

WAGING VIOLENCE IN THE DIGITAL AGE

The Use of ICTs in Prevention, Intervention & Restoration

The advent of technology and the normalization of the online presence have brought new aspects in the study of violence, so has increased the need to explore new practices in prevention, intervention and restoration of affected and traumatized individuals and communities. Rather than creating panic over the omnipresent impact of digitalisation, raising awareness and learning about the educational potentials of ICTs allow learners to use it for the greater good in dealing with violence in all stages. For many individuals, it is hard to understand that the same (or similar) rules of safety and constructive cohabitation apply in and out of the digital life. Scholarly evidence shows that online violence is unique and different in many ways, and that younger generations today are specifically threatened and at risk as they identify closely to their online identities. Poor knowledge and understanding of the digital world, virtual human relationships and online social dynamics allow spaces for new forms of abuse and violence. However, at the same time, they can also offer platforms for distribution of knowledge.

The key note address focuses on the potentials of using ICTs in prevention, intervention and rehabilitation practices of dealing with collective violence. Dr Močnik takes examples from her own empirical work in the field of conflict-related sexual violence and intergenerational transmission of historical traumas. She will present concrete cases of using digital storytelling and memes in prevention programmes; mobile apps in intervention; and videogames in the context of intergenerational collective restoration and resilience in the aftermath of mass atrocities.

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