

Kaarina Nikunen is Professor of Media and Communication Research at the Faculty of Information Technology and Communication at Tampere University. Her research focuses on digital media, emotions and affect, datafication, migration, gender, race and ethnicity. Her current research projects investigate Intimacy in Data Driven Culture (IDA) and affective practices of online participation (HAFFECT). She has worked as a visiting professor at Karlstad University Sweden (2021-22), University of Massachusetts Amherst (2019), Microsoft Research Institute Cambridge (2019), London School of Economics (2017) Tulane University in New Orleans (2016), as a visiting scholar at Stanford University (2012) and in the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London (2009). She has published over 10 edited or authored volumes and over 100 articles in leading journals of media and communication research.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Kaarina Nikunen, Faculty of Information Technology and Communication, Tampere University 3014 Tampere Finland, Tel: +358401904094, email: kaarina.nikunen@tuni.fi

Homepage: <https://www.tuni.fi/en/kaarina-nikunen>

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5747-4093>

EDUCATION AND DEGREES AWARDED

2005 PhD Soc. Sc. University of Tampere, Department of Journalism and Mass communication.

1996 MA, Social Sciences University of Tampere. Major: Journalism and Mass Communication

2008 Docent of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Tampere.

OTHER EDUCATION AND SKILLS

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugee (UNHCR) training on refugee law, Stockholm 2006

Journalistic skills: Foreign News Journalist in Helsingin Sanomat 1996-2001

LINGUISTIC SKILLS

Excellent Finnish, English

Fluent German, Spanish, Swedish

Some French, Italian

CURRENT POSITION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, since 2005

2016- **Professor of Media and Communication Research**, Tampere University 1.8.-

2015 **Acting Professor of Journalism**, University of Jyväskylä, 1.1-31.12. 2015

2014 **Acting Professor of Media Culture**, University of Tampere 1.1.-31.12. 2014

2013-2016 **Associate Professor of Media Culture and Journalism** University of Tampere.

2013-2016 **Lecturer in Media Culture and Journalism**, University of Tampere

2012-2013 **University Researcher**, University of Tampere

2012. **Post Doctoral Researcher**, Stanford University

2011-12 **Principal Investigator**, University of Helsinki

2010-2011 **Principal Investigator** University of Tampere

2007-2009 **Post Doctoral Researcher**, Academy of Finland, University of Tampere.

2005-2007 **Lecturer** in Media Culture. Department of Arts and Literature. University of Tampere

Maternity leave 26.11. 1999-1.6. 2001, 1.7.2004 -1.2. 2005, 1.3.-17.4. 2005

VISITS

2021-2022 **Visiting Professor**, Karlstad University, Geomedia Research 1.9. 2021-30.6. 2022

2019 **Visiting Professor**, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA, 1.3.-31.5. 2019

2019 **Visiting Scholar**, Microsoft Research Institute, Cambridge May 2019

2017 **Visiting Professor**, London School of Economics, UK, 1.4.-30.6. 2017

2016 **Visiting Professor**, Tulane University, New Orleans, USA 1.1-30.4. 2016

2012 **Visiting Scholar** Stanford University, Human Sciences and Technologies Advanced Research Institute 1.1.-31.12.

2009 Visiting Scholar at SOAS, Centre of Media and Film studies. University of London, UK.1.1.-30.6.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Research projects funded by the Academy of Finland:

HAFPECT, Everyday affective practice online 2021-2025, PI of the Consortio
IDA, Intimacy in Data driven Culture 2019-25, PI of WP2
BIBU, Biases and Bubbles in Participation 2017-2021, PI of WP3
HYBRA, Racisms and Public Communication in the hybrid media 2016-2019, PI of the Consortio
COMPASSION, Structures of Compassion 2010-2013, PI of WP
Migrant youth and Popular Media 2007-2009, PI

Ministry of Education

EU Kids Online, Finland 2010-2012

Nordic research Council

NOS-HS: Datafication, Data Inequalities and Data Justice 2018-21

Helsingin Sanomat Foundation:

Information and emotions in the refugee crisis 2016-2018
Post Doctoral Grant to Stanford University 12 months 2012
How recessions affect journalism 2009-2010.

EVALUATION AND SUPERVISION

External examiner of 9 PhDs (Roskilde University 2014, 2023, University of Helsinki 2022, 2022, University of Vaasa 2023, University of Jyväskylä 2016,2019, University of Oslo 2010) pre-examiner for University of East Finland 2021, University of Helsinki 2010, 2020, 2023, University of Jyväskylä 2009, 2016, 2019, 2023.

External evaluator of tenure position or promotion committee at the University of Copenhagen Denmark (2023), University of Westminster, UK (2023), University of Massachusetts Amherst, US (2021), University of Stockholm, Sweden (2018), Kristiania University College Norway (2022), University of Tulane, USA (2015), Tampere University (2023) and of several docentships in Finland. Currently supervisor of 7 PhD thesis, Chair of Master Programme in media, culture and society, Tampere University.

