

ABSTRACT

Mass media has always played the key role in democratic process. They are not only the indicator of its right functioning, but also the initiator. From historical point of view is obvious, that technological progress and changes in the way of informing people were related to the political area. But with the increasing role of media, they changed their position from pure mediators of informations to the main actors of social and political life. The ,old‘ media, such as newspapers, radio and television, are therefore partly responsible for commercialization of the public sphere and also for its depolitization. With contribution of the globalization effect on today’s world, which causes besides other things the weakening of the nation state, there are only a little of the key democratic aspects left. Some find the solution in the ,new‘ media represented by the Internet and social media, which are more interactive so they could get the citizens back to the game. And right in the increase of civic engagement see the theorists the potencial for creating a new democratic order based on high-level participation.

KEY WORDS

Mass media, Democracy, Public Sphere, Civic Engagement, Internet, Social media, Participative Democracy, Deliberative Democracy