

## CPC Mandate

The mandate of the Comms Policy Collaborative (CPC), headquartered within the Department of Communication at the University of Vienna, was established through a participatory process between the founders of the CPC, leadership from within the Department, and members of the Department's academic community.

**Recognizing** the need for increased connectivity between policy making processes and academic scholarship, more sustainable and inclusive policy in the fields of media and communications, evidence-based innovation at all levels of policy making and implementation, and community-led initiatives to overcoming those obstacles preventing the achievement of the above stated needs;

and **pursuant to 1)** the [mission](#) of the Department of Communications, namely:

- ...to strive for excellence...by a focus on publications in top-tier journals, national and international third-party grants, and high international orientation based on globally visible and relevant research endeavours;
- our research activities should be relevant to society at large, generating for instance, tremendous impact on the media, societal stakeholders, as well as producing other forms of public outreach
- support emerging departmental members by providing an excellent research and teaching environment preparing them for a successful career in academia and beyond;

and 2) the University of Vienna's ['Third Mission'](#), namely:

- (the) targeted use and transfer of academic knowledge to help resolve diverse societal challenges;
- (the) transfer of innovations in the form of cooperation with public and private enterprises;

the CPC has been established with the objectives of 1) increasing connectivity amongst scholars and policy stakeholders, and 2) assisting in the removal of obstacles for socially relevant and inclusive media and communications policy-making and implementation.

### CPC services and methodology

To achieve these goals, the CPC has been established as a policy-oriented dissemination service unit, specifically to provide the following 'services':

Valorisation of Department scholarship:

- Increase visibility of Department scholarship by publishing policy-tailored work (i.e. policy briefs, White Papers) on relevant platforms, alerting partner organizations to new publications and projects, and connecting policy-makers within partnership networks to relevant scholarship/scholars;
- Create and manage a roster of existing thematic and experiential expertise within the Department community for increased awareness and accessibility to and by policy-makers/making bodies.

Networking for Department community:

- Identification of new partners for the formal establishment and expansion of partnership networks, including relevant International Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, academic and research institutes, the private sector and State governance (international and domestic) institutions and bodies;
- Gathering and sharing of annual work plans, and mapping of policy processes, thematic priorities, and opportunities for engagement for the Department community with external policy-making processes and organizations; and
- Streamlining workflow and requirements for more transparent engagement between the Department community and partners.

Community engagement:

- Host an 'innovation hub' for policy, via hack-a-thons, student/expert collaborative labs, and other participatory and inclusive initiatives.

Coordination of workflow between Department community and external partners:

- Translation of scholarship to policy-relevant language/outputs, such as policy briefs and guidelines and recommendations;
- Advocate for inclusion of Department scholarship in relevant policy-making processes; and
- Project management of events, including workshops, panel discussions and community advocacy initiatives.