Reviewer of research funding for European Research ERC, Academy of Finland, Leverhulme Foundation, Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, Sweden, Velux Foundation Denmark, and science councils in Estonia, Portugal, Belgium, Austria and Poland.

Reviewer for the publishers, *Sage, Intellect, Routledge* and *TUP*. Reviewer for international and domestic journals: *Journalism Studies, Social Media + Society, Big data & Society, International Journal of Press and Politics, European Journal of Cultural Studies, Social Identity, Popular Communication, International Journal of Media and Cultural Politics, Feminist Media Studies, Porn Studies, Nordic Journal of Feminist Studies, Nordicom Review, Nuorisotutkimus, Lähikuva, Media & Viestintä* and *Naistutkimus*.

Member of the editorial board

Television and new media, Nordic Journal of Media studies, ICA Handbook Series

AWARDS

Member of Academia Europea 2021-

Invited Guest Professor at Karlstad University, Geomedia Research Group 2021-2022

IMPACT

Over 20 invited keynote presentations in international scientific conferences and seminars in the USA, UK, Italy, Portugal, Sweden, Estonia, Denmark and Finland during the past five years.

Research expertise on media and migration used for internal education and development in Ministry of Interior, Finland (2009, 2014, 2015, 2021) and in the Home Office, United Kingdom (2014) as well as with several third sector organizations and media (Red Cross, Amnesty, The Finnish Refugee Council, YLE). Member of Expert forum to prevent racism, Ministry of Interior, Finland. Research expertise used for continuing education for media professionals, teachers and educators.

Media education and documentary workshop (with documentary director Mia Halme) with immigrant youth in Tampere, Hervanta high school 2008.

Research on digital life among the undocumented migrants in IDA-project, presented in photographic exhibition with Katja Tähjä in Helinä Rautavaara Museum October 2020.

KEY PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Nikunen, K. (2019) *Media Solidarities: Emotions Power and Justice in the Digital Age*. London: Sage.
- Eide, E. and Nikunen K. (eds.) (2011) *Media in Motion: Cultural Complexity and Migration in the Nordic Region*. London: Routledge.
- Paasonen S., Nikunen, K., Saarenmaa, L. (2007) (eds) *Pornification: Sex and Sexuality in Media Culture*. Oxford: Berg.
- Nikunen, K. (2011) *Enemmän vähemmällä: laman ja teknologisen murroksen vaikutukset suomalaisissa toimituksissa 2009-2010*. [More with Less: Recession and Technological Change in the Finnish Newsrooms] Tampere University.
- Nikunen, K. (2005) *Faniuden aika*. [Moment of Fandom] Tampere: TUP.
- Maasilta, M and Nikunen K. (eds) (2018) *Pakolaisuus, tunteet ja media*. [Refuge, emotions and media] Tampere: Vastapaino.
- Kupiainen, R., Kotilainen, S., Nikunen K. ja Suoninen, A. (2013) (eds) *Lapset netissä – Puheenvuoroja lasten ja nuorten netin käytöstä ja riskeistä*. Helsinki: Mediakasvatusseura.
- Nikunen, K. (2008) (ed) *Fanikirja. Näkökulmia nykyajan fani-ilmiöön*. [Fan Book: Perspectives to fan cultures] Jyväskylä. Nykykulttuurin tutkimuskeskus.
- Luostarinen, H., Horsti, K., Nikunen, K., Pöyhkäri R., Raittila, P. (2007) *Maahanmuutto ja media: Eurooppalaista tutkimusta ja kotimaisia ennusteita*. Tampere University.
- Nikunen, K., Paasonen, S., Saarenmaa, L. (2005) *Jokapäiväinen pornomme. Media, seksuaalisuus ja populaarikulttuuri* [Everyday Porn: Media, Sexuality and Popular Culture]. Tampere: Vastapaino.

Special issues

- Nikunen, K. (2021) (ed.) Dataistunut media [Datafied Media] *Media ja Viestintä*.
- Nikunen, K., Pantti, M. and Titley, G. (2021) (eds) Nationalism and Racism on Digital Media *Television and New Media* Special Issue 22(2).
- Rastas, A. & Nikunen, K. (2019) (eds) Contemporary African and Black Diasporic Spaces in Europe. *Open Cultural Studies* Special Issue.

