



## Mireia Fernández-Ardèvol

[mfernandezar@uoc.edu](mailto:mfernandezar@uoc.edu)

[orcid.org/0000-0002-6938-1943](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6938-1943)

### KEY FIGURES

	Google Scholar			Scopus	ISI/JCR
	All	Since 2015			
citations	3293	1390	h index	6	2
h index	14	13	citations	79	20
i10 index	20	16		(out of 22 docs.)	(out of 14 docs.)

Updated: 10/Feb/2020

### Keywords

Mobile communication, Digital communication, Digital sociology, Everyday life, Older people, Quantitative techniques, Statistics, Big data / Small data, Qualitative techniques, Methodology

### CV Summary

The social and economic aspects of mobile communication constitute her area of interest since 2003. At present, her main focus is on the analysis of the **intersection** between **digital (mobile) communication** and the process of **ageing**.

Mireia Fernández-Ardèvol (Ph.D., Universitat de Barcelona) is a senior researcher at the Internet Interdisciplinary Institute (IN3) of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya - Open University of Catalonia (UOC). There, she serves as is co-director of the IN3 research group "Communication Networks & Social Change" and coordinator of the corresponding research group (SGR 2017-652) recognized by the Agency for Management of University and Research Grants of Catalonia. She is also director of the area "Telecommunication Technologies" in the Ageing-Communication-Technologies project (<http://actproject.ca/>). Other ongoing projects include BConnect@Home: Being Connected at Home – Making use of digital devices in later life (UE Joint Programming Initiative - More Years, Better Lives) where she leads the work package that analyzes how older individuals use digital communication devices in four countries by means of a combination of big and small data approaches.

She is interested in interdisciplinary approaches in the Social Sciences field. She combines quantitative and qualitative methodologies, while her background is on applied economics and in econometrics. Her doctoral thesis received the highest grade, Excellent Cum Laude, and was honored with the Mercè Sala 2009 Prize for the best doctoral thesis awarded by the Economic and Social Work Council of Catalonia (CTESC).

In terms of publications, two books on mobile communications stand out. First one is *Mobile Communication and Society: A Global Perspective* (Castells, Fernández-Ardèvol, Qiu and Sey). Published by MIT Press (2006/7, 2nd ed. 2009). Translated into several languages, it is a benchmark in the field. Second one is *Comunicación Móvil y Desarrollo Económico y Social en América Latina* [Mobile Communication and Economic and Social Development in Latin America] (Fernández-Ardèvol, Galperin and Castells, eds). Published in 2011 by Editorial Ariel, it is a pioneering work in the systematic study of the contribution of mobile communications in the region. She has also published several articles in high-impact journals such as *Media, Culture & Society*, *New Media & Society* or *Mobile Media & Communication*, and book chapters in prestigious publishers such as Routledge, Oxford University Press, Springer or Ariel.

### Education

**2009** Ph.D., University of Barcelona. *Excellent Cum Laude* (maximum qualification)

*Dissertation title: Determinants of competitiveness of small and micro enterprises in an environment of innovation. **Published as a book in 2010** (ISBN: 978-84-39-38413-7).*

***Best Ph.D. dissertation of the year “Mercè Sala” 2009 prize, awarded by the Labor, Economic and Social Council of Catalonia (Government of Catalonia).***

**2000 Proficiency in Academic Research** in Applied Economics, University of Barcelona

**1998 Bachelor Degree** in Economics, University of Barcelona

**1996 Bachelor Degree** in Business Administration and Management, University of Barcelona

### Current academic positions

#### Open University of Catalonia, IN3 - Internet Interdisciplinary Institute

Senior researcher, full time (since July 2009), and

Co-director, research group [Communication Networks & Social Change](#) (since January, 2016)

#### University of Barcelona, Dept. Econometrics, Statistics and Applied Economics

Part-time lecturer (since October, 2000).

### Working languages

English, Catalan (mother tongue), Spanish (mother tongue)

### Teaching

2015 - ... Social Indicators (5 ECTS, elective course). **Master's degree** in Statistics and Operations Research ([MESIO UPC-UB](#)).

2016 - 2018 Trending topics on development: Module 2 Digital Technologies and development (8 hours, as part of a 4 ECTS, elective course given in English). **Master's degree in International Development** [IBEI](#) inter-university institute.

