

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is founded on a project that has come a long way since its inception. The seed for what would later become the Worlds of Journalism Study (WJS) was planted in October 2006, when a group of scholars started a small pilot study with the aim to compare journalistic cultures in seven nations. Ten years later, in early 2017, when data collection was completed for the second wave of surveys with journalists, the project had developed into an intercontinental endeavor of researchers from sixty-seven nations, whose contributions sustained the project through its various stages, and which has now culminated in this book.

This book stands on the shoulders of giants and owes much to our many good friends and supportive colleagues across institutions around the world. David Weaver, whose seminal collection *The Global Journalist* appeared in 1998, was a major inspiration for us. Weaver's *Global Journalist*, as well as the scholarship of Wolfgang Donsbach, notably his work with Thomas Patterson, set the stage for large-scale, cross-national investigations into journalists' professional values and aspirations. With these models in place, it seemed the next step was to begin large collaborative projects in journalism studies, and the WJS and this book are our attempt to do so.

The unique nature of the WJS, an international research endeavor driven by a collective of scholars from all around the world, necessitated a distinctive approach to collaborative publication. Readers will quickly realize that the book does not fit squarely into established classifications of scholarly publications. Reflecting the collaborative work ethos of the project, each

chapter was written by a team of up to twelve authors. In addition to contributing as authors to various chapters, the four of us served as editors, overseeing and facilitating this sometimes complicated process of collective knowledge production. Perhaps, if there is any single term that can reasonably describe the nature of this book, it is “edited research monograph”—a genre that has gained popularity at a time when collaboration has increasingly become central to research and science. Altogether more than forty scholars have contributed to this book, bringing their rich knowledge and cultural experience to bear on the analysis of a data set that contains interviews with more than 27,500 journalists, as well as on interpretation and explanation of findings.

Now, as the task of writing is done, it is time to extend our deepest gratitude to those who helped make this book possible. We begin with the recognition of the hard work of the research teams in all sixty-seven countries, many of whom also contributed to this book; their dedication stood us in good stead through this undertaking. Our project website provides a full list of the principal investigators in these countries (<http://www.worldsofjournalism.org/research/2012-2016-study/principal-investigators/>). We next thank our colleagues who have served with us on the current and previous WJS Executive Committees—in alphabetical order, Ashraf Galal Hassan Bayoumy, Basyouni Hamada, Epp Lauk, Claudia Mellado, and Martin Oller Alonso. We also owe our gratitude to the nine eminent researchers—Lee Becker, Joseph Man Chan, Joaquim Fidalgo, Beate Josephi, Henrik Örnebring, Paschal Preston, Zvi Reich, Elena Vartanova, and David Weaver—who advised us as members of our Scientific Advisory Committee.

Many friends and colleagues have helped us bring this project forward by engaging with us in numerous informal and insightful conversations. We are grateful to all of them. In particular, we would like to mention Jay Blumler, Frank Esser, Bob Franklin, Martin Löffelholz, Herman Wasserman, and Lars Willnat. We are also deeply grateful to Philip Leventhal at Columbia University Press and Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, editor of the Reuters Institute Global Journalism Series, for making this book project happen. We have benefited from the general professionalism of Columbia University Press editorial staff, specifically from the rigorous and patient editing of Anita O’Brien, and from the creativity of Lisa Stamm, who designed the cover for this book. We are also indebted to the two anonymous reviewers for their intellectual rigor and generosity.

A large-scale, multinational project such as the WJS would not have been possible without the support of the universities we work for and those who provided funding to us to carry out this project. First and foremost, we thank LMU Munich, which not only has hosted the WJS Center but also has contributed significant funds to at least partly cover field research in more than twenty countries. In addition, the German Research Foundation, South African National Research Foundation, University of the Sunshine Coast, University of Miami, University of Pennsylvania, and Stellenbosch University have all provided substantive funding for field research in the countries we studied. Our national investigators, too, received funding from more than thirty organizations—too many to list here. A full list of funding institutions is available in the appendix.

On a personal note, Thomas thanks his awesome wife Minnie and his beloved children Lisa and Tim for their eternal patience with a husband and a dad who always carries a laptop and who keeps promising that things will change once this project is over. Folker thanks his parents for their support in enabling him to embark on a university education in a far-off country—it was worth it in the end! He also thanks Stephi, the best partner one could wish for, and their two boys Finn and Felix. He is grateful for their support, encouragement to reach for lofty goals, and endless patience living a migrant life that has taken them to the end of the world and back again. Jyotika thanks her parents, who encouraged girl child education and aspirations in India at a time when this was not the norm, and her husband, Ram, and daughters, Charulata and Jui, who have allowed her the time and space to pursue her work. Arnold remembers his wife, Nicolette, who passed away in 2017. Over a period of more than half a century, she made it possible for him, in more ways than one, to pursue his journalistic and academic ideals and goals, as with this book.

Above all, we are grateful to the more than 27,500 journalists who responded to the study. They all gave up significant chunks of their already busy schedules; the insights they allowed us into their profession have been invaluable for the success of this project. For all of us, to see this study grow and make an impact on the field was, and continues to be, an exciting experience in its own right. We look forward to the next phase.



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WORLDS OF JOURNALISM

