



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Digital Communication Lab for Exchange between Research and Media

11 – 13 May 2023

A workshop between media and science: Twice a year, ten journalists from the IJP network meet ten researchers from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. During a three-day workshop, we explore different forms of collaboration between journalism and science with respect to a topic of current societal relevance and brainstorm on possible joint projects. Experienced mentors from the media support the process. Lectures and training sessions focus on what constitutes good science communication and reporting.

ComLab#7: The Next Big Bang: New Frontiers in Exploring Life

The science year 2022 brought ground-breaking news also in the world of science. Science has always experimented at the boundaries of life, but how will new technologies shape our understanding of humans and our habitats in the future?

ComLab#7 aims to explore the research that will fuel our expectations in 2023 and the years to come. What are the new frontiers in research and how can or should scientists and journalists tell the story of the next big bang that is already fundamentally happening but has not yet arrived in everyday reality? At the same time: How much news value should we ascribe to risky or early research? Can too much attention at an early-stage harm further developments, especially in terms of public acceptance? In addition, there are ethical and social issues to consider, especially when we deal with disruptive research and technologies.

Key Questions:

- What are the big trends and topics in science in 2023?
- How to communicate cutting-edge research in a clear and comprehensible way?
- What might be the social and ethical implications of new frontiers in research – from the exploration of space to progress in the field of bioengineering or AI-based innovation?
- How do different cultural perspectives and religions influence our understanding of scientific discoveries?
- To what extent is the visibility of new research determined by inequality of opportunity – especially regarding differences between the Global North and the Global South?

Schedule

11 – 13 May 2023

Have fun while warming up for ComLab. Get to know each other. Discuss what constitutes good science reporting and science communication. Share global news on the relevance of science and media. Share ideas on how to collaborate. Get inspired by international science reporting. Learn from science experts about new ground-breaking research and how to tell its story. Work in tandems or mini groups. Brainstorm on project ideas. Pitch story ideas to the guest juror / international science correspondent.



REQUIREMENTS

Participation is open to ten journalists from the IJP network and ten science fellows from the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation.

Knowledge and experience in science communication is an asset, but not a prerequisite for participating in this three-day workshop. We welcome participants from all fields of reporting.

The workshop takes place **in English** and as a **virtual format**.

EXPECTATIONS

- Strong motivation to engage with an international community of journalists and scientists.
- Active participation in expert discussions, interactive learning sessions, and creative collaboration with colleagues and scientists from around the globe.

HOW TO APPLY

- **CV in English** (PDF), two pages max. (if you participated in an IJP fellowship programme, please indicate which programme as well as the year you participated)
- **Motivation letter** of 500 words max. (PDF)
- **Application video** (via WeTransfer, <https://wetransfer.com>), three minutes max., which gives us a clear initial understanding of why you want to take part in this advanced training
- Please see the video guidelines for more content-related and technical details

All documents should be submitted in **ONE e-mail** to comlab@ijp.org.

Subject line: **Application ComLab#7 and your name**

→ **Application deadline: 31 March 2023**

For more information on the Communication Lab please visit our website:

<https://www.ijp.org/en/alumni/communicating-science>

