



JEAN MONNET CHAIR

Risk & Crisis Communication in the EU

RETHINKING WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT RISK, CRISIS AND DISASTER COMMUNICATION:

**Academic research and building
European crisis capacity**

**ONLINE
SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE**

**29-30
NOVEMBER**

Keynote Speaker



Audra Diers-Lawson

**Professor of Risk and Crisis Communication
Head of Ph.D. Program Communication and Leadership
Kristiania University College**

Call for Conference Papers

On November 29-30, 2024 the Jean Monnet Chair in Risk and Crisis Communication in the EU of the Department of Communication and Digital Media, University of Western Macedonia will host the online conference “Rethinking what we know about risk, crisis, and disaster communication: Academic research and building European crisis capacity”. The conference aims to bring together European and international scholars, academics, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers from a wide range of disciplines, countries, and methodological approaches to enrich our knowledge in the field of communication during crisis, emergencies, and disasters.

Moreover, the conference hopes to encourage scholars and practitioners from European countries to document, analyze, and share knowledge of their crisis experiences and to develop a knowledge base for enhanced European crisis management capacity. The theme of this event will revolve around an array of issues such as:

- Lessons learned from recent crises and disasters that Europe has faced.
- The value and importance of the European community of research and practice.
- New ways of thinking about risk, crisis, and disaster communication to better align with today’s needs.

We invite submissions that address a broad range of topics related to risk, crisis, and disaster communication, including but not limited to:

- **Case Studies of Risk and Crisis Communication in Europe:** Lessons learned and best practices of various European actors (e.g., authorities of member states, EU agencies and organization, EU corporations) for communicating risks, and responding to crises, emergencies, and disasters (e.g., COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, political crises). Comparative analyses of risk and crisis communication practices between different European countries or between Europe and other regions.
- **Risk/Crisis/Disaster communication and public engagement:** Strategies for communicating risks (health risks technological risks, environmental risks) to the public; Understanding how the public feels, perceives and responds to various risk communication strategies and disaster information; Insights on how different cultural, social, and contextual factors shape crisis communication and their impact across different European countries; Meaning making by public leaders during times of crisis (framing strategies, blame games, image restoration strategies, renewal discourse, public apologies, and credit-claiming strategies); Leadership communication styles and their relationship with public trust and community resilience.

- **Role of mass media and social media in risk and crisis communication in Europe:** How traditional media frame risks, crises, and disasters; What is the role of traditional and social media in shaping public perceptions and fostering engagement during crises and disasters? How social media have been used by European actors to communicate during crises? How social media can be harnessed for effective crisis communication and public engagement?
- **Communication and New Technologies for Crisis Prevention, Preparedness and Better Responsiveness:** How communication can create a culture of crisis prevention and preparedness across Europe? What is the role of emerging technologies such as AI, machine learning, big data, data analytics, and visualization tools in crisis communication across the different phases of a crisis lifecycle (prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery)? How innovations in mobile applications can enhance effectiveness in emergency alerts and risk communication?
- **Mapping Scholarly Research in Risk/Crisis/Disaster Communication in Europe:** Analysis of current body of literature and crisis communication research from the European research community; Identifying the thematic revolutions, new sub-fields, scientific progress, recent trends and future research endeavors related to scholarly research in the EU region.
- **Crisis Communication Training and Education:** Best practices for training crisis communication professionals and educating the public. Using AR and VR for training, simulation exercises, and public education to foster disaster preparedness.

Submission Guidelines and Registration:

Full Papers: Full papers should not exceed 8,000 words, including references and appendices.

Format: Submissions should be in Word or PDF format.

Submission: Please submit your full papers at the following online submission form: <https://forms.gle/gxjjWHeAsynp6P8i7>

Submissions should include the title of the paper, author(s) full name, email address and affiliation, short abstract (no more than 200 words). Final conference presentations should be 20 minutes. There are no registration fees.

Important Dates:

- Paper Submission Deadline: September 15, 2024
- Notification of Acceptance: October 13, 2024
- Full Paper Submission Deadline: November 17, 2024
- Conference Dates: November 29-30, 2024

Publication Opportunities

All submissions will undergo a double-blind peer review process. Authors will be notified for the acceptance of their paper and the review results. All accepted papers will be included in the conference proceedings. Selected papers

Journal publication opportunities for selected papers will be announced.



Contact Information:

For any queries regarding the conference, please contact the organizing committee at jmchair.crisis@uowm.gr and jmchair.criscom@gmail.com or visit our website at <https://jmchair-criscom.uowm.gr/language/en/conference/>. We look forward to your contributions and to a stimulating conference that advances the field of crisis communication.

Organizing and Scientific Committee

- **Amalia Triantafyllidou**, Associate Professor, University of Western Macedonia (atriantafyllidou@uowm.gr)
- **George Siomkos**, Professor, Athens University of Economics and Business
- **George Lappas**, Professor, University of Western Macedonia
- **Prodromos Yannas**, Professor, University of West Attica
- **Ioanna Kostarella**, Associate Professor, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- **Michalis Vrigkas**, Assistant Professor, University of Western Macedonia
- **Maria Matsiola**, Assistant Professor, University of Western Macedonia
- **Stamatis Poulakidakos**, Assistant Professor, University of Western Macedonia