



Ideologies

AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Online conference

November 17th–18th, 2022

Organized by the Institute of Information
and Media Studies, University of Wrocław

The conference will focus on the role of written communication in shaping, developing and disseminating various ideologies as well as on the influence of these ideologies on written communication.

The role of written communication in disseminating ideological views, observed from ancient times, increased throughout the centuries while writing exerted more and more influence on society. It reached its climax in modern times due to the development of printing techniques and digital technologies, which allow to multiply texts, as well as the appearance of more and more modern tools of communication, including the expansion of social media in recent years. In the twentieth century, the evidence relating to this phenomenon was the multimillion pressrun of certain books and newspapers promoting particular worldviews.

At the same time, we cannot forget that ideologies—which, in brief, are systems of values and beliefs supporting holistic interpretations and transformations of the world—have had a great influence on the development of written communication. In liberal ideologies this was expressed in the promotion of freedom of various forms of such communication whereas in more or less totalitarian ideologies, which do not respect subjective rights in society, this freedom was limited as a given group of people had a monopoly on preaching their views and imposed them on others. In extreme situations, in the name of the dominant ideology, written communication was strictly subordinated to this ideology and controlled, its best known manifestation being the phenomenon of censorship.

During the conference we would like to adopt different research perspectives to look at ideologies in different historical contexts: on the one hand, to see what kind of ideologies have been disseminated by means of written communication and by whom; on the other hand, to see how these tools are changing and to determine the contribution of book culture institutions and writing to the dissemination of various worldviews.



At the conference we would like to discuss the following topics:

1. The attitude of various ideologies towards written communication, written communication theories in ideological views;
2. The influence of ideologies on written communication, stimulating and limiting its development;
3. The role of written communication in shaping, developing and propagating ideologies – well-known (and less well-known) written works promoting various worldviews;
4. Written communication in service of the ideology of authority;
5. The effectiveness and possibilities of various forms and tools of written communication, both traditional (books, press, leaflets, posters) and new ones (the Internet: social media), in disseminating ideological views;
6. The role of the institutions producing, gathering and disseminating written communications (e.g. publishing houses, libraries, press and Internet portals editors etc.) in shaping and propagating various ideologies.

We invite researchers of various forms of written communication from ancient times to present to participate in our conference. We would like it to become a forum for the exchange of experiences and observations relating to ideologies in written communication in wide geographical, historical and cultural contexts. We especially invite researchers in media and social communication studies, historians, philologists, social scientists and lawyers.

The languages of the conference will be Polish and English. The conference fee is 50€. The deadline for the contribution of abstracts is **June 15th, 2022** (please use the registration form on your left). The confirmation of the acceptance of your abstract will be sent to you by **June 30th, 2022**.

Conference papers are planned for publication in *Roczniki Biblioteczne. Czasopismo poświęcone kulturze książki i komunikacji piśmiennej* [*Library Annals: The Journal of the Book and Written Communication Culture*] (<https://wuwr.pl/rbibl>).

The Organising Committee

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