

The Second December: The Representation of the Students' Protest in the Albanian Media

Armela Panajoti, University of Vlora "Ismail Qemali", Albania

In December 2018, Albanian students rose to protest against the quality of higher education in Albania, a protest which several, mainly from the opposition side, compared to the Dec 1990 students' protest for the fall of communism, hence the metaphor 'the Second December'.

In this paper, I will refer to this event in order to analyse how the students' protest was represented in the media, mainly on the news websites, social media and other online news channels, which were very active in disseminating news and providing opinions about the students' protest. The aim is two-fold, to reveal the various views about the protest and at the same time to point to the reliability and truthfulness of these sources, an issue which became very debatable in those days leading to the Albanian PM's declaration to ban all unregistered news portals.