

Thursday, June 21st 2007 14.30-15.15h

Media and Polish Migration in the German Empire prior to World War I

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Prior to World War I hundreds of thousands of Poles migrated from the rural Eastern regions of the then-German Empire into the aspiring industrial area alongside the river Ruhr. Soon, this ethnic minority with German citizenship was endowed with a Polish-language press of its own, and also the German newspapers began to take notice of the migrants. How did the majority press portray these “Ruhr-Poles”, and how did the newspapers of the Polish minority describe majority-culture? Today, descendants of the migrants of these times can at best be recognized by their Polish sounding names. Are hence the Ruhr-Poles an example of successful integration? What can be learned from this historic case about the significance of media and journalism for the intercultural integration of migrants today? The paper answers these questions against an interactional theory-background.

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born 1944, is Professor at the Institute of Journalism at the University of Dortmund. Currently he serves as vice-dean of the Department of Cultural Studies. His teaching and research interests include media and migration, journalism history and theory, the language and style of journalistic genres, public ethics and research methods. He holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Basel and has taught at the Universities of Leipzig, Siegen and Freiburg i.Br. He worked as a visiting professor during fall semester 2001–02 at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Iowa, during the fall semester 2005-06 at the Institute of Communication Studies, Vienna University, and several times at the department of Philology and Journalism, University of Rostov/Don. His professional credentials include serving as editor in chief of the periodical *medium*, published in Frankfurt. He is member of the editorial advisory boards of the journal of the European Institute of Communication and Culture (EURICOM) in Ljubljana *javnost/the public* and of the journal *Journalism Practice* (Routledge/Taylor & Francis). In 2001 he initiated a debate on the National Socialist past of German journalism science which can be found at the home page of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Publizistik- und Kommunikationswissenschaft (www.dgpuk.de).

Publications include: editor, *Öffentlichkeit als gesellschaftlicher Auftrag - Klassiker der Sozialwissenschaft über Journalismus und Medien* (Konstanz 2001); co-editor, *Kommunikationswissenschaft – autobiographisch* (Opladen 1997), *Kritische Empirie – Lebenschancen in den Sozialwissenschaften* (Wiesbaden 2004), *Diffusion of the News Paradigm* (Göteborg 2005), *Massenmedien und die Integration ethnischer Minderheiten in Deutschland* (Bielefeld 2005), *Integration durch Massenmedien/Mass Media-Integration* (Bielefeld 2006); co-author, *Stilistik für Journalisten* (Wiesbaden 2000); and author, *Entfremdung und Illusion - Soziales Handeln in der Moderne* (Tübingen 1997), *Abgewehrte Vergangenheit – Beiträge zur deutschen Erinnerung an den Nationalsozialismus* (Köln 2005).