

War and the Internet: new research on cyber and communication technologies

Pre-Conference Workshop

2017 Peace Science Society Meeting (International)

Tempe, AZ, November 2, 2017

9:45-5:00 pm

Location: Memorial Union (MU) building, MU 248 Rincon

Organizers

Anita Gohdes, University of Zurich, gohdes@ipz.uzh.ch

Nadiya Kostyuk, University of Michigan, nadiya@umich.edu

Dinner on Thursday, November 2nd:

6:30 pm at House of Tricks: <https://www.houseoftricks.com/dinner-menu/>

(Sponsored by the Department of Political Science, University of Zurich)

Schedule

9:45– 10.00: Welcoming Remarks

10:00– 10:30: Session 1: *Technology and its Effects in IR Research*

- Yonathan Lupu & Tiberiu Dragu: “Does Technology Undermine Authoritarian Regimes?”

10:30: Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30: Session 2: *Data Innovations*

- Nadiya Kostyuk: “The Coevolution of Cyber Attack Networks and State Cybersecurity Capabilities”
- Nils Weidmann: “The Internet and Mass Protest in Autocracies”
- Anita Gohdes: “How world leaders use social media during contentious politics”

12.30 – 1.30: Lunch (boxed lunches will be served)

1:30 – 2:30 Discussion 1: Interdisciplinary Collaboration: Challenges and opportunities of working with an interdisciplinary team of researchers

- *Moderator:* Nadiya Kostyuk
- *Input:* Nils Weidmann; Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld, Jaclyn Kerr

Questions to ask: Experiences on collaborating with scholars from other fields (e.g. computer science) and/or private sector (e.g. Twitter/Facebook), and/or government agencies?

Challenges? Rewards?

2.30 – 2.45 – Coffee Break

2.45 – 3.45– Section 3: *New Areas of Cybersecurity Research*

- Zachary Steinert-Threlkeld “The Impact of Internet Blackouts on Social Media Use Cross-Nationally”
- Jaclyn Kerr: “Information, Security, and Authoritarian Stability: Internet Policy Diffusion and Collaboration in the Former Soviet Region”

4.00 – 4.45: Topic 2: Outlook/ Next steps

- *Moderator:* Anita Gohdes

Questions to ask: Where do we see the main innovations in the current research on cyber-and communication technology? Where do we see the main opportunities for future innovation? How can we work towards making this research program more visible within peace and conflict studies? What are the main challenges when studying the Internet and contentious politics? What funding opportunities seem most promising?

6.30: Dinner at *House of Tricks* (see above for details)

Participants

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