20(2)</u>, 219-223. Online first on September 5, 2013: DOI: 10.1080/13527258.2013.821624
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