**International Conference** 

Images of Nations: Strategic Communication, Soft Power and the Media

Athens, 4/5 February 2009 www.qpsq.org.uk/athens



## Maria Zisouli

## Title: Greek Diaspora and internet Mass Media. The presentation of the events in December 2008.

The 60s and the 70s have seen the movement of Greeks to European cities but also countries outside Europe. The recent technological developments in Mass Media and the spread of the Internet has corroded the importance of the geopolitical boundaries of these countries, the time boundaries as well as the dominance of national Media in the lives of the immigrants.

In our country, the recent dramatic events, the deadly shooting of the 15 year old student by a policeman, the subsequent violent youth protests and rioting around Greece and abroad and the great destruction caused by these riots in the center of Athens were for several days headline news in all Greek Media, the Internet as well as in many International and Greek Diaspora Media.

Triggered by these events this paper aims to study the dynamics and the potential for immediate response and news streams by the internet editions of Greek Media and the on-line Diaspora Media. It will also trace and survey the interest shown by Greek emigrants for issues and events occurring in Greece. Finally, it will assess the extend to which the internet is utilized as a foreign policy tool for diplomacy and communication between the Greek State and the Diaspora.

## Maria Zisouli Brief CV

Maria Zisouli is a researcher and a Ph.D. candidate in Political Marketing at the department of Political Science and Public Administration of the University of Athens and holds a M.Sc. degree in Marketing and New Technologies Communication from the University of Athens. Citizens relations with the State and Political Parties, Political Communication and Political Marketing, Citizen Democracy and the Internet are some of the fields of her interest and research. She has presented several papers in international conferences. Her recent paper, «Online Communication Campaigning for Young Voters - 2007 Greek National Elections», assessing Internet Campaigning at the 2007 elections was presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Communication Conference of the European Communication Research and Education Association.

Email <a href="mzisouli@otenet.gr">mzisouli@pspa.uoa.gr</a>