

CEDMO International Conference

Dilemmas in European Democracy: Is the Community Heading Towards Political Nightfall and Technological Anomy?

Date: 6 November 2023

Venue: Charles University, Ovocný trh 541/3, Vlastenecký sál

Description and Goals

The conference will bring together experts from various fields, and explore a wide range of pressing topics, such as elections in the CEE region, the role of fact-checking and democracy, technological challenges and regulatory responses, the role of AI in the media, and a new approach toward media literacy, all representing key instruments in dealing with disinformation disorders. We will proudly welcome experts and important stakeholders – including EU and CEE representatives, NGOs, academics, journalists, legislators, and technology actors who will discuss these topics across three panels:

The participants will share their insights on a range of pressing issues, including elections in the CEE region or the role of AI in the media and disinformation landscape.

Program

9:00 - 9:45 Registration

9:45 - 11:00 Welcoming Remarks and Introduction

Moderator: Jastinder Khera, AFP

Speakers:

- Václav Moravec, CEDMO - Welcome to CIC2023
- Petr Pavel, President of the Czech Republic (video)
- Milena Králíčková, Charles University
- Věra Jourová, European Commission
- Luciano Floridi, University of Oxford (video)
- Paolo Cesarini, European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO)
- Robert Ivanschitz, Microsoft
- Alan Záruba - Introducing isotypes and an exhibition related to CEDMO research

11:00 - 11:20 Coffee Break

11:20 - 12:20 Panel I. *The Impact of Recent Elections on Democracy Prospects in Central Europe*

This panel takes stock of recent elections in Slovakia and Poland. It will deal with their implications for the respective countries and the wider region. The role of disinformation spread, the role of media, and the impact of democracy (backsliding) will be discussed.

Moderator: Nik Hynek, CEDMO

Speakers:

- **Karina Stasiuk-Krajewska**, CEDMO/SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities
- **Roman Imielski**, Gazeta Wyborcza
- **Péter Kréko**, Political Capital, HDMO
- **Vít Beneš**, Metropolitan University Prague
- **Michal Kormaňák**, Ipsos

12:20 - 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 - 14:30 Panel II. *AI-related Challenges and Regulatory Responses*

Exponential technology, mainly generative AI including deep fakes, and related challenges for regulators to comprehend it fully and approach it in an expertly, informed manner will be the cornerstone of this panel. EU-wide and country-specific regulatory (mis)fit, the role and responsibility of the corporate sector and academic reflections on striking a balance between such technological mainstreaming and precautionary regulation will be addressed.

Moderator: Jakub Šimko, KInIT

Speakers:

- **Ivan Srba**, Kempellen Institute of Intelligent Technologies
- **Krisztina Stump**, Head of the Media Convergence and Social Media Unit, EC
- **Dominika Hajdu**, GLOBSEC
- **Jiří Matas**, Czech Technical University
- **Jana Soukupová**, CEDMO/Charles University
- **Julia Schvarcová**, Google

14:30 - 14:50 Coffee Break

14:50 - 15:50 Panel III. *Rethinking Media Literacy and Fact Checking*

Our final panel scrutinizes the state and new trends in fact checking and media literacy. One of the trends has been a growing overlap between the two activities, as neither of them has been a panacea for necessary corrections in existing information disorders. The panel will feature a discussion of meta-approach to media literacy, processes of standardization and best practices, and existing and future technological solutions.

Moderator: Jastinder Khera, AFP

Speakers:

- **Sally Reynolds**, Media & Learning Association/EDMOeu
- **Lucie Šťastná**, Charles University
- **Filip Trhlík**, Verifée
- **Jochen Spangenberg**, Deutsche Welle
- **Petr Gongala**, Demagog
- **Joyce Zablitz**, AFP

15:50 - 16:05 Closing Remarks

18:00 - 19:00 Dinner, Reception areas, Charles University