Social Media Networks and Ideological Polarization:
Power Relations and Socio-Cultural Impact

1-2 March 2023

Day One: 1 March 2023	
9:00-9:40	**Opening session**
9:00-9:10	**Hassan Rashid Al-Derham**, President of Qatar University
9:10-9:20	**Mostefa Souag,** Director General of Al Jazeera Media Network
9:20-9:30	**Mohammed Mukhtar Al Khalil,** Director of Al Jazeera Centre for Studies
9:30-9:40	**Basyouni Hamada,** Head of the Department of Mass Communication, Qatar University
9:40-10:40	**Keynote speaker** **Manuel Castells**, Social Media and Political Polarization
10:40-11:10	Discussion
11:10-11:40	Break
11:40-1:10	**Session One:** International Balances of Power and their Impact on the Structure and Performance of Social Media Networks
11:40-11:55	**Bruce Mutsvairo,** Decoding Digital Participation through the Promotion of Equitable Social Practices
11:55-12:10	**Mohamed Erraji,** The Strategies of Social Media Networks in Producing Ideologies and Rhetorical Dominance: A Study of Israeli Discourse on Twitter and Facebook
12:10-12:25	**Nigel Nyamutumbu,** Accountability and Transparency in Social Media and the Fight against Fake News

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12:25-12:40	**Mohammed El Bouzidi,** Framing the Issue of Ukrainian and Middle Eastern Refugees and Asylum Seekers in the Tweets of French Press
12:40-1:10	Discussion
1:10-2:10	Lunch
2:10-3:40	**Session Two:** The Economic Interests and Cultural Wars of Social Media Networks
2:10-2:25	**Guy Berger,** Social Media Monopoly, Hate Speech and Cultural Wars
2:25-2:40	**Fatma Elzahraa Elsayed**, The Aspects of Ideological Polarisation between Muslims and Hindus on TikTok
2:40-2:55	**Winston Mano,** The Scramble of Big Techs for the Global South and its Ramifications
2:55-3:10	**Noureddine Miladi, Anwar Alorfe,** The War on the Palestinian Narrative: Obstructing Palestinian Content on Social Media Platforms
3:10-3:40	Discussion
3:40-4:10	**Launch of Al Jazeera for Communication and Media Studies Journal**
Day Two: 2 March 2023	
9:00-10:00	**Keynote speaker** **Nabil Dajani,** The Ethical and Legal Structure for a Just Social media Public Sphere
10:00-10:30	Discussion
10:30-11:00	Break

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11:00-12:30	**Session Three:** The Legislations and Ethics of Social Media Networks: Current Problems and Future Aspirations
11:00-11:15	**Victor Pickard,** Uncovering the Structural Roots of Misinformation: Is Another Media System Possible?
11:15-11:30	**Imed Ben Labidi,** Narrating the Occupation: Digital Media and Palestinian Resistance
11:30-11:45	**Hicham El Makki,** The Ethics of Social Media Networks from the Ethics of Content to Ethical Design: Facebook as a Model
11:45-12:00	**Abdulrahman Al-Shami**, The Role of Arabic Platforms for News Verification in Fighting Disinformation: An Analytical Study
12:00-12:30	Discussion
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-3:00	**Session Four:** Social Media Networks in the Arab World: The Globalisation of the Medium and the Distinctiveness of the Context
1:30-1:45	**Nacer-Eddine Layadi,** Social Media and Public Spheres in the Arab World: Theses and Antitheses for Reflection and Research
1:45-2:00	**Mutasim Babiker Mustafa,** The Impact of Social Media Networks on the Growth of Populist Discourse and its Ideologies: Sudan as a Case Study
2:00-2:15	**Mohammed El-Fatih Hamdi, Hicham Akoubach and Fatiha Zmamouch,** The Use of Social Media Platforms and its Relationship to Ideological Polarization in the Arab Region: A Meta-Analytical Reading of a Sample of Previous Studies

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2:15-2:30	**Yamine Boudhane,** Fake News, their Effect on Confidence in Digital Content and their Implications for the Professional Identities of Media Institutes
2:30-3:00	Discussion
3:00-3:30	**Award ceremony for the members of the conference organising committee**

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