Transformations of television systems: Implications for media content, political parties and political attitudes

Arbaoui, B.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

UvA-DARE is a service provided by the library of the University of Amsterdam (http://dare.uva.nl)
Contents

LIST OF FIGURES ............................................................................................................ VI
LIST OF TABLES ................................................................................................................ VII

CHAPTER 1
CHANGING WEST-EUROPEAN TELEVISION SYSTEMS IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE:
A THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL DISCUSSION .................................................. 1

1.1. INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................... 1
1.2. HISTORY OF WEST-EUROPEAN BROADCASTING IN A SNAPSHOT ................................. 4
1.3. THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE LIBERALISATION PROCESS IN
TELEVISION SYSTEMS ........................................................................................................ 9
  1.3.1. Convergence in broadcasting: do national comparisons still make sense? ................. 9
  1.3.2. The recursive nature of media structure: The intrinsic relations between supply and
demand .................................................................................................................................. 13
  1.3.3. The relevance of advertising dependency as a characteristic of the television
environment .......................................................................................................................... 18
  1.3.4. The relevance of audience fragmentation ........................................................................ 19
1.4. STRUCTURE OF THE THESIS ...................................................................................... 24

CHAPTER 2
CONVERGENCE OF WEST-EUROPEAN BROADCASTING SYSTEMS 1980-2008 .................. 27

2.1. INTRODUCTION ............................................................................................................ 28
2.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND ..................................................................................... 30
  2.2.1. The advertising dependency of the television system ................................................... 32
  2.2.2. Competition and audience fragmentation ..................................................................... 33
2.3. DATA AND MEASURES ............................................................................................... 35
  2.3.1. Measuring advertising dependency and competition .................................................. 36
  2.3.2. Data ..................................................................................................................... 38
2.4. RESULTS ...................................................................................................................... 41
  2.4.1. Convergence? .......................................................................................................... 41
  2.4.2. How do the television systems differ in the 2000s? ................................................... 48
2.5. DISCUSSION ............................................................................................................... 50
CHAPTER 3
SENSATIONALISM IN NEWS COVERAGE:
A COMPARATIVE STUDY IN 14 TELEVISION SYSTEMS AND 29 TELEVISION STATIONS

3.1. INTRODUCTION .............................................................. 58
3.2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND .............................................................. 59
3.2.1. Characterising the television systems .............................................................. 59
3.2.2. Sensationalism in news coverage .............................................................. 62
3.3. HYPOTHESES .............................................................. 64
3.4. CONTENT ANALYSIS .............................................................. 68
3.5. RESULTS .............................................................. 73
3.5.1. Descriptive evidence .............................................................. 73
3.5.2. Explaining sensationalism .............................................................. 77
3.6. DISCUSSION .............................................................. 84

CHAPTER 4
POLITICAL COMPETITION IN A FRAGMENTED MEDIA ENVIRONMENT:
THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE

4.1. INTRODUCTION .............................................................. 90
4.2. A CHANGED MEDIA ENVIRONMENT .............................................................. 92
4.3. PARTY RESPONSES AND THE ISSUE OF IMMIGRATION .............................................................. 93
4.4. THE PARTY SYSTEM LEVEL: THE RELATIVE SALIENCY OF THE IMMIGRATION ISSUE IN COMPARISON WITH OTHER ISSUES .............................................................. 95
4.5. PARTY LEVEL .............................................................. 96
4.5.1. Imitation as a competition strategy .............................................................. 96
4.5.2. Differentiation and distinction as a competition strategy .............................................................. 99
4.5.3. Party size and the choice of imitation or distinction .............................................................. 102
4.6. CONTROL VARIABLES: POLITICAL AND SOCIETAL CHARACTERISTICS .............................................................. 103
4.7. DATA AND OPERATIONALISATION .............................................................. 104
4.8. RESULTS .............................................................. 105
4.8.1. The party system level: The relative importance of the immigration .............................................................. 105
4.8.2. The party level: Position and saliency .............................................................. 108
4.9. CONCLUSION .............................................................. 113