DIGITAL MEDIA, POLITICAL POLARIZATION AND CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY
AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
21-22 SEPTEMBER 2017 | AUSTRIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

THURSDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER 2017

08.30 – 8.30 a.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Registration

09.15 – 09.30 | 9.15 – 9.30 a.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Welcome
MAREN BEAUFORT | Austrian Academy of Sciences
BRIAN D. LOADER | University of York
JOSEF SEETHALER | Austrian Academy of Sciences

09.30 – 10.15 | 9.30 – 10.15 a.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Keynote I
MICHAEL X. DELLI CARPINI | University of Pennsylvania
Media Regimes, Democracy, and the Digital Information Environment
Chair: MAREN BEAUFORT | Austrian Academy of Sciences

10.15 – 11.00 | 10.15 – 11 a.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Exploring the Field
Chair: STEPHEN LACY | Michigan State University
BRIAN D. LOADER | University of York
What Remains of Digital Democracy in a Time of Post-Truth Populism?
MAREN BEAUFORT & JOSEF SEETHALER | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Title TBA

11.00 – 11.30 | 11 – 11.30 a.m.
Coffee Break
DAY 1: CAUSES AND DEVELOPMENTS THAT LED TO THE CURRENT STATE OF SOCIETY

11.30 – 13.00 | 11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Trump and Brexit: Writings on the Wall?
Chair: BRIAN D. LOADER | University of York
STEPHEN LACY & MICHAEL STAMM | Michigan State University
Digital Media and Polarization in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Election: Dysfunction in the Marketplace of Ideas
MICHAEL BEAM | Kent State University
MYIAH J. HUTCHENS & JAY D. HMIELOWSKI | Washington State University
Facebook News and (De)Polarization: Reinforcing Spirals in the 2016 US Election
DAN MERCEA & MARCO BASTOS | City University of London
Parametrizing Brexit: A Definition and Measurement of Ideological Coordinates in the British Twitter Sphere During the EU Referendum
MAX T. HÁNSKA & STEFAN BAUCHOWITZ | De Montfort University
Twitter’s Political Information Sphere in the Lead-Up to the Brexit Referendum: Eurosceptic Dominance and Homophily

13.00 – 14.30 | 1 – 2.30 p.m.
Lunch

14.30 – 16.15 | 2.30 – 4.15 p.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
Social Media and Political Polarization
Chair: ANAMARIA DUTCEAC SEGESTEN | Lund University
Svetlana S. Bodrunova, Anna Litvinenko, Anna Smoliarova & Ivan Blekanov | St. Petersburg State University
Political Polarization on Twitter: Who is Left and Right in Discussions on Inter-Ethnic Conflicts in Germany, the USA, and Russia of 2010s
Lenka Hrbková, Alena Macková, Michal Tóth & Jacub Macek | Masaryk University Brno
Political News, Trust in Media, and Polarization in the Czech Republic: An Experimental Study
ANTONIO MOMOC | University of Bucharest
New Social Movements – Digital Democracy Manifestations or Social Media Manipulation? The February 2012 Protests in Romania: Piata Victoriei vs. Cotroceni
EKMELE GECER | Sakarya University
Social Media, Politics and Polarisation: The Post-Coup Era in Turkey
Bora Ataman & Bariş Çoban | Dogus University
Media Activism and Counter-Surveillance

14.30 – 16.00 | 2.30 – 4 p.m. | Dachpavillon (Rooftop Pavilion)
Challenges to Democracy: Nationalism, Right-Wing Populism and Hate Speech
Chair: JOSEF SEETHALER | Austrian Academy of Sciences
SHAKUNTALA RAO | SUNY–State University of New York
Making of Selfie Nationalism: Narendra Modi, the Paradigm Shift to Social Media Governance and Crisis of Democracy
LINARDS UDRIS, JENS LUCHT & DANIEL VOGLER | University of Zurich
Right-Wing Populism, Traditional News Media and Social Media – Unholy Alliances?

ANDRÉ HALLER | Otto-Friedrich-University Bamberg
Opinion Leaders and Weirdos – A Field-Theoretical Approach to Study Alternative Right-Wing Media

LIRIAM SPONHOLZ | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Going Viral with Hate Speech? The Role of Group Derogatory Messages in the Agenda Building of the 2016 Austrian Presidential Election Campaign on Facebook

16.15 – 17.30 | 4.15 – 5.30 p.m.
Afternoon Refreshments

17.30 | 5.30 p.m.
Bus Transfer

18.00 | 6 p.m. | ORF–Austrian Broadcasting Corporation, Funkhaus Wien

Public Lecture:

W. LANCE BENNETT | University of Washington

UNDEMOCRATIC DEMOCRACY
MEDIA, INSTITUTIONS AND THE RISE OF THE RADICAL RIGHT

[Working titles]

Discussants: TBA
Anchor: Klaus Unterberger, ORF

FRIDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER 2017

09.00 – 09.45 | 09.00 – 09.45
Keynote II

JÖRG MATTHES | University of Vienna
Overestimating Digital Media for Youth Political Engagement

Chair: BRIAN D. LOADER | University of York

DAY 2: WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW TO MANAGE THE FUTURE

09.45 – 11.15 | 9.45 – 11.15 a.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)
New Pathways to News – Effects and Impacts

