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**The role of legal consciousness in the governance of Communicative Spaces: dominance, resistance, normativity**

This paper is interrogating the spaces where institutional architecture and practice meets citizenship practice in relation to media and communicative spaces. It aims to introduce and explore the concept of legal consciousness as one of significance for the understanding of dominance of and resistance to legal and policy frameworks that govern communicative spaces. The paper takes into account the emerging regulatory landscapes that do not constrain themselves to specific media ‘objects’ but rather aim to govern processes of construction and sustenance of processes and spaces of expression, information and negotiation in multi/trans/crossmedia environments.

The paper discusses through the specific case studies of privacy, copyright, and public service media regulation the ways in which dominant and contested legal order(s) and the broader understanding of rule of law – both as moral and as factual, institutional construction- are habituated and reinforced in the relation of citizens to media and communicative practices. The case studies utilise different methodologies to distil from different conditions and situation of communicative spaces (social media, public service media, creative industries and authorship practices) the ways in which collective constructions of legal meanings, legality, legitimacy and generally the production of legal meaning are realised.