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Referendum campaign dynamics : news media, campaign effects and direct democracy

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There was one simple reason for why I went to Amsterdam in fall 2002, a seminar called “Communicating Europe” which was part of the European Communication Studies Master program at the International School for Humanities and Social Sciences (ISHSS) at the University of Amsterdam. I had studied Communication Sciences before in Germany and “Communicating Europe” was exactly what I intended to do and thus wanted to learn more about. At the beginning of this particular seminar I had no idea that the lecturer, a very enthusiastic PhD student in the last year of his project who was talking incredibly fast, later on not only would become my thesis supervisor but also my co-author and PhD supervisor. I never had any other supervisor ever since I arrived in Amsterdam more than six years ago and studied or worked at the UvA but it is hard for me to imagine one who could be more supportive and more fun to work with than Claes de Vreese.

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