Chair: SHAKUNTALA RAO | SUNY–State University of New York

JUDITH MÖLLER, DAMIAN TRILLING, NATALI HELBERGER & BRAM VAN ES | University of Amsterdam
Do not Blame it on the Algorithm – An Empirical Assessment of Multiple Recommender Systems and Their Impact on Content Diversity


**ANA SOFÍA CARDENAL IZQUIERDO** | Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Castelldefels (Barcelona)

**CARLOS AGUILAR-PAREDES & MARIO PÉREZ-MONTORO** | Universitat de Barcelona

Selective Exposure and Digital News: How Pathways to News Online Shape the Information People Get Exposed to

**RAFAEL KÖSTERS & OLAF JANDURA** | Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf

Digital Media Use and Patterns of Polarization in Heterogeneous Audience Groups

**MING M. BOYER & SOPHIE LECHELER** | University of Vienna

The Importance of Social Identities in Political Communication Effects: Social Identity Activation by Political News

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**11.15 – 11.45 | 11.15 – 11.45 a.m.**

Coffee Break

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**11.45 – 13.15 | 11.45 a.m. – 1.15 p.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)**

Changing Dynamics of Public Debates and Campaigns

Chair: **MICHAEL BOSSETTA** | University of Copenhagen

**TIM M. STEVENS, NOELLE AARTS & ART DEWULF** | Wageningen University & Research

The Evolution of Master-Frames in the Public Debate about Livestock Farming: Social Media and Stakeholders Strategies

**BURAK DOGU** | New York University/Izmir University of Economics

**ONUR MAT**

Who Sets the Agenda? Issue Ownership in Turkey’s Political Twittersphere

**JOB MWaura** | University of the Witwatersrand

Media effects on Elections and Governance in Kenya’s 2017 General Elections

**MD SAFIULLAH, PRAMOD PATHAK & SAUMYA SINGH** | Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

Media Coverage and Electoral Harvest – The Indian Election

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**11.45 – 13.00 | 11.45 a.m. – 1 p.m. | Dachpavillon (Rooftop Pavilion)**

Theorizing Changes in Political Communication

Chair: **LIRIAM SPONHOLZ** | Austrian Academy of Sciences

**HARALD RAU** | Ostfalia University, Salzgitter

Mass- or Social!? New Paradigms in Political Communication: Social Network Theory and Its Implications on Online Communication Processes

**JANA LAURA EGELHOFER & SOPHIE LECHELER** | University of Vienna

‘Fake News’ as a Phenomenon of Digitalization? A Conceptualization for Political Communication Research

**SOPHIA KANAOUTI** | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Oscillations of Digital Space and Digital Time: Fragmentation Creating Polarization in Niche Media and the Rise of “Front Organizations”

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**13.15 – 14.45 | 1.15 – 2.45 p.m.**

Lunch
**14.45 – 16.30 | 2.45 – 4.30 p.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)**

**Digital Media and Political Engagement**

**Chair:** EKMELE GECER | Sakarya University

**YUAN HSIAO & YUNKANG YANG** | University of Washington

Commitment in the Cloud? Social Media Participation in the Sunflower Movement

**STEFANO DE MARCO** | University of Salamanca, Faculty of Social Sciences

**JOSÉ MANUEL ROBLES MORALES & MIRKO ANTINO** | Complutense University of Madrid

Between Disintermediation and Normalization: A New Culture of Political Communication? The Big Data and #UnidosPodemos and #BlackLivesMatter Cases

**JACOB GROSHEK & SARAH KRONGARD** | Boston University

Streaming Entertainment and Talking Politics: Social Television in the Shaping of Online and Offline Political Talk During the 2016 Campaign

**ANAMARIA DUTECEAC SEGESTEN** | Lund University

**MICHAEL BOSSETTA** | University of Copenhagen

**DUIJE BONACCI** | University of Zagreb

Civic Deliberation and Public Contestation on Facebook: The Case of Brexit

**MORAN YARCHI & TAL SAMUEL-ARZAN** | Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya

Women Politicians are More Engaging: Male versus Female Politicians’ Ability to Generate Users’ Engagement on Social Media During an Election Campaign

**16.30 – 17.45 | 4.30 – 5.45 p.m. | Sitzungssaal (Conference Hall)**

**Keynote III and Closing Discussion**

**BARBARA PFETSCH** | Freie Universität Berlin

Title TBA

**Chair:** JOSEF SEETHALER | Austrian Academy of Sciences

**19.00 – | 7 p.m. –**

**Conference Dinner**

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** CONFERENCE INFORMATION **

**Venues:**
The conference takes place at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (1010 Wien, Doktor Ignaz Seipel-Platz 2)

Conference Hall: 1st floor; Rooftop Pavilion: 3rd floor
21 September 2017, 18.00 | 6 p.m. – Lecture by W. Lance Bennett:
Austrian Broadcasting Corporation ORF, "Funkhaus Wien" (1040 Wien, Argentinierstraße 30a; bus transfer for all participants!)

Organizers:
Brian D. Loader | University of York
Maren Beaufort & Josef Seethaler | Austrian Academy of Sciences

Conference Assistants:
Valentina Dopona & Ingrid Serini | Austrian Academy of Sciences

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