
VI. Notes from the Editor

Conference Announcement

Terrorism and Social Media: An International Conference

Swansea University, June 27-28, 2017

The Terrorism and Social Media conference will bring together a range of researchers, policy-makers and practitioners, from a number of different countries and disciplinary backgrounds. Keynote speakers will include Sir John Scarlett, Prof. Philip Bobbitt, Prof. Maura Conway, and Prof. Bruce Hoffman. Attendees will also have the opportunity to choose from a total of 16 breakout sessions featuring 48 other speakers. The conference will be hosted at Swansea University's new £450m Bay Campus on 27-28 June 2017. More information about the conference can be found on the following website:

<http://terrorismandsocialmedia.com/>

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to invite submissions for papers to be presented at the Terrorism and Social Media conference. Submissions on all aspects of terrorism and social media (widely construed) will be considered, including ones focusing on methodological issues.

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?
- Is it possible to track the release and dissemination of terroristic content on social media – and, if so, what do these insights tell us?
- To what extent do terrorist groups engage in hashtag hijacking to propagate their messages?
- Has Twitter had its day? What other social network platforms are being used by terrorist groups online?
- How social is social media? Can individuals be radicalized online?
- How do terrorist groups regulate conversation and communication within their social network platforms?
- What is the effect of a terrorist attack on online social media posts by terrorist and extremist actors?

We are particularly keen to receive proposals that consider these issues from an empirical basis.

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 and local strategies, and how should these two types of strategy interact?
- How effective are hard and soft forms of response – and how should effectiveness be measured?
- Should social media companies regulate terrorist content – and, if so, are they doing enough?

- Do state responses show sufficient regard for the privacy of citizens and other basic principles?
- Has the suspension of terrorist social media accounts pushed them onto other platforms?
- Should we look past anonymity on social media and identify extremist actors online – and, if so, how?
- Can data from social media be used to identify individuals who are at risk of radicalization and to predict future terrorist activity?

Whilst submissions on all forms of violent extremism and social media will be welcomed, we are particularly keen to receive submissions on violent extremisms other than jihadism and on non-mainstream social media.

To submit your proposal, please send: (1) the title of your presentation; (2) an abstract of up to 250 words; and, (3) a brief (one paragraph) biography to TASMConf@swansea.ac.uk no later than Friday 30th September 2016.