1998 – 2015 Statistics (6 ECTS), Time Series Analysis (3 ECTS), Social Indicators (6 ECTS). **Degrees** in Social Sciences (Economics, Business Administration, and Management) and Statistics. Dpt. of Econometrics, Statistics, and Applied Economy, University of Barcelona (UB)

### Ph.D. Supervision

Student: Sarah Wagner

Dissertation title: A multi-sited ethnography of the decolonization of mobile media among Guaraní.

Excellent CUM LAUDE (maximum qualification). January 2020. Doctoral Program in Information Society and Knowledge. Open University of Catalonia

I am currently supervising 3 other students in the same doctoral program.

### Current projects (selection)

---

#### **ACT project:** Ageing Communication Technologies: experiencing a digital world in later life

Social Sciences and Humanities

Research Council of Canada (SSHRCC)  
(ref.: 895-2013-1018)

2 million €

2014-2021

Co-applicant and researcher

*Member of the General Board, director of the  
“Telecommunication Technologies” area*

This interdisciplinary partnership brings together researchers from three continents whose goal is to inquire into the intersections among communication, media, ageing and the concept of mobile technology within the current discourse on active ageing. <http://actproject.ca/>

Besides the area direction, I designed or contributed to different case studies, among them:

- Ageism and social media through the lens of the media ideologies (approved, 2018-2019)
  - Cross-national longitudinal study: Older audiences in the digital media environment (2016-2020, [link](#)).
  - Smartwatches, adoption(s) and appropriations(s) (2016-2017, [link](#))
  - Online survey: Intergenerational comparison of online activities (2015, [link](#))
-

**BConnect@Home:** Being Connected at Home – Making use of digital devices in later life

MINECO (Spanish Ministry of Science) & Joint Programming Initiative (JPI) - More Years, Better Lives (ref. PCIN-2017-080; grant agreement JPI03-074: 643850)  
571.032 €                      2017-2020

**WP I leader: Tracking older people's mobile use**

The WP analyzes trends in how individuals use digital communication devices in their home and other locations in four countries (The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and Canada), by tracking smartphone and mobile app activity patterns of 600 individuals 55-79 years old.

WP-I complements the passive metering (tracking) with a survey and semi-structured interviews for a better understanding of the meanings in the use of smartphones. The WP builds upon the synergies created in the ACT project and the COST Action: Ageism.

The project investigates fundamental changes in the contemporary experience of later life, at the intersection of digital infrastructures, place and the experience of "being connected" and will provide design recommendations for digital interventions for social connectedness through local "Academic Work Places."

***COST Action: Ageism - a multi-national, interdisciplinary perspective***

COST: European Cooperation in Science & Technology, EU FP Horizon 2020 (ref. IS1402)    2014-2018

Management Committee (MC) member  
*Working Group: Media (active member)*  
*Host of 1 meeting (January 2018)*

The long-term goal of this Action is to challenge the practice of ageism (i.e., the complex and often negative social construction of old age) and allow older people to realize their full potential. In light of the changing demographics, the high prevalence of ageism, its complex social roots, broad consequences, and the limited research on the topic, this Action is timely and has both practical and scientific significance. <http://notoageism.com/>

**Publications (selection)****Journal articles**

Wagner, S., & **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2020): **Mobile media practices and decolonization: A community-based study in Greater Buenos Aires**, *Mobile Media & Communication*, 8(1), 83-103. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2050157918822163>

SCI/SSCI (Social Sciences JCR) IF (Impact Factor): **1.622 Q2 Communication**

Rosales, A., & **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2019). **Structural ageism in big data approaches**. *Nordicom Review*, 40(s1), 51-64. <https://doi.org/10.2478/nor-2019-0013>

SJC (Scopus) Impact Factor (IF): **0.61. Q2 Communication**

**Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**; Ferran-Ferrer, N.; Nieto-Arroyo, J.; Fenoll, C. (2018). **The public library as seen by the non-users**. *El profesional de la información*, v. 27, n. 3, pp. 659-670.

SCI/SSCI IF: **1.063; Q3 Information science & Library science.**

SJR impact factor (IF): **0.541; Q1 Library and information science.**

Ferran Ferrer, N.; **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**; Nieto, J.; Fenoll Clarabuch, C. (2018). **Marc, Maria y David : el diseño de experiencia de usuario (UX) aplicado a la biblioteca pública**. *BiD: textos universitaris de biblioteconomia i documentació*, 40 (june). <<http://bid.ub.edu/es/40/ferran.htm>>. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1344/BiD2018.40.17>.

