

# Editorial preface

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2025 has been an eventful year for Journalistica. We have – with funding from Dagspressens Fond – introduced an award for the best Danish master thesis in Journalism, and we have received funding from Independent Research Fund Denmark (DFF) that will help secure and strengthen the journal’s editorial activities in 2026-2029.

The grant from DFF is not only an important step in the further consolidation and professionalization of Journalistica’s work, but also an acknowledgment of the efforts we have invested in broadening Journalistica’s geographic scope, readership and portfolio, as well as in improving our editorial operations, over the past five years.

The 2025 issue of Journalistica includes a special section with a media-historical focus on “People and networks in the history of Nordic journalism”. The two guest editors, Heidi Kurvinen and Emil Eiby Seidenfaden, will introduce the section and its six articles in full detail on the following pages.

Moreover, this year’s issue contains three articles in the open section. The article “Visualizing national and international deaths with data during the COVID-19 pandemic”, written by Ester Appelgren, Francesca Morini and Amanda Maya, combines Journalism Studies with Visualization Research to analyze how journalistic visualizations about the COVID-19 pandemic differed in representing national and international deaths, e.g. by distracting audiences from national death counts.

In the article “No-panic pragmatism: Nordic journalism educators’ preparedness to teach artificial intelligence (AI) in 2024”, Maarit Jaakkola and Jenny Wiik argue – with point of departure in a survey conducted across Nordic journalism education institutions – for the need of journalism education institutions to take a more active role in supporting educators through formal training in AI and the provision of clear AI guidelines, and to expand the curriculum on AI literacy to go beyond practical newsroom applications to include critical analysis and ethical considerations.

In the article “The (far-) right kind of feeling: How descriptions of emotional experience perform discourses in Swedish right-wing alternative news media”, Magnus Danielson analyses how Swedish

far-right media discursively legitimize and delegitimize different emotional experiences, and in this process frame what and who is worthy of emotional attention.

The issue also contains four method briefs: Julie Münster Lassen presents “Screenshots as data and documentation”, Peter Busch Nicolaisen “Dialing in with participants”, Alexandra Schwinges “Qualitative reconstruction interviews to study journalistic practice” and Steffen Moestrup “Ethnographic reporting: immersion as journalistic practice and pedagogy”.

The issue closes with two excellent “inter-Scandinavian” book reviews of recent media-historical monographs. Rasmus Rønlev reviews Cecilia Aare’s 2024 book on Swedish social reportages in a historical perspective, and Henrik G. Bastiansen reviews Lars Kabel’s book on Danish journalism history from the 1830’s to today.

Thank you to all our contributors, guest editors, reviewers, and readers. A special thanks to Lene Heiselberg, Miriam Kroman Brems and Cecilia Arregui Olivera for their work with the methods briefs, to Aske Kammer for organizing the book review section, to Christina Pontoppidan, Mette Bengtsson and Miriam Kroman Brems for their help with our funding applications, to Karoline Andrea Ihlebæk, Maarit Jaakola, Ester Appelgren, Lene Heiselberg, Cecilia Arregui Olivera, Aske Kammer and Miriam Kroman Brems for assisting with the assessment and selection of the master thesis award recipients, to the entire editorial group for helping to distribute candy, pens and flyers at our conference booth at NordMedia 2025 in Odense – and last but not least to our journal manager Leif Hemming Pedersen for organizing the journal’s proofreading, layout and communication activities.

Finally, a big welcome to our new editorial group member Christina Pontoppidan from University of Southern Denmark.

God læselyst!

On behalf of the Journalistica group of editors,

Eva Mayerhöffer, editor-in-chief

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