

"The consumption of news media as democratic resources"

A cross-cultural research project

News repertoires in DENMARK 2014

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#### **DENMARK:** media scene

- combination of strong domestic broadcasters and newspapers
- 2 state-owned, public-service broadcasters dominate broadcast news
- diverse national press with strong position online
- regional and local papers important in their markets but limited digital reach
- Denmark is FACEBOOK country
- 1 free daily newspaper

#### Digital reach

- Newspapers 70%
- Broadcasters 55%
- Pure online players 25%

#### Digital news platforms 2015

- 13% paid for online news in last year
- 28% say the smartphone is the main way of accessing online news
- 20% say the tablet is the main way of accessing online news

# Denmark: Preliminary inventory of repertoires Labels encapsulate the groups' news use

- F1: Online quality omnivore
- F2: Hybrid PSM lover
- F3: '(Light) News Snacker'
- F4: Mainstream Networker
- F5: The intellectual/professional networker
- F6: Print addict

## F1 Online quality omnivore

- Top 2: Online news media
  - National quality newspaper online; Born-online news sites
- Top3-5: Online news media
  - PSB online; YouTube; International news provider online

Profile: Prefers online news from both legacy and born-online news providers. Except for free print newspaper, the Top-10 is online only and includes legacy online, social media, aggregators, email alerts and blogs. TV and radio news are given low priority, approaching non-use. International outlook. Tend towards quality-conscious: National quality newspaper online no.1); PBS online no.3; International online no.5.

## F2 Hybrid PSB lover

- Top 2: Radio PSB; Online PSB news
- Top 3-5: National quality newspaper online; National PSB TV;
  PSB Text-TV

Profile: 7 news media in the Top-10 are PSB institutional origin, 6 of them broadcast, 1 online, penchant for radio (no. 1). All of Top-10 are legacy news media. Social media are outside the staple news diet. Not at all averse to 'familiar' online news sources. Tend towards quality-conscious – PSB online+broadcast; national quality newspaper online; Current affairs TV + Radio.

## F3 (Light) News Snacker

- Top 2: Tabloid newspaper online; 24-hour TV news
- Top 3-5: National PSB TV; Facebook; Text-TV

Profile: Goes for frequent news updates in the brief and light genres, on a versatile range of technological platforms. TV formats dominate. Print platforms play a minor role, print media are at the bottom of the ranks. But newspapers online play an important role (no.1). A fairly salient taste for depth of information (TV current affairs as no. 6 and 9). PSB TV formats are nos. 3, 5, 6, 8. Newspapers across platforms are nos. 1, 7, 8

#### F4 Mainstream Networker

- Top 2: National quality daily print; Other social media
- Top 3-5: International TV news; National PSB TV; Facebook

Profile: Another versatile repertoire (cf. F1), with several news consumption strategies: One finding news through one's networks; another searching for news through mainstream national and international news providers, incl. lean-forward news aggregators (no.10) that supplement a variety of lean-back quality suppliers (national print daily quality (no.1), national PSB TV news (no.4). Conspicuous absence of legacy media online.

## F5 The intellectual/professional networker

- Top 2: Facebook; Radio current affairs
- Top 3-5: Professional magazines; TV current affairs serious;
  News on Twitter

Profile: Shares with F4 key strategy to find news through social media networks. Unusual in a Danish context is the prominence of Twitter. The difference from F4 lies mainly in the prominence of two kinds of current affairs programs (radio, TV serious) - radio current affairs signals 'niche intellectual community'. High ranking of professional/party-political magazines is unusual. Mainstream news media come in a second tier of importance.

#### F6 Print addict

- Top 2: Free daily print; National quality newspaper print
- Top 3-5: Local weekly print; Local daily print; National PSB TV

Profile: Dominated by printed national + local newspapers, incl. paid + free newspapers. Supplemented with PSB TV news, followed by diverse supple-mentary sources incl. 2 sources of TV news (Regional, TV current aff.) and two online-based services (Email alerts; Aggreg.). Apart from these two differently personalized online news providers, online news media are conspicuous by their 'absence', both legacy media online news and social media.

### News as democratic resources

# Key points:

- Public service media loom large: 'public knowledge' is high
- Social media for news are widespread: people encounter greater diversity of news sources

Thank you!