DigiLitEY

CALL FOR PAPERS

SPECIAL ISSUE: CHILDREN'S USES OF DIGITAL MEDIA

Cyberpsychology: Journal of Psychosocial Research on Cyberspace invites papers on the theme of **children's uses of digital media**. This is an open call for papers on topics related to children's reading, writing, play, learning and communication with digital technologies, including tablets, smartphones, desktops and emerging technologies.

The special issue will be published in **October 2017** and will be edited by Natalia Kucirkova (University College London, UK), Charles Mifsud (University of, Malta, Malta), Bieke Zaman (KU Leuven, Belgium) and Cristina Ponte (Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal). This special issue will be published in cooperation of the journal Cyberpsychology with COST Action IS1410 "The digital literacy and multimodal practices of young children" (DigiLitEY) and the ECREA TWG group Children, Youth and Media.

This special issue invites papers that build upon our understanding of children's contemporary practices with digital media, studied from quantitative, qualitative or mixed approaches, across the world.

Topics suitable for the special issue could include, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- Children's digital media uses worldwide
- Children's rights in today's digital society
- Trends, challenges, and opportunities in the digital ecology (e.g., the internet of things, augmented reality, 3D printing)
- Children's digital literacies
- Cross-generational research concerning children's digital media uses
- Methodological and ethical challenges in researching children's media use
- Challenges and opportunities arising from collaboration with the designers and publishers of digital technologies for children
- Policy implications for children's digital practices

Submission process and deadlines
Expressions of interest should be submitted to journal assistant Lenka Dedkova (ldedkova@fss.muni.cz) in an e-mail attachment with the subject "Special Issue: Children's Uses of Digital Media" no later than **31st of January, 2017**. Please include a 500-word abstract, full contact information, and a short biographical note (up to 75 words) for the author(s). If you are part of the DigiLitEY COST Action [IS1410] please make this clear in your submission. Any queries related to the special issue should be directed to the lead editor- Natalia Kucirkova at n.kucirkova@open.ac.uk.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by **the 10th of February 2017** and will then be invited to submit a full paper. Manuscripts should be between 7,000 and 8,000 words (including tables and references), follow the *Cyberpsychology* style guidelines, and be submitted by **30th of April 2017**. Authors should have their papers edited and proofread before submitting. All papers will be subject to a blind peer review process.

About the editors of the *Children's Uses of Digital Media* special issue:

Dr Natalia Kucirkova is a Senior Research Fellow at the University College London. Her research concerns innovative ways of supporting children's book reading, digital literacy and exploring the role of personalisation in early years. Her publications appeared in *Communication Disorders Quarterly, First Language, Computers & Education* or *Cambridge Journal of Education.* She has been commended for her engagement with teachers and parents at a national and international level.

Prof Charles Mifsud is a Professor in Education and Literacy and Director of the Centre for Literacy at the University of Malta. He has published in Research Papers in Education, Computers & Education, and the Journal of Education for Teaching. He is also actively involved in the running of early and family literacy programmes through the National Literacy Agency of Malta.

Prof Bieke Zaman is assistant professor in Human-Media Interaction and Digital Humanities at Mintlab, part of the Institute of Media Studies (KU Leuven – imec), Belgium. Fascinated by the tech side of social, and the social side of tech, Zaman pursues research programs on Children, Digital Media and Design, and Games and Learning. Zaman is a regular speaker at national and international conferences and events. She is member of several academic editorial boards (e.g., International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction, Personal and Ubiquitous Computing Journal), international conference committees (e.g., ECREA, CHI Play, Interaction Design and Children), and international networks (e.g., EU COST Action DigiLitEY).

Prof Cristina Ponte is Associate Professor with Habilitation at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FCSH), Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Portugal. Her research has examined journalism and society; children, youth and media; media and generations. She is responsible for Global Cooperation and coordinates the Portuguese team in the EU Kids Online network. Author/editor of 13 books and several articles in Portuguese and English, she was vice-chair of the Audience and Reception Section of ECREA (2008-2012), and is vice-chair of the ECREA Temporary Working Group on *Children, Youth and Media* (2012-2017).