

Journalism in the Anthropocene

Dominic Hinde

During his stay at the RCC, Dominic is undertaking a monograph project under the rubric *Journalism in the Anthropocene*. This project and research agenda seeks to bring together two core research themes, namely the condition of global journalism in a period of technological transition and rapid environmental change in a period of time marked by both climate change and other disruptive aspects of what has now been identified as the Anthropocene.

The project follows on from research conducted at the University of Edinburgh's Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities (IASH) developing a research framework for Anthropocene journalism studies. It will consider the conceptual and material implications of the Anthropocene, both for how journalists report the environment and how the relationship between technology and the media creates new medial relationship. At present, there is very little research linking the rapid evolution in environmental critical theory and the material aspects of journalistic practice in which such theory might achieve efficacy. The work produced in Munich ought also to lead to a more public-facing book or media project dealing with similar themes.

Taking into account the relationship between capital, climate, datafication, and other global trends as they impact both the world at large and the journalism industry, the monograph seeks to illustrate the entanglement experienced by journalists in contemporary social phenomena, and to suggest and formulate avenues for journalistic practice which make these processes visible.

The project uses three distinct approaches: an historical approach to the decline of high-modern environmental journalism, a theory component in which the conceptual challenges of the Anthropocene are discussed, and an applied element in which autonomous research-practice is carried out through the execution of reflective journalistic fieldwork using the insights gained from the first two components.

The ultimate aim of the work undertaken as part of this project is to provide a body of innovative research that provides a foundational text for environmental journalists and media scholars alike, addressing key questions around the future economic viability of environmental journalism, the way in which environmental journalism can adapt and holistically mainstream itself to cover multiple genres of reporting, and the extent to which journalists can contribute towards articulating new visions and understanding of modernity with sustainable outcomes in the context of the Anthropocene. A blog outline some of the core themes of the project can be found [here](#).