Journal articles and chapters since 2015

- Nikunen, K. & Valtonen, S. (2024) Undocumented and datafied. In K. Leurs & S. Ponzanesi (eds.) *Doing Digital Migrant Studies*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.
- Nikunen, K. (2023) Repairing algorithms, rebuilding data paths: material solidarity, the digital infrastructure, and the public. In Parks, Velkova & De Ridder (eds) *Media Backends: The Politics of Infrastructure, Clouds, and Artificial Intelligence*. University of Illinois Press.
- Nikunen, K. (2023) Affective Temporalities of Digital Hate Cultures. In Lünenborg, M. & Röttger-Rössler, B. (eds) *Affective Formation of Publics: Places, networks and the media*. London: Routledge
- Koivunen, A., Nikunen, K., Hokkanen, J. Jaaksi, V., Lehtinen, V., Soronen, A. Talvitie-Lamberg, K., Valtonen, S. (2023) Anticipation as Platform Power: The Temporal Structuring of Digital Everyday Life. *Television & New Media*. DOI:10.177/152746423178228
- Nikunen K. (2022) Echo of Experience: a feminist response to racialization of sexual crime in the hybrid media event. *International Journal of Communication*. Special issue on Encounters between Violence and Media, May 2022.
- Nikunen, K. & Valtonen, S. (2022) Precariousness and hope: Digital everyday life of the undocumented migrants explored through collaborative photography. *Media and Communication* 10(2)
- Laaksonen, S., Hokka, J. & Nikunen, K. (2022) Affective visual rhetoric of the far-right across social media. In Petterson K. & Nortio, E. (eds.) *The far-right discourse of multiculturalism in everyday talk: Reproduction and contestation in intergroup interactions*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Nikunen, K. (2021) Ghosts of White methods? The Challenges of Big Data research in exploring Racism in Digital Context. *Big Data and Society* Oct 7 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20539517211048964>

- Andreassen, R., Kaun, A. & Nikunen, K. (2021) Fostering the data welfare state: A Nordic perspective on datafication. *Nordicom Review* 42(2):207-223.
- Nikunen, K., Hokka, J. and Nelimarkka, M. (2021) Affective practice of Soldiering: How sharing images is used to spread extremist and racist ethos on Soldiers of Odin Facebook site. *Television and New Media* 22(2).
- Titley, G., Nikunen, K. and Pantti, M. (2021) Shifting Formations, Formative Infrastructures: Nationalisms and Racisms in Media Circulation. *Television and New Media* 22(2).
- Nikunen, K. & Hokka, J. (2020) Welfare state values and public service media in the era of datafication. Special Issue on Datafication and the Welfare State, edited by Lina Dencik and Anne Kaun. *Global Perspectives* 1(2).
- Nikunen, K. (2019) Emotions, Affect and the Media. In Curran J. and Hesmondhalgh, D. (eds) *Media & Society*. London: Bloomsbury, 323-340.
- Pantti, M. Nelimarkka, M, Nikunen, K, Titley, G. (2019) Meanings of Racism: Public discourses about racism in Finnish news media and online discussion forums. *European Journal of Communication* 34(5):503-519.
- Pöyhkäri, R., Nikunen, K., Nelimarkka, M. & Pantti, M. (2019) Refugee debate and networked framing in the hybrid media environment. *International Communication Gazette*, 81:4 Special Issue edited by A. Alencar, M. Vicente & N. Montes.
- Nikunen, K. (2019) Once a Refugee: Selfie activism, visualized citizenship and the space of appearance. *Popular Communication: The International Journal of Media and Culture* 17(2): 154-170.
- Nikunen, K. (2019) Breaking the Silence: From representations of victims and threat towards spaces of voice. In Georgiou, M. Leurs, K., Smets, K. & Witteborn, S. (eds) *Sage Handbook of Migration and Media*. London: Sage, 411-423.
- Nikunen, K. and Rastas, A. (2019) Introduction: Contemporary African and Black Diasporic Spaces in Europe. Special Issue in *Open Cultural Studies* 3(1): 207-218.
- Nikunen, K. (2018) From Irony to Solidarity: Affective practice in social media activism. *Studies of Transition States and Societies* 10(2): 10-21.
- Nikunen, K (2017) Geographical imaginations, politics of hospitality and the media in the European refugee crisis. In K. Fast et al. (eds) *Geomedia: Spaces and Mobilities in Mediatized Worlds*. London: Routledge.
- Nikunen, K (2016) Doing Good Reality, Masculine Care and Affective Capitalism. *Ephemera: theory & politics in organization* 16(4):163-184.
- Nikunen, K. (2016) Media, Passion and Humanitarian Reality Television *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, 19 (3):265-282.
- Nikunen, K. (2015) Intimacy Re-Defined: Online Performance and the Urge of Posing. *Liminalities: A Journal of Performance Studies* 11:1.
- Nikunen, K. (2015) Politics of Irony as Emerging Sensibility of Anti-Immigrant Debate. In Rikke Andreassen and Katherine Vitus (eds.) *Affectivity and Race: Studies from Nordic Contexts*. London: Routledge.
- Horsti, K. & Nikunen, K. (2013) Ethics of Hospitality in Changing Journalism: The Response to the Rise of the Anti-Immigrant Movement in Finnish Media Publicity. *European Journal of Cultural Studies* 16(4): 489-504.
- Orgad, S. & Nikunen, K. (2015) The Humanitarian Makeover. *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies* 13(2):229-251.
- Paasonen, S., Kyrölä, K., Nikunen, K., Saarenmaa, L. (2015) 'We hid porn magazines in the nearby woods': Memory-work and pornography consumption in Finland. *Sexualities: Studies in Culture and Society* 18(4): 394-412.