

Abstract

The bachelor thesis *The Role of Public Editors in a Comparative Perspective* examines the position of ten ombudsmen from the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Canada, Portugal, and Denmark. Using a qualitative method of semi-structured interviews conducted with ten respondents representing television, radio, print and online media, it finds out, which of the two models proposed by Dutch media theorists Arjen van Dalen and Mark Deuz they lean towards. The results show that a minority of ombudsmen fall under the definition of the reader's advocate, so the majority represent the paper's ambassador. However, the interviews show that this model does not sufficiently reflect reality, as each medium and ombudsman has a different nature. The findings further show that the rise of social media and misinformation puts ombudsmen in a position where they must not only explain editorial practices to audiences, but also defend certain journalists.