Special Issue

The Impact of Algorithms on Public Opinion: Disinformation, Social Media Use and Generative Artificial Intelligence

Message from the Guest Editor

Although not a phenomenon exclusive to our time, disinformation has been a focal point in communication research since 2016. Scholars and analysts such as Graves, D'Ancona, McIntyre, and McNair, among others, have concentrated their efforts to understanding the causes, motivations, dissemination processes, and the political, economic, cultural, and social implications of fake news. This Special Issue represents one of the greatest challenges that the media system and society at large must face today, especially during crises, emergencies, or electoral periods. Simultaneously, social media has radically transformed the way information is distributed and consumed in contemporary society. The ease with which unverified content can be shared on these platforms has led to the spread of erroneous information, which can have serious consequences for public opinion and decision-making. This Special Issue aims to gather theoretical or empirical works on the convergence between social media, disinformation, and AI to reflect on the impact algorithms have on social representations and the formation of public opinion.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Societies (ISSN 2075-4698) is an interdisciplinary journal that brings together different scientific approaches to engage with societal questions to enhance our understanding of the social realm throughout history. The journal publishes original empirical research papers, literature reviews, and conceptual papers. Our aim is to publish papers that have a significant impact on addressing present and emerging societal questions. Therefore, we encourage researchers to publish their results in as much detail as possible. For empirical research papers and literature reviews, all experimental details must be provided, so that the results are reproducible. We also encourage the publication of timely theoretical pieces on topics of interest to existing and emerging societal questions. Papers are either published in the open journal or in Special Issues devoted to specific topics of interest to the field.

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