

HANDOUT

Is there still a career out there for journalists?

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Outline of the presentation

My presentation is based on an online survey of the Finnish journalism students representing tertiary level journalism education in Finland. The study was carried out in six higher education institutions (3 universities and 3 universities of applied science) in 2015¹. The survey was completed by 265 Finnish journalism students from all grade levels (1–5 years of studying). The response rate was 34.

The research concentrated on the following questions:

- What are journalism students' motivations for studying journalism?
- What are the most important traits for journalists to have in journalism students' view?
- Which areas of journalism do students want to work in?
- What are journalism students' role perceptions and ethical views?
- How do they rate their country's media performance?
- What do journalism students see as the biggest threats for the media in their country?
- What are the students' perceptions of and attitudes to their future profession?

I hope that as a result of the presentation and discussion you will get an understanding of the Finnish journalism education landscape and student views. Basing on this study, I am able to provide you answers about the motivations, role perceptions, ethical views, work place preferences, challenges of quality journalism, and future expectations of the Finnish students.

¹ The Finnish data was gathered as part of a global comparative study Journalism Students Across the Globe (JSG). For more information on the international study see: www.jstudentsproject.org

Resource material and a list of references

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About the Speaker

Jenni Mäenpää is a journalism researcher and Ph.D Student at the School of Communication, Media and Theatre at the University of Tampere. Her main research interests concern photojournalistic work practices, ethics, and the concept of objectivity within news photography. Along with that, she has been involved in research projects concerning journalistic work and education.



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