

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Governing the Digital Age: AI, Platforms, and Online Harms Policy

October 12–14, 2026 | Hybrid | Annual IDeaS Conference  
Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA



Carnegie Mellon University's [Center for Information Democracy & Social – cybersecurity \(IDeaS\)](#) is hosting a conference focused on policy challenges emerging from the rapidly evolving landscape of artificial intelligence and digital platforms. Advances in AI systems, shifts in platform governance, and the scale and speed of online communication are transforming how information is produced, distributed, and consumed. At the same time, online harms – including illegal, abusive, and deceptively manipulated content – are increasingly linked to offline social and economic outcomes, with significant implications for democratic institutions and communities. This conference asks: How are AI systems and platforms governed today? Who is responsible for mitigating digital harms? What policy frameworks can balance innovation, accountability, and public trust?

IDeaS will bring together academics, policymakers, industry practitioners, and civil society leaders to evaluate the state of the field, identify gaps in current approaches, and share insights to inform future research and policy. Participants will engage with topics such as AI governance, platform regulation, online harms policy, and the real-world impacts of digital systems.

The conference will include: invited panels, regular talks, and posters. There will also be an opportunity for those interested in demoing their technologies or proposed policies. **Teams are invited to submit their proposed solutions to a timely policy challenge concerning AI overviews in web search results.** Submissions should be uploaded via [EasyChair](#) by **August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026**.

### Relevant Dates

<b>Papers, Demos, Posters, and Challenge Solution submissions</b>	August 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2026
Author Notification	September 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
Final Files Due	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2026

Selected papers and challenge problem winners will be nominated for an extended version to be submitted to a special issue of *Computational and Mathematical Organization Theory*.

### Submission Information

- **Papers:** The papers must be in English and MUST be formatted according to the Springer-Verlag LNCS/LNAI guidelines. [View sample LaTeX2e and WORD files and instructions here.](#) All regular paper submissions should be submitted as a paper with a maximum of **10 pages**. Total page count includes all figures, tables, and references.
- **Posters and Demos:** A one or two-page abstract detailing the content of your poster or demo and the research to be presented should be submitted for consideration. Please use the same paper formatting guidelines above for papers.
- **Challenge Response:** Submit an approximately **15-page report** addressing the challenge problem. What are users' perspectives on AI overviews, and how might changes in design and disclosure requirements enhance their evaluation? The focus is on developing user-centric disclosure criteria for AI overviews displayed in web search results.

**For additional details on submission requirements and information about the Challenge Problem, please visit our website: <https://www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/events/conference-2026.html>**