

2nd Congress Information and Communication
in the Mass Media
News production: actors and roles

25th / 26th October 2007

University of Porto / Portugal

In 2005, the 1st INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS *NECESSITY AND EFFICIENCY OF DOCUMENTATION CENTRES IN THE MASS MEDIA*, with the participation of Prof. María Antonia Pérez Rodríguez (Universidad de A Coruña), was held at the University of Porto. This event represented a first step, centred on the existence, management and use of Documentation Centres in Spanish written press. The main purpose was to encourage reflection on documental demands and practices, both in paper and digital format, among specialists / professionals from different domains in Portugal, such as Information and the Media. These aspects were analysed in close connection with how mass media editorial offices are actually run.

The 2nd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS *INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION IN THE MASS MEDIA. NEWS PRODUCTION: ACTORS AND ROLES* aims to consolidate dialogue among lecturers, researchers and professionals in the areas that comprise the world of Information Management and the Mass Media.

This essential dialogue, if already important when Documentation Centres were central to media organisations, is today crucial in this internet and intranet galaxy, where all human and social activity tends to become entwined, weaving a gigantic network or intensely dense space of info-communicational flows. These are sustained by information systems, which are increasingly digital, that have to be managed from the very phase of conception and structuring. At the same time, measures must be taken to guarantee the future preservation and continuous access to these systems, as well as efforts made to refocus attention on information not only as a material asset but also, and from the outset, as an organisational asset.