Dynamics of political information transmission: How media coverage informs public judgments about politics
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Acknowledgments

In essence, this dissertation is really an applied reiteration of an old and more general argument, articulated by such eminent scholars as Michael Delli Carpini in political science and Martha Nussbaum in the field of philosophy and law (to only name two): the argument that people need opportunities in order to flourish as citizens and, more generally, as human beings. When it comes to my own “flourishing” during the past four years as a Ph.D. student, I do not believe that I am in a position to make any judgments, at least when it comes to making judgments about my work – I happily leave that to others. I can say, however, that this has been, on many levels, a very educational and hence meaningful time for me, so my overall reflective judgment of this period is one of satisfaction and contentment, which I guess qualifies as an indication that I did flourish in one way or another. Looking back, with my future projects and goals in mind, pursuing a Ph.D. was just what I needed to do. I am grateful, then, to have had the opportunity to actually pursue a Ph.D. in the first place, and I thank the Amsterdam School of Communication Research (ASCoR) at the University of Amsterdam, and in particular my main advisor Claes de Vreese, above all for providing this opportunity.

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The other colleagues whom I had the pleasure of working with on the larger project
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Needless to say, none of the aforementioned persons carry responsibility for any possible errors in this dissertation – only I do.

Matthijs Elenbaas,
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