



# ICA Newsletter

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## REACHing Out: ICA Indonesia Report Revolutionizing Communication: 360info and the ICA Indonesia Chapter Present New Era of Fact- Based Media

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## **REACHing Out: ICA Indonesia Report Revolutionizing Communication: 360info and the ICA Indonesia Chapter Present New Era of Fact-Based Media**

**By: Dorien Kartikawangi, Atma Jaya Catholic U of Indonesia**

The ICA Indonesia Chapter, in collaboration with 360info, held a landmark webinar addressing the urgent challenges facing the media industry and the role of academic institutions in combating misinformation. This timely event, led by **Andrew Jaspan**, 360info's Founder, and Editor-in-Chief, highlighted the need for innovative, research-driven approaches in an era where shrinking newsrooms and disinformation are pervasive threats.

As news organizations increasingly focus on gaining clicks at the expense of quality journalism, the public's trust in media is eroding, with many choosing to disengage entirely. Meanwhile, pressing global challenges such as climate change, public health crises, and socio-economic inequality demand urgent attention. Universities, described by Jaspan as the "Fifth Estate," stand at the forefront of solving these issues.

During the webinar, Jaspan introduced 360info as a platform that champions the principles of transparency, fact-driven journalism, and peer-reviewed research. "In a world overflowing with misinformation, we need reliable, contextual, and research-led content that informs and educates the public," he emphasized. 360info leverages university-affiliated academics' expertise to provide slow news – thorough, well-researched stories in understandable language.

**Ria Ernunsari**, Senior Commissioning Editor of 360info, elaborated further on the impact of this initiative in Indonesia. She underscored how the platform provides open-access, free-to-use content under Creative Commons licensing, ensuring the broad dissemination of valuable research. By partnering with Indonesian universities and publishers, 360info enriches the academic community and empowers journalists to combat the spread of false information.

One of the highlights of the webinar was a speech by **Fajar Junaidi**, a prominent author at 360info and committee member of the ICA Indonesia Chapter. His article at 360info is in his area of expertise on sports communication, especially Indonesian Football. The article reaches many audiences and is quoted by many credible newspapers. Junaidi discussed the pivotal role of academics in reshaping public discourse through reliable, research-driven communication. "As authors on platforms like 360info, we have the responsibility to deliver content that is accurate and serves the greater societal good,"

he stated. Junaidi also emphasized the importance of collaboration between Indonesian scholars and global platforms like 360info, which provide broader access to credible information in combating disinformation.

The event also highlighted the unique benefits of universities working with 360info. Academic institutions gain broader audiences for their research and actively contribute to global solutions while adhering to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For journalists, collaboration enriches the narrative landscape with credible, research-based insights, expanding their reach and deepening their impact.

**Sri Hastjarjo**, the vice chair of the ICA Indonesia Chapter and 360info Commissioning Editor at Universitas Negeri Sebelas Maret, Surakarta, stressed the importance of fostering a national movement towards fact-based communication in the digital age. Both experts encouraged more Indonesian authors and journalists to partner with 360info to ensure that the country's voice is amplified and accurately represented on the global stage.

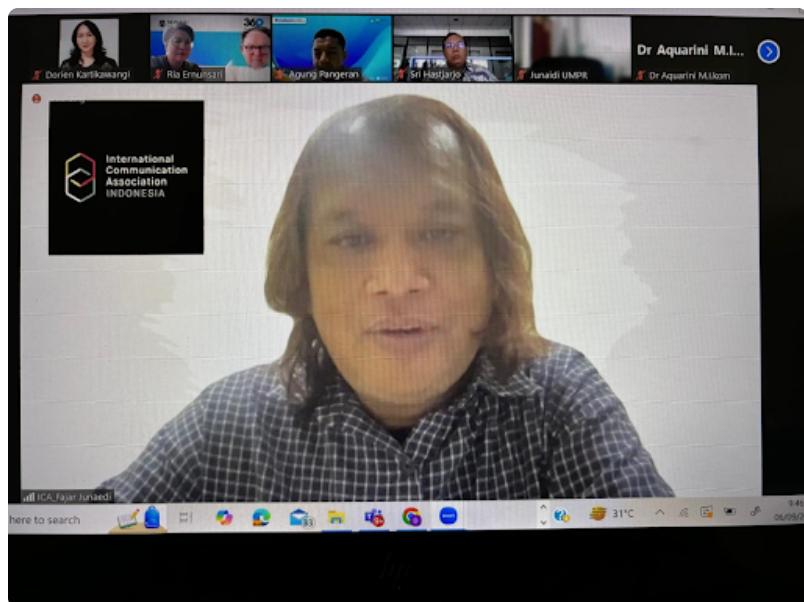
By prioritizing research-led solutions and contextual journalism, 360info and the Indonesian Communications Association are ushering in a new chapter for media in Indonesia, one grounded in truth, academic rigor, and a commitment to the public good.

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Click [here](#) for a video of the event and [here](#) for the slide deck.

