



CENTRO DE EXCELÊNCIA JEAN MONNET JEAN MONNET CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

WORKSHOP ON DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND NARRATIVE BUILDING 6 HOURS | 21 JULY 2022

This workshop focuses on the processes and implications of digital security threats, building on a critical analysis of the use of technologies and narrative construction. Structured around four key questions – why? how? what? and which implications? – it explores the nexus technology-politics, looking at various forms of information manipulation and narrative-building to better understand their impact on national and international politics. This workshop aims, therefore, to highlight the centrality of discursive contexts and technological possibilities in the building of meaning and knowledge practices, from an interdisciplinary perspective, bringing together computer analysis, linguistics, and international relations. This pathbreaking approach is much needed to overcome narrow and static readings in an area of research so fundamental for our daily lives as much as for international politics.

Schedule:

9h - Welcome and team/participants' presentation
9h15-11h15 - How? **Paulo Rupino Cunha**
11h30 - 13h30 - Why? **Clara Keating**
15h-16h - What? **Teresa Almeida Cravo**
16h-17h - Which implications? **Alexandre Sousa Carvalho**
17h - Closing remarks and participants' assessment

How?

Looking at various uses of technology and reflecting on their ethical and political repercussions on our daily lives.

Why?

Different interpretations of events associated with narrative manipulation raise questions about the mechanisms of production of (macro) narratives, and the resulting challenges of information manipulation, regarding the ways we interpret the world around us.

What?

Examining concrete cases of narrative manipulation through digital technologies, using the example of Russia: how narratives are built and represented through different techniques and mechanisms of dissemination, such as fake news, deep fake or computational propaganda, and with what ethical, political and diplomatic impact.

Which implications?

Zooming in on a particular example of narrative manipulation in Russia's relations with other international actors, to deepen the discussion of the specific mechanism of production of a narrative and its concrete implications.

A **Certificate of Attendance** will be issued for those attending the full Workshop.

This Workshop is free, but registration is needed at <https://tinyurl.com/ypj7tte5> until the 10th of July. Selection will be on a first come first served basis.



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TEAM



Alexandre de Sousa Carvalho

Guest Assistant Lecturer of the courses *Contemporary Media and Culture* and *Political Communication* at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Coimbra. Alex is a researcher at DeCode/M, where he facilitates the thematic area Populism and Extreme Masculinities. His work crosscuts different areas, ranging from international relations, critical internet studies, peace studies and political science.



Clara Keating

Professor of Linguistics and Anglo-American Studies at the School of Arts and Humanities and Researcher at the Centre for Social Studies. She works on themes of language and discourse, multilingual literacies and migration from critical sociolinguistic perspectives.



Paulo Rupino Cunha

Professor in the Department of Informatics Engineering of the Faculty of Science and Technology, specialist in Information Systems. Has been studying impacts of technology on society, namely ethical and cybersecurity concerns.



Teresa Almeida Cravo

Professor of International Relations at the Faculty of Economics of the University of Coimbra and Researcher at the Centre for Social Studies. She works on themes related to peace and violence, global interventionism and European cooperation policies, as well as representations and narratives, from a critical perspective.