Social Media and Everyday International Relations:

Digital narratives of security, identity, and global orders

Amsterdam, 12 – 14 July 2023

Preliminary Programme

Thursday 13 July

Session 1. Wars

9:00 – 10:30

- "Unleash the hounds!": Humor as a means of the Russian-Ukrainian information warfare – Eva Diana Chantal Johais (Chr. Michelsen Institute), Mareike Meis (Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany)
- Battles on The 'Fourth Frontier': A Dromological Analysis of the First 'TikTok W@r' – Yuting He (University of Cambridge)
- Neutrality contested? - Brazilian social media influencers discourses about the Russian Invasion in Ukraine – Nuppu-Maija Pelevina (University of Helsinki)

Session 2. Digital hate I

11:00 – 12:30

- Cucktales: Race, Sex, and Enjoyment in the Reactionary Memescape - Uygar Baspehlivan (University of Bristol)
- Hyperreality, Internet Memes and Stochastic Terrorism - Bart Sebastiaan Gabriel (Geneva Graduate Institute)
- "The carnival of hate: mainstreaming misogyny in American politics" – Lisa Gaufman (University of Groningen)

Session 3. Digital hate II

14:00 – 15:30

- From Let's Go Brandon to Dark Brandon Rises: Competing Visions of America under Biden - Julian Schmid (Institute of International Relations Prague), Robert Saunders (Farmingdale State College), Joel Vessels (Nassau Community College)
- Going Coronaviral: Trump's (De)securitisation of COVID-19 and the Balkanisation of Alt-right Audiences – Cian Luddy (Queen's University Belfast)
- Race, gender, and Occidentalism in global alt-right discourses – Chenchen Zhang (Durham University)

Session 4. Securitization

16:00 – 17:30

- The Iranian Meme Network: IUVM Pixel and the Securitisation of Domestic and Foreign "Threats" – Thomas Joseph Walsh (Durham University)
- The politicization of foreign disinformation – Scott Radnitz (EUI)
- Strategic smear of COVID-19 conspiracy theories: RT´s and Sputnik´s coronavirus representations – Mari-Liis Madisson (Tartu University), Andreas Ventsel (Tartu University)

Friday 14 July

Session 5. Technopolitics and identity

9:00 – 10:45

- The technopolitics of the everyday: Toward a postphenomenological theory of digital world politics – Daniel Møller Ølgaard (Lund University)
- Gas-lighting the Olympic Flame: Online Expressions of Islamophobia and Chinese Nationalism at the 2022 Beijing Olympic Opening Ceremonies – David Stroup (University of Manchester)
- Analysing the emotional resonance of identity discourses on Chinese social media – Nicholas Olczak (Stockholm University)
- DIY-Online Reconciliation? The Role of Memes in Navigating Inter-Group Boundaries in the Context of Sri Lanka's 2022 Political Crisis - Andreas Timo Hirblinger (Geneva Graduate Institute), Hasini A. Haputhantri (International Centre for Ethnic Studies), Sara Kallis (Geneva Graduate Institute)

Session 6. Transnationalism and protest

11:00 – 12:45

- Transnational media use among youth with migration background in Germany. A discussion on cosmopolitanism from below – Cigdem Bozdag (University of Groningen)
- Transnationalism via Memes: Subtle Curry Traits, Facebook and South Asian Culture Across Borders – Palak Maheshwari (OP Jindal Global University)
- The Assemblage of Digitality and Transnational Activism in Asia: An Hybrid Ethnographic Study of Taiwan's Grassroots Engagement in the #MilkTeaAlliance Pro-Democratic Activism – Chengyu Yang (SOAS)
- Rationality and affect – instructions as a form of care in Russian protest online networks – Anna Kalinina (Leuphana University), Natasha Tyshkevich (Potsdam University)

Conclusion/brainstorming for future plans 14:00 – 15:00