SJR: Emerging Sources Citation Index

**Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, Sawchuk, K., & Grenier, L. (2017). **Maintaining connections: Octo- and nonagenarians on digital 'use and non-use.'** *Nordicom Review*, 38(s1), 39-51. <https://doi.org/10.1515/nor-2017-0396>

SJR IF: **0.393 Q2 Communication**

**Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, & Ferran Boleda, J. (2017). **Popularization through press advertisements: Mobile telephony in Spain (1994-1999)**. *Journal of Science Communication*, 16(03), A11. [https://jcom.sissa.it/archive/16/03/JCOM\\_1603\\_2017\\_A11](https://jcom.sissa.it/archive/16/03/JCOM_1603_2017_A11)

SJR IF: **0.310; Q2 Communication; Q2 Social Sciences**

- Comunello, F., **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, Mulargia, S., & Belotti, F. (2017). **Women, youth and everything else: Age-based and gendered stereotypes in relation to digital technology among elderly Italian mobile phone users.** *Media, Culture & Society*, 39(6), 798–815.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0163443716674363>  
 SCI/SSCI IF: 1.128 Q2 Sociology  
 SJR IF: 0.979; Q1 Communication; Q1 Sociology and Political Science. Google Scholar citations: 3
- Rosales, A., **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, Comunello, F., Mulargia, S., & Ferran-Ferrer, N. (2017). Older people and smartwatches, initial experiences. *El Profesional de La Información*, 26(3), 457–463.  
<https://doi.org/10.3145/epi.2017.may.12>  
 SCI/SSCI IF: 1.063; Q3 Information science & Library science. Citations: 1  
 SJR IF: 0.541; Q1 Library and information science. Citations: 1. Google Scholar citations: 1
- Wagner, S., & **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2016). **Local content production and the political economy of the mobile app industries in Argentina and Bolivia.** *New Media & Society*, 18(8), 1768–1786.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444815571112>  
 SCI/SSCI IF: 4.180; Q1 (Communication). Citations: 1  
 SJR IF: 2.084; Q1 Communication; Q1 Sociology and Political Science
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2013). **Deliberate missed calls: A meaningful communication practice for seniors?** *Mobile Media & Communication*, 1(3), 285–298.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/2050157913493624>  
 SJR (Since 2016): Q2 Communication; Q2 Media Technology; Q2 Computer Networks and Communication.  
 Citations: Scopus, 2; Google Scholar, 3.
- Barrantes, R., & **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2012). **Mobile phone use among market traders at fairs in rural Peru.** *Information Technologies & International Development (ITID)*, 8(3), 35–52.  
<http://itidjournal.org/itid/article/view/913>  
 An open access journal ranked the top ICT4D (Information and Communication Technology for Development) specialty journal for research impact by leading Prof. Richard Heeks: [ICT4D Journal Ranking Table](#). Google Scholar citations: 11.

## Books

- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**; Galperin, H.; Castells, C. (eds.) (2011). **Comunicación móvil y desarrollo económico y social en América Latina [Mobile Communication and economic and social development in Latin America]**. Barcelona: Ed. Ariel. (ISBN: 978-84-08-09969-7)  
 Ranking, Spanish publishers (general ranking): 2nd (ICEE: 43.749).  
 Citations: Scopus, 1; Google Scholar, 30.
- Castells, M., **Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, Linchuan Qiu, J., & Sey, A. (2006). **Mobile communication and society: A global perspective.** Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press.  
 Citations: Scopus, 619; Google Scholar, 1742.
- Translations: **Spanish** (ed. Ariel, ISBN: 978-84-344-5327-2; D. L.: B-14.126-2007; 2nd ed. Reviewed 2007); **Italian** (ed. Guerini e Associati, ISBN: 978-88-8335-959-0, 2008); **Portuguese** (ed. Fund. Calouste Gulbenkian, ISBN: 978-972-31-1297-9, 2009); **Korean** (CommunicationBooks, Inc., ISBN: 978-89-6406-020-9, 2009)  
 Reviews (source: ISI web of knowledge): (1) Downey, G. (2008): *Technology and Culture* 49(2): 512-4; (2) Geser, H. (2007): *Contemporary Sociology – A journal of reviews* (36)5: 444-6; (3) Kavoori, A. (2009): *Journal of broadcasting & electronic media* (53)1: 161-2; (4) Kendall, Susan L. (2009): *Government information quarterly* (26)3: 549-9; (5) Murelaga Ibarra, J. (2008): *Comunicación y Sociedad* (21)1: 152-4; (6) Smith, H. L.; Romeo, S. (2007): *Annals of the association of American geographers* (97)4: 819-20; (7) Townsend, A.. (2008): *Economic geography* (84)1: 119-20; (8) Turner, B. (2008): *European Legacy – Toward new paradigms*, (13)2: 263-4.

