



# Center for Informed Democracy and Social Cybersecurity

Carnegie Mellon's center for the study of disinformation, hate speech and extremism online



## IDEAS CENTER SPRING & SUMMER EVENTS:

### Spring Seminar Series

Select Tuesdays Via Zoom

Join us for presentations from researchers and industry professionals who focus on disinformation, online harms and social cybersecurity.

### IdeaS Summer Institute

June 2023

The IDEAS Summer Institute is a hands-on training camp that teaches participants about the theories, methods, and tools to identify and combat disinformation, hate speech, and extremism online. This institute is aimed at graduate students, faculty, and personnel from industry, education and government who want to learn more about social-cybersecurity, an emerging field of research and policy.

### IdeaS Conference

August 2023

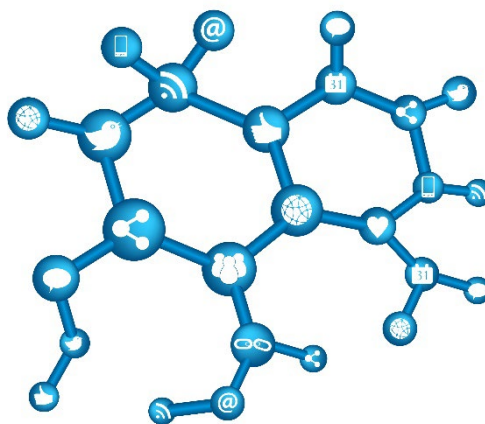
IDEAS will host a hybrid conference on disinformation, hate speech, and extremism online in August 2023. This conference aims to advance the science of social-cybersecurity through research and applications in these areas.

Interested in getting involved with IDEAS? Find out how to become a member [HERE](#)

## SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

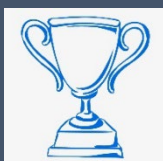
### KICKING OFF 2023



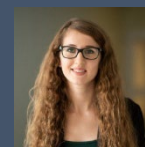
Designed by soleilc (Image #791375 at VectorStock.com)

In January, the Center hosted a workshop on 'Linking Online Activity to Offline Behavior' at Carnegie Mellon University January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The invite-only workshop brought together researchers from diverse fields of study to discuss the critical research needed to understand the impact of the digital world on the physical/physiological and vice versa. Topics included politics, social behavior, health, and technology. Comments and summary of the workshop will be compiled to share with the broader community in a special issue forthcoming later this Spring.

## NEWS



- **Award winner:** Iuliia Alieva and Kathleen M. Carley, 2022, "How Disinformation Operations against Russian Opposition Leader Alexei Navalny Influence International Community," 3rd place and top paper presentation at AEJMC, August 2022 (Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication)
- Knight Fellow Catherine King and IDEAS Postdoc Researcher Iuliia Alieva gave a presentation to local community health workers and people from the health department in Pennsylvania about social media conversations around COVID-19 issues this past Fall. The presentation included discussions related to COVID-19 regulations, mandates, masks, pro-and anti-vaccination campaigns, science messages, misinformation, disinformation, conspiracy theories, and vaccine hesitancy messages in Pennsylvania.



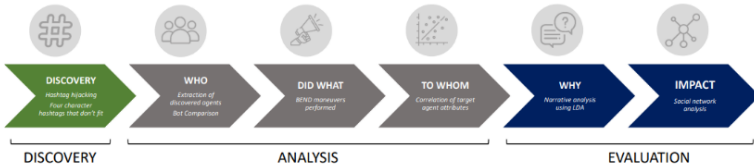
## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Thomas Magelinski, Lynnette H.X. Ng, and Kathleen M. Carley, 2022, Synchronized Action Framework for Detection of Coordination on Social Media. *Journal of Online Trust and Safety*, 1(2). <http://dx.doi.org/10.54501/jots.v1i2.30>.
- Joshua Uyheng, Iain J. Cruickshank and Kathleen M. Carley, 2022, Mapping State-Sponsored Information Operations with Multi-View Modularity Clustering. *EPJ Data Sci.* 11, 25 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1140/epjds/s13688-022-00338-6>.

[www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/news1/mediamentions.html](http://www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/news1/mediamentions.html)

# RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

[www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/research/](http://www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/research/)



## From Curious Hashtags to Polarized Effect: Profiling Coordinated Actions in Indonesian Twitter Discourse

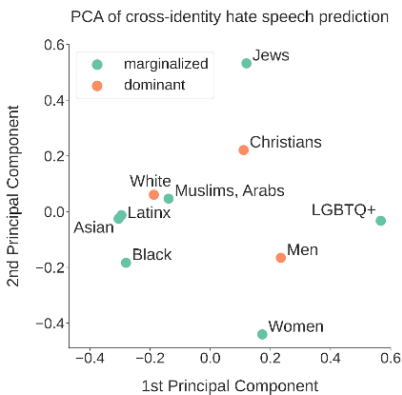
Lynnette Ng, Knight Fellow



Coordinated action is action performed by a group of people working together to deliberately manipulate the online conversation.

Social media is crucial in how the public consumes and processes information. Due to this fact, the medium has become a battleground of sorts, with actors pulling coordinated actions to push their narrative to the public. Researchers far and wide have tried to analyze these coordinated actions, noting that these actions can materialize into serious risks that threaten security and stability at the global, national, and local levels.

[READ MORE](#)



Visual representation of similarities and differences between hate speech directed at different identity groups

## Hating who? Exploring differences in hate speech by target

Michael Miller Yoder, IDEaS Center Postdoc Researcher



Social media and online forums have become the latest domains to spread rhetoric that targets people and groups based on their identities. This discourse has serious offline consequences, inspiring attacks on marginalized groups from Pittsburgh in 2018 to Buffalo in 2022.

To handle hate speech at the scale of social media, tech companies turn to automated methods to detect content that might be considered hate speech. However, detecting hate speech is a complex problem. [READ MORE](#)

## IDEaS CENTER RECENT GRADUATES

[www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/people/](http://www.cmu.edu/ideas-social-cybersecurity/people/)



### RAMON VILLA-COX

Ramon's research centered in the study of polarized Twitter communities, and the spread of disinformation through them, during contentious events. Ramon's future plans, after graduation, include continuing this line of research while he continues to work in academia.



### CORI FLAKARIS

Cori is a recent graduate from the Human Computer Interaction Institute (HCII). While at CMU, Cori's research focused on usable privacy and security and how people's security attitudes and social environments weigh in their decisions to adopt certain behaviors. Cori is now an assistant Professor at University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

