International Symposium
"Indicators of Social Cohesion in Social Media and Online Media"
April 24 to 26, 2024
betahaus | Schanze, Eifflerstraße 43, 22769 Hamburg

Day 1, April 24

4 p.m. Arrival & Registration

4 – 5.30 p.m. Get-Together & Networking

5.30 – 6 p.m. Opening of the Conference

6 – 9 p.m. Context Collapse

My War is Your Special Operation: How Social Media Reinforce and Undermine Social Cohesion Regarding Russia's War in Ukraine
Mykola Makhotykh, University Bern &
Aleksandra Urman, University of Zurich

Activism and Polarization within the Chinese Digital Diaspora
Meg Jing Zeng, Utrecht University

Moderation: Jan Rau, Research Institute Social Cohesion at the Leibniz Institute for Media Research | HBI, Hamburg

9 – 10 p.m. Networking with Fingerfood and Drinks
Day 2, April 25

9 – 10 a.m. Welcome Coffee & Networking

10 – 11 a.m. Keynote 1
Dynamics of Destructive Polarization in Mainstream and Social Media: The Case of the Australian Voice to Parliament Referendum
Axel Bruns, Digital Media Research Centre, Queensland University of Technology

11.15 – 12.45 p.m. Panel 1
Drivers of Polarized Media Debates: The Case of (Disruptive) Climate Protests
Michael Brüggemann & Hendrik Meyer, University of Hamburg and The New Institute

Watching the Greens? Predictors and Contingencies of Partisan Online Information Seeking
Cornelius Puschmann, University of Bremen

Not really – What Experts from Business and Journalism Know about Digital Disinformation
Christian Stöcker, HAW Hamburg

Lunch

2 – 3 p.m. Keynote 2
Digital Spaces as Challenges for Social Cohesion: Alternative (Social) Media and the Dissemination of Distrust and Conspiracy Theories
Lena Frischlich, Digital Democracy Centre, University of Southern Denmark
Panel 2

Science Communicators, Flat Earthers or Fitness Coaches? Who is Citing Academic Publications in YouTube Video Descriptions?
Katrin Weller, GESIS – Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Cologne

Let’s talk it out: Getting LLM to Talk to Each Other as a Tool to Understand Conversations and Interaction Online, Offline, and on Different Platforms
Ethan C. Busby, Brigham Young University [remote presentation]

Do you see what I see? Emotional Reaction to Visual Content in the Online Debate about Climate Change
Luca Rossi, IT University of Copenhagen [remote presentation]

Walk & Talk, including a Ferryride in the Hamburg Harbour

8 p.m. Conference Dinner at Restaurant Engel, Ferry Pier Teufelsbrück

Day 3, April 26

9 – 10 a.m. Welcome Coffee & Networking

10 – 11 a.m. Keynote 3
Social Media and Polarization: From Opinions to Identity
Petter Törnberg, University of Amsterdam

11.15 – 12.45 p.m. Panel 3
The Dynamic Journalistic Intermediation Model (DJIM) – Approaches to Social Cohesion in the Networked Public Sphere.
Jakob Ohme, Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society
Polarization in the German Twittersphere - an Analysis of Twitter Trends between 2021 and 2023  
Eckehard Olbrich, Max Planck Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences

Affording Conspiracism. Particularities of Conspiracy-Related Communication Across Platforms  
Annett Heft, Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society and Free University of Berlin

13 – 14 p.m.  
The Social Media Observatory as a DIY-Infrastructure  
Felix V. Münch, Research Institute Social Cohesion at the Leibniz Institute for Media Research | HBI, Hamburg

“Kernkraft? Ja, bitte!”: Changing values on nuclear energy in the social media debate  
Gregor Wiedemann, Research Institute Social Cohesion at the Leibniz Institute for Media Research | HBI, Hamburg

14 – 14.30 p.m.  
Wrap up & Closing Discussion

Lunch & Farewell