#### About 360info

360info is a global platform dedicated to providing fact-based, research-driven journalism. By collaborating with academics from universities worldwide, 360info aims to elevate the voices of experts and combat misinformation through free and open-access content.



ICA France by **Angeliki Monnier**

## 1st ICA France Talks 2024-25: The challenges of international joint PhD supervision

In September 2024, ICA France launched the "ICA France Talks", a cycle of online conferences on the theme of "Transnational research pathways in Communication", seeking to discuss the stakes of conducting research beyond national borders. The 1st webinar, held on September 20th, delved into "The challenges of international joint PhD supervision".

Debating the challenges of international joint PhD supervision is increasingly pertinent in the context of the rising number of collaborative doctoral programs. While these joint supervisions offer significant academic and cultural benefits, they also introduce complex challenges that are often underexplored in scholarly discourse. For students, navigating differing academic expectations, institutional policies, and communication barriers between institutions can be daunting. Supervisors, on the other hand, face the challenge of aligning methodologies, evaluation criteria, and research priorities across diverse academic environments. These issues are compounded by logistical difficulties such as time zone differences and the coordination of joint meetings, which can strain the supervisory relationship. Despite the potential for these challenges to impede the progress of doctoral candidates and the effectiveness of their research, there is a notable lack of comprehensive discussion on these topics within academic literature, underscoring the need for more focused attention on this aspect of doctoral education.

Even in French-speaking academic environments, these tensions must be taken into consideration. Through their experience, PhD researchers **Lucas Friche** (Center for Research on Mediations, U de Lorraine, co-supervised with the U of Liège, Belgium) and **Jenguiz Kanaani** (Center for Research on Mediations, U de Lorraine, co-supervised with the U of Quebec in Montreal, Canada) explained the challenges that joint supervision represents in their research work, as well as the advantages of it.

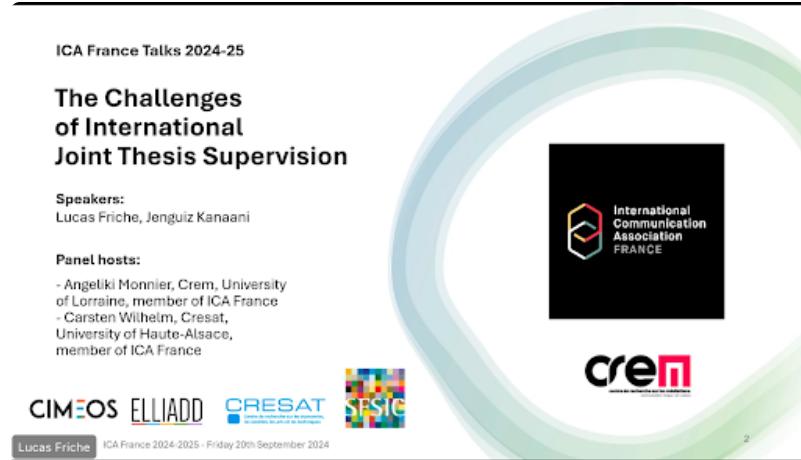
Both speakers talked about the differentiated temporalities that joint supervision generates because of different official durations of thesis between countries ("we have the impression that we don't all have the same time to do the thesis depending on the country we are in"), as well as about variations in the follow-up process by universities and doctoral schools ("we do not have the same way of considering doctoral follow-up everywhere"). They have shown, through their own experience, that socialization does not take place in the same way between countries with distinct operating methods (integration into a group in the frame of courses carried out over a long period of time, vs one-off trainings and more individual initiatives to forge links with other students). The question of the relationship between thesis directors and its impact on the progress of the thesis was also discussed ("if the directors do not agree on expectations, it is difficult for the doctoral student"), as well as the writing standards and epistemological differences that may be specific from one national context to another. Despite the administrative hassles, particularly during the first stages of the process ("one has the impression of duplicating actions instead of being the mediator

*between two cultures*"), they both agree that joint supervision has been for them "a means to accelerate the confrontation of approaches", a way of "acculturating oneself to disciplinary logics" and of "taking a certain distance" from locally anchored epistemologies. In this sense, they also find that joint supervision is particularly interesting for comparative approaches.

For this first webinar 35 participants registered from around the world (Europe, Canada, India, Africa, etc.). Some of them attended in person, many others asked for the recorded session that will soon be available. Held mostly in French, discussions were subtitled in English.

ICA France's next webinar is scheduled on November 8th, with **Devina Sarwatay**, City U of London, and **Tajrani Rampersaud-Skorka**, U of Guyana, discussing, in English, how to navigate the international experience research. The webinar will not only shed light on some personal and professional hurdles PhD researchers face during this journey but will also provide actionable insights for young scholars (PhD researchers, post-doctorate researchers, assistant professors, etc.) as well as for supervisors and other policymakers in academia who strive to support them. More information will be released very soon.

Click [here](#) for video of the event. *To activate auto-translation of subtitles: Go to Settings at the lower part of the video, "activate subtitles", select subtitles' language "French", then select "automatically translate", select target language "English"*



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