International Terrorism and Social Media Conference #TASMConf Swansea University, UK 28-29 June 2022

Call for Papers and Proposals for Breakout Sessions

Call for papers

We are pleased to invite submissions for papers to be presented at the Terrorism and Social Media conference 2022. Submissions on all aspects of terrorism, extremism and social media (widely construed) will be considered, including ones focusing on methodological issues. Submissions on the ethical issues surrounding internet-mediated terrorism research are also encouraged.

The first day of the conference will focus on terrorists' use of social media. The following are illustrative examples of the topics that will be considered:

- What can we learn about terrorist groups and lone actors from their use of social media?
- What tactics and strategies are used to disseminate terrorist propaganda?
- How are different platforms being used by terrorist groups and sympathizers? How are multiple platforms used in combination?
- The implications of social media platforms' affordances when used by extremists
- How do terrorist groups regulate conversation and communication within their social network platforms?
- What is the role, and effect, of user generated content?
- How if at all are social media platforms being used by terrorist groups for fundraising purposes?
- What is the effect of a terrorist attack on online social media posts by terrorist and extremist actors?

The second day of the conference will focus on our responses to terrorists' use of social media. The following are illustrative examples of the topics that will be considered:

- How effective are global, national and local strategies, and how should these types of strategy interact?
- How effective are hard and soft forms of response? How should the effectiveness of counterterrorism laws/policies and preventing/countering violent extremism campaigns be assessed?
- Are social media companies doing enough to regulate terrorist content on their platforms? Are their efforts at regulation satisfactory and sufficiently transparent?
- What should be the future direction of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism? Is an independent regulatory body needed?
- Do state responses show sufficient regard for the privacy of citizens and other basic principles?
- Can data from social media be used to identify individuals who are at risk of radicalization and to predict future terrorist activity?

We are particularly keen to receive proposals that:

• Consider the issues above from an empirical basis.

- Utilise innovative methodologies, including computational techniques, for the analysis of terrorists' and extremists' use of social media
- Consider forms of violent extremism besides jihadism and the radical right
- Consider issues related to gender, including issues beyond simply "women"
- Consider smaller social media platforms and/or draw cross-platform comparisons
- Examine geographical areas beyond the U.K., Australia and North America
- Examine non-English language materials and draw cross-language comparisons

To submit your proposal, please send: (1) the title of your presentation; (2) an abstract of up to 200 words; and, (3) your CV (no longer than two pages) to TASMConf@swansea.ac.uk no later than Friday 1st October 2021.

Following the conference, selected papers will be published in a journal special issue. To be considered for inclusion, authors should submit the full text of their article to TASMConf@swansea.ac.uk no later than Friday 24th June 2022.

Proposals for breakout sessions

Breakout sessions at #TASMConf are 90 minutes in duration. The standard format is three presentations (20 minutes each), followed by Q&A (30 minutes).

We will be pleased to receive proposals for panels or other breakout sessions that employ a different format. Examples include:

- Panels with a greater number of shorter presentations, with a central unifying theme
- Roundtable and workshop-style sessions, particularly ones led by non-academic stakeholders
- Training sessions, particularly ones aimed at early career researchers

To submit a proposal for a breakout session, please send: (1) a description of the session (no longer than one page); and, (2) the CVs of those delivering the session to TASMConf@swansea.ac.uk no later than Friday 26th November 2021.

Information on previous TASM Conferences is available <u>here</u>.