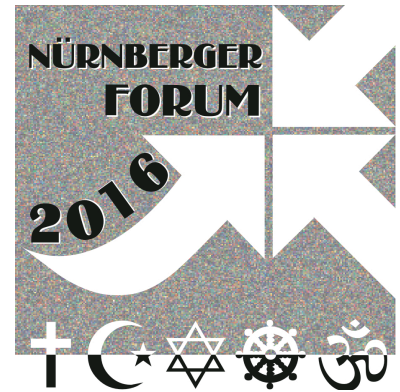


Henrik Simojoki

**Falling Through the Net.  
The Digital Divide as a Challenge for Public Theology,  
Global Learning and Religious Education**



**ABSTRACT**

The digital transformation is one of the most pressing and widely discussed issues both in (Public) Theology and Religious Education. In many cases, however, little if any attention is given to those who are excluded from the public agora of Internet communication. Drawing upon experiences gained in a school-related global networking project, this paper focuses on the “digital divide” and the challenges it poses to Public Theology, Global Learning and Religious Education. First, it points to inappropriate generalizations in the grand narratives of a “Digital Age”, “Digital World”, “Net Generation“, etc. In a next step, central insights into digital inequality are presented, with special regard to the global divide between industrial and developing countries. Finally, possible consequences for Public Theology, Global Learning and Religious Education are highlighted and discussed.