

## ECSM 2024

11th European Conference on Social Media

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### Mini Track on Social Media Challenges and Security

Mini Track Chair: Prof. Maria-Magdalena Popescu, Carol I National Defense University, Bucharest, Romania



The proliferation of unconventional weapons triggered by technological progress have raised the threat level for individuals and society through the uncertainty generated by managing words and images, through AI algorithms and through social engineering techniques. Also, the rapid growth of social media has allowed for the information to be disseminated and identified in a reckless manner. Deepfakes, centred on economic or political attacks, and fake news, acting on democracy and social systems, are the products that state and non-state actors use, aimed at weakening security in general and human security in particular. Moreover, deep fake and fake news as main instruments for hybrid warfare have become important topics

for security culture. In terms of human security, social media generates a series of advantages, yet whatever is developed through the hostile use of these networks generates a series of threats for societies. On the other hand, the globalisation of information, the volatilization of typographic texts and the infinity of dialogic possibilities along with the inordinate opportunities to reinvent ourselves generate alternative means of expression that co-exist with the traditional ones, to meet gratification for an identity shaped out of social and professional interaction. The message, seen as a dynamic interaction environment, acts upon the whole architecture of ties and constructs relationships differently. Polarisation, syndicalisation and radicalisation are identity dynamics phenomena in a fluid environment. Starting from these aspects, the present mini track provides a stage for a general understanding on the implications that social media challenges have on human security. Suggested topics include but are not limited to:

- cognitive warfare and the battles of strategic narratives
- technological progress - a threat to individuals and society
- weaponization of social media in the information warfare
- hybrid warfare actions and actors uses in social media
- polarisation and radicalisation as identity dynamics in a fluid environment
- politics and international relations use of social media



**Dr habil. Maria-Magdalena Popescu** is a Full Professor and a doctoral coordinator at Carol I National Defense University in Bucharest, Romania. With a background in humanities and social sciences and extensive teaching and research experience in the realm of security and defence issues, she has also authored/co-authored more volumes and over 100 research papers and scientific publications. Dr POPESCU has given international lectures as a guest at universities in Switzerland, Italy and Belgium. She is one of the editors at Cogent Education, a Taylor and

Francis publication, a scientific reviewer at European Journal on elearning, at the journal Armed Forces and Society, at Carol I National Defense Bulletin, while she is also a member of the scientific committees in more European Conferences: ECEL, ECGBL, GALA, ECSM, ECCWS.

#### Submission details

In the first instance a 300-word abstract is required as soon as possible. Submissions must be made using the online submission form at: <https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/ecsm/ecsm-abstract-submission/>

If you have any questions about this track, please email the mini track chair: [popescu.maria@myunap.net](mailto:popescu.maria@myunap.net)

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