

Call for Contributions

Submission:

1. **Inform the Chair:** with the Title of your Contribution

2. **Submission URL:**

<https://www.iariasubmit.org/conferences/submit/newcontribution.php?event=SOTICS+2017+Special>

Please select Track Preference as **SMA-VPO**

Special track

SMA-VPO: Social Media Analysis - Veracity and Public Opinion -

Chairs and Coordinators

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along with

SOTICS 2017, The Seventh International Conference on Social Media Technologies, Communication, and Informatics

October 8 - 12, 2017 - Athens, Greece

<http://www.iaria.org/conferences2017/SOTICS17.html>

In the last decade, social media have become the platforms *par excellence* for all kinds of online information exchange, such as: content creation, consumption and sharing; commenting on and engaging with contents posted by others; organisation of events; reporting and tracking of real world events; rating and reviewing products; catching up with the latest developments in the news; etc. Among the best known platforms today are Facebook, Twitter, Sina Weibo, Reddit and Instagram. Besides individuals, the presence of companies, agencies, institutions and politicians has also increased in social media. One of their objectives is to engage with a broader audience, while also learning from them. For instance, companies are interested in finding out what customers think about their products to further improve their services and perform targeted advertisements. Given the scale of social media use, it is also being leveraged to perform predictions on a variety of issues such as political elections, referenda and stock markets.

While social media mining and analysis has established itself as a research field and substantial progress has been made in recent years, it also presents numerous research challenges that are still in their infancy. Examples of open challenges include the need for assessing the veracity of social media content in the absence of moderation that leads to rumour mongering and diffusion of hoaxes, and its massive impact in shaping public opinion. To tackle these challenges, it is also crucial to deal with informal and non-standard languages which pose additional challenges to existing natural language processing approaches, and the torrential speed at which the stream of data flows requires furthering the development of techniques that are efficient while remaining accurate.

The challenges posed by the diffusion of disinformation and the ability to shape public opinion have evoked the occurrence of important political phenomena of worldwide impact in recent events. This is the case of recent political events such as Brexit and Trump's election, where social media played a significant role in shaping public opinion and issues now known as "fake news" and "post-truth" had an impact that is yet to be understood.

The aim of this special track is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in social media mining and analysis to deal with the emerging issues of veracity assessment and manipulation of public opinion. We invite the submission of papers dealing with social media analysis with the aim of dealing with emerging challenges such as the veracity of information and public opinion formation. Qualitative studies performing user studies on the challenges encountered with the use of social media, such as the veracity of information, are also welcome

Topics include, but not limited to:

- Detection and tracking of rumours
- Rumour veracity classification
- Fact-checking social media
- Detection and analysis of disinformation, hoaxes and “fake news”
- Stance detection in social media
- Qualitative user studies assessing the use of social media
- Argument mining in social media
- Sentiment extraction and mood detection in social media
- Measuring public opinion through social media
- Assessing the impact of social media in public opinion
- Political analyses of social media
- Real-time social media mining
- NLP for social media analysis

Important Datelines

- Inform the Chair: As soon as you decided to contribute
- Submission: August 31
- Notification: September 7
- Registration: September 14
- Camera ready: September 14

Note: These deadlines are somewhat flexible, providing arrangements are made ahead of time with the chair.

Contribution Types

- Regular papers [in the proceedings, digital library]
- Short papers (work in progress) [in the proceedings, digital library]
- Posters: two pages [in the proceedings, digital library]
- Posters: slide only [slide-deck posted on www.iaia.org]
- Presentations: slide only [slide-deck posted on www.iaia.org]
- Demos: two pages [posted on www.iaia.org]

Paper Format

- See: <http://www.iaia.org/format.html>
- Before submission, please check and comply with the editorial rules: <http://www.iaia.org/editorialrules.html>

Publications

- Extended versions of selected papers will be published in IARIA Journals: <http://www.iaiajournals.org>
- Print proceedings will be available via Curran Associates, Inc.: <http://www.proceedings.com/9769.html>
- Articles will be archived in the free access ThinkMind Digital Library: <http://www.thinkmind.org>

Paper Submission

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Registration

- Each accepted paper needs at least one full registration, before the camera-ready manuscript can be included in the proceedings.

- Registration fees are available at <http://www.iaria.org/registration.html>

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