## Book chapters

- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (in print). **Older People Go Mobile**, In Ling, R., Fortunati, L., Goggin, G., Lim, S.S. and Li, Y. (Eds.): *The Oxford Handbook of Mobile Communication and Society* (pp. 187-199). Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780190864385
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2019). **One phone, two phones, four phones: Older women and mobile telephony in Lima, Peru.** In C. W. Larsson & L. Stark (Ed.), *Gendered power and mobile technology: Intersections in the global south* (p. 93-107). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315175904-5>

- Rosales, A., & Fernández-Ardèvol, M. (2019). **Smartphone usage diversity among older people**. In S. Sayago (Ed.), *Perspectives on human-computer interaction research with older people* (p. 51-66). Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-06076-3\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-06076-3_4)
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**; Rosales, A. (2018): **Older people, Smartphones and WhatsApp**, in Vincent J., Haddon L. (eds.) *Smartphone Cultures* (p. 55-68). Abingdon Routledge.
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2016). **An exploration of mobile telephony non-use among older people**. In E. Domínguez-Rué & L. Nierling (Eds.), *Ageing and technology: Perspectives from the social sciences* (pp. 47–66). Bielefeld, Germany: transcript Verlag.

#### Conference proceedings (selection)

- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**; Rosales, A.; Morey, F. (forthcoming). **Methods matter: Assessment of the characteristics of a sample to analyze digital practices and social connectedness in later life**. In J. Zhou & G. Salvendy (Ed.), *Human aspects of IT for the aged population*. Springer
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, Rosales, A., Loos, E., Peine, A., Beneito-Montagut, R., Blanche, D., Fischer, B., Katz, S., & Östlund, B. (2019). **Methodological strategies to understand smartphone practices for social connectedness in later life**. In J. Zhou & G. Salvendy (Ed.), *Human aspects of IT for the aged population: Social media, games and assistive environments* (p. 46-64). Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22015-0\\_4](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-22015-0_4)
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, & Rosales, A. (2017). **My interests, my activities: Learning from an intergenerational comparison of smartwatch use**. In Jia Zhou & G. Salvendy (Eds.), *Human aspects of IT for the aged population: Applications, services and contexts* (Vol. 10298, pp. 114–129). Cham, Switzerland: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-58536-9\\_10](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-58536-9_10)
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, & Ivan, L. (2015). **Why age is not that important? An ageing perspective on computer anxiety**. In Jin Zhou & G. Salvendy (Eds.), *Human aspects of IT for the aged population: Design for aging* (Vol. 9193, pp. 189–200). Cham, Switzerland: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-20892-3\\_19](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-20892-3_19)
- Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2014). **Mobile phones, restrictions and discontinuities**. In I. Niang, C. Scharff, & C. Wamala (Eds.), *Proceedings of 4th International Conference on M4D Mobile Communication for Development: M4D 2014, General Tracks* (pp. 119–130). Karlstad, Sweden: Karlstad University. <http://kau.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:709233/FULLTEXT03.pdf>

#### Research fellowships/visiting periods (theme: older people and digital practices)

- 2019 J. Castillejo Fellowship (MINECO CAS19/00041, Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation, and Universities). Université de Montréal (Montreal, Quebec), Canada. (4 months, autumn). Host: Prof. Line Grenier. Project: Old age and digital communication practices: Methodological reflections and proposals.
- 2014 Erasmus (Lifelong Learning Program). Scoala Nationala de Studii Politce si Administrative din Bucuresti (SNSPA). Bucharest, Romania (1 week, spring). Host: Dr. L. Ivan.
- 2013 Instituto de Estudios Peruanos [Institute of Peruvian Studies] (IEP). Lima, Peru (2 weeks, autumn). Host: Dr. R. Barrantes
- 2011 Annenberg School for Communication, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (3 months, autumn). Host: Dr. F. Bar.

