



## 10th ULEPICC-Spain International Conference

### Rethinking the Cultural Industries. Trends, Power, and Policies in the Face of AI and Platforms.

**Bilbao, January 21 and 22, 2027**  
**Bizkaia Aretoa-EHU**

### School of Social and Communication Sciences

Department of Audiovisual Communication and Advertising  
Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (University of Basque Country)

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#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The Spanish section of the Latin Union of Political Economy of Information, Communication, and Culture (ULEPICC-Spain) invites scholars, professionals, and social movements engaged in the fields of communication, culture, and information to participate in its **10th International Conference**, which will be held on **21–22 January 2027** in Bilbao.

Under the title **“Rethinking Cultural Industries”**, the conference aims to gather contributions that promote the exchange of perspectives and foster academic, professional, and social debate on contemporary transformations in communication and culture from a critical theoretical standpoint.

Cultural industries are currently undergoing an accelerated process of restructuring, shaped by the consolidation of platform capitalism, pervasive surveillance, the expansion of generative artificial intelligence, and the increasing concentration of ownership and control over strategic digital infrastructures. These dynamics raise fundamental questions regarding contemporary forms of cultural production, distribution, and consumption, as well as the prospects for democratizing communication and culture.

The emergence of new global corporate actors, the growing automation of creative and intellectual labor, large-scale data extraction, and the algorithmic reorganization of visibility and attention challenge several of the classical categories traditionally used to analyze cultural industries. At the same time, these transformations reaffirm the relevance of longstanding debates on concentration, commodification, cultural labor, public policy, globalization, and cultural diversity.

From this perspective, the conference aims to reflect on the continuities and ruptures that characterize the current phase of development of cultural and communicative capitalism, as well as on regulatory, institutional, and social alternatives aimed at the democratization of communication, culture, and knowledge.

This conference seeks to bring together transdisciplinary contributions that address the various aspects that define contemporary transformations in the cultural industries. We welcome proposals based on research findings in the fields of



communication, culture, public policy, political economy, sociology, cultural studies, and other related disciplines, as well as reflections drawn from professional, institutional, and activist practice.

### **Thematic Areas**

In addition to submitting papers on the conference's main theme, we encourage presentations that engage the following thematic areas from a critical, transformative, and emancipatory perspective:

- Political economy and critical theory of communication and culture; Epistemology, theory, and methodology.
- Communication and cultural policies.
- Communication, citizenship, and democracy.
- Structure, concentration, industry, market, and institutions of communication and culture.
- Information, communication, cultural, and knowledge technologies.
- Diversity, pluralism, and public service.
- Communication, culture, and gender.
- Communication, change, and social justice.
- Platformization, algorithms, and AI in culture and communication.
- Digital infrastructures, technological sovereignty, and corporate power.
- Public policy, regulation, and democratic alternatives to platforms and AI.
- Creative work and automation: precariousness, displacement, and the reconfiguration of labor in cultural production.
- Disinformation, deepfakes, and symbolic manipulation in the media ecosystem



## Submission of Proposals

Abstracts for presentation proposals, between 400 and 500 words in length, must be submitted by October 30, 2026. To submit an abstract, please fill out [this form](#) with the presentation details.

The maximum number of presentations is two per author for individual presentations and up to three if any are group presentations.

All submitted proposals must present a comprehensive account of the core components of the research, including the background of the study, the object of analysis, the theoretical and/or methodological framework, and, where applicable, the anticipated results. Notification of evaluation results will be issued on **27 November 2026**.

## Curricular Outcomes

All accepted abstracts will be included in the conference's official abstract volume. Furthermore, collaboration agreements will be established with high-impact journals to facilitate the submission of research articles derived from the conference proceedings (details forthcoming).

## Registration

|   | Early Registration<br>(through December 18) |                    | Regular Registration<br>(through January 15) |                    |
|---|---|--------------------|--|--------------------|
|   | Ulepigg<br>Members                          | No<br>Memeber<br>s | Ulepigg<br>Members                           | No<br>Memeber<br>s |
| <b>Standard Fee</b> (participants with accepted papers)                         | 60€   | 100€               | 75€  | 120€               |
| <b>Reduced Fee</b> (students and unemployed individuals with an accepted paper) | 30€   | 70€                | 40€  | 80€                |
| <b>Attendance without a paper</b>   | Free  | 20€                | Free   | 30€                |

Bank transfers should be made to ULEPICC-Spain's account: ES73 1491 0001 2230 0014 8602.

Please include the following reference: EHU Conference – FIRST NAME + LAST NAME.

Proof of payment must be sent to [ulepicc.bilbao2027@ehu.es](mailto:ulepicc.bilbao2027@ehu.es).

To request an invoice, please contact the conference email address and provide the complete billing information to be included.

In the event of registration cancellation, an 80% refund of the amount paid may be requested, provided the request is submitted before 15 January 2027.

## Information and Contact

[ulepicc.bilbao2027@ehu.es](mailto:ulepicc.bilbao2027@ehu.es) | [www.ulepicc.es](http://www.ulepicc.es)

[Submissions of proposal](#) for the 10th ULEPICC-Spain International Conference

[Application for Membership](#) in ULEPICC-Spain



**REPENSAR LAS INDUSTRIAS CULTURALES**  
Tendencias, poder y políticas frente a la IA y las plataformas  
**X CONGRESO INTERNACIONAL ULEPICC-ESPAÑA**  
Bilbao, 21 y 22 de enero de 2027

**ulepicc.es**

## Venue

Bizkaia Aretoa - EHU  
Avenue Abandoibarra, 3 – 48009, Bilbao  
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/PUwn6Wxv8aCtphMT9>

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Unión Latina de Economía Política de la  
Información, la Comunicación y la Cultura

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