

ICA Pre-conference
May 25th, 2022

Organizers

Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Analysis of the Media (CARISM, University Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas)

Working Group on Internet Governance and Regulation ; Research Network on Internet, AI and Society, Centre Internet et Société (CNRS).

Alternative content regulation on social media

Call for papers

Moderation on social media has generated intense controversies in recent years. Faced with pressure by states and judicial authorities in Western countries to stem hate speech and disinformation online, major platforms have undertaken reforms of their moderation policies. Based on the recruitment of professional moderators, the automation of content detection, the revision of flagging procedures and the curation of publications on newsfeeds, these reforms have been questioned both for their efficiency and the threat they pose on free speech online. In both cases however, the issue of content regulation has mainly been considered through the evolution of relationships between states and platforms.

However, content regulation on social media goes far beyond the relationship between public authorities and firms, and encompasses a wide diversity of actors who develop their own practices of cultural regulation. Journalists develop fact-checking procedures to limit the spread of fake news. Activists put pressure on advertisers in order to cut sources of funding for hate groups. Marketing agencies establish blacklists of sites, groups and channels to avoid funding the latter through online advertising. Social media users put in practice counter-speech strategies in order to stem hate speech on social media discussion groups. Researchers develop transparency and accountability indicators to assess platforms' policies related to content regulation.

The preconference will shed light on alternative practices of content regulation on social media. It aims at gathering researchers from various countries and disciplines around case studies related to civil society initiatives to influence platforms' moderation policies and exert speech policing online.

What influence do these initiatives have on platforms' policies?

What are their conditions for success?

How do they articulate with public authorities or platforms' initiatives?

How do they relate to public opinion?

How do platforms balance conflicts between diverging national social and legal norms related to free speech?

Scholars wishing to present and discuss their work have to submit an abstract up to 1000 words by January 10th.

The abstracts have to be sent to :

carism@u-paris2.fr

romain.badouard@u-paris2.fr

Submissions will undergo blind peer review by the scientific committee.

Keynote Speaker :

Tarleton Gillespie, Senior Principal Researcher at Microsoft Research, Affiliated Associate Professor at Cornell University.

Practical informations

Date :

Wednesday, May 25th, 9h30-17h

Conference venue :

University Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas
92 rue d'Assas
75006 Paris
France

Registration fee :

Free

The preconference is open both to presenters and non-presenters. ICA membership is not required to participate in the preconference.

Contact :

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Scientific committee

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