#### Miscellanea

**International advisor:** YMAP: Youth mobilities, aspirations & pathways research project (2017-2021) <https://www.ymapproject.org/> Australian Research Council [grant number DP170100180]

**International collaborator:** Centre of Excellence in Research where Ageing and Care (2018- 2025) <https://www.jyu.fi/hytk/fi/laitokset/yfi/en/research/projects/agecare> Academy of Finland

**Society of Statistics of Catalonia:** founder member (since 2010).

**Associated Publisher,** Information Technologies and International Development ([ITID Journal](#)) (since 2012).

**Reviewer:** ECREA 2018, 7th European Communication Conference (ECC), 31/10-3/11, Lugano (Switzerland).



**Reviewer: ECREA 2020**, 8th European Communication Conference (ECC), 2-5/10, Braga (Portugal).

**Evaluator:** Group of Research Evaluators, Pontificia Universidad Católica of **Peru** (since 2012); iExecutive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), **Romania** (2015)

Member of **the Academic Commission of the Doctorate on Information and Knowledge Society**, Open University of Catalonia (2015-2016; 2018 -...).

**Scientific committees** (conferences, international):

- 2nd & 3rd International Conference Human aspects of IT for the aged population - HCI International 2016 & 2017
- I & II International Conference Qualitative Research in Communication. QRC 2013 & 2015
- Global Ageing: Rising Challenges and to Quest for Opportunities. 5-6/11/2013. Barcelona.

#### **Academic merits, Catalan system**

**Coordinator of the recognized research group** Communication Networks & Social Change (ref. SGR-E 2017-652; 2017-2019)

Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency, AQU:

- **Assessment of academic staff: Associated professor / Advanced** Research – awarded 19/11/2018
- **Assessment of academic staff: Lecturer** – awarded: 09/11/2015.
- **1 alive research six-year term** (area: Sociology – awarded: 22/12/2017).

#### **Knowledge popularization**

- **General-interest media:** Regular contributions to share research results and create awareness around sensitive issues, as ageism in digital media.

Catalan TV and Radio (TV3, 2015 – 2017, 2019; CatRàdio and Rac1, 2017), Spanish TV and radio (TVE, 2017 – 2018; RNE, 2018), and Latin American media (TeleSur, 2018).

- **Recent papers in non-indexed publications:**

**Fernández-Ardèvol, M.** (2019). **Práticas digitais móveis das pessoas idosas no Brasil: Dados e reflexões [Mobile digital practices of older people in Brazil: Data and reflections]**. Panorama Setorial da Internet, Ano 11(1), 1-10.

**Fernández-Ardèvol, M.**, & Ferran Boleda, J. (2018). WhatsApp, is it perfect? In M. J. Brites, I. Amaral, R. Patrício, & L. Pereira (Eds.), Intergenerationality in a digital world: Proposals of activities (pp. 81–84). Retrieved from <https://www.is1401eln.eu/fotos/editor2/imagens/digitalactivities.pdf>

- **Conferences and roundtables, guest speaker** (selection):

**Roundtable** on mobile communication and development. **World Summit for the Information Society (WSIS), 2011** Geneva, 16-20. Organized by FAO, UNCTAD, ITU.

**Conference: “Comunicación móvil y sociedad”** [Mobile Communication and Society]. Spanish Royal Academy of Engineering **Real Academia de Ingeniería**. Madrid, 7-02-0212.

**Public talk: “Utilització dels telèfons mòbils per la gent gran”** [Usage of mobile phones by the older people], **Catalan Intercol·legial Senior**. The second cycle of conferences on Ageing Well. Barcelona, 26-01-2017.

**Public talk “Older people go mobile...their way”**. Université de Montréal (Montreal, Quebec, Canada). 13-09-2019.

- **XXIII Prize of science popularization Humbert Torres 2007** awarded by Institute of Illerdenc Studies (Institut d’Estudis Illerdencs) and Òmnium Cultural, with J. Ferran Boleda. “Safari Ngema! Un viatge per la fractura digital” [Safari Ngema! A trip through the digital divide]. Published by Pagès Editors (ISBN: 978-84-9779-563-0).