

## Tentative Outline

### Special/Thematic Issue for the journal “Current Social Science-Social Media and Social Networks”

#### Title of the Thematic Issue: Social practices of misinformation and disinformation

*Guest Editor: Tiziana Guzzo*

*Co-Guest Editors: Giovanni Boccia Artieri, Patrizia Grifoni*

#### • **Scope of the Thematic Issue:**

The internet has made communication much easier and less expensive and has given a lot of opportunities to people in obtaining information. In the last years, in fact, there has been the emergent trend to consume news on online platforms and social media that outperform television as the major news source. Online platforms and social media are also increasingly being used as an information sharing tool also in emergencies such as natural disasters, epidemic and war conflicts. News on social media is timely, low cost, easy to access, comment on and share. However, disinformation and misinformation spread more rapidly and broadly than reliable information, creating an infodemic. This phenomenon can lead people to wrong decisions and behaviors and is creating serious criticisms for society because on line information can be rapidly propagated without evaluating their veracity, with often dangerous consequences ranging from health decisions to manipulations of the market, finance and politics. It is important to understand how people process information and determine whether it is true or not, related risks and find potential solutions and strategies to fight this problem.

This special issue is intended to provide a forum for the interdisciplinary community of scientists working on the analysis of disinformation and misinformation practices through social media and online platforms and their effects on society and public opinion. We call for a broad range of topics to be covered, across theory, methodology, and empirical data. The Special Issue welcomes both theoretical and practical contributions as well as current trends, research challenges, and future perspectives.

**Keywords:** Social media; Misinformation; Disinformation; Infodemic; Credibility; Trustworthiness

#### **Sub-topics:**

- Dynamics of trends, information and opinion diffusion
- The role of social media during conflicts and emergencies
- Credibility and trustworthiness of online information
- Social influencers
- Recommendations and advertising
- Information practices and behaviours of young adults and adolescents
- Consequences and effects of fake news exposure
- The impact of disinformation on cognition, attitudes and behaviors
- Interventions, measures and best practices to combat mis- and disinformation
- Infodemic during COVID-19
- The role of emerging social media (TikTok, etc.) in the spreading of news
- Methods and strategies of propaganda and media manipulation

#### **Tentative titles of the articles:**

- Understanding how COVID-19 misinformation is disseminated via complex network theories
- Surfing the information overload. A socio-digital ecological framework to understand the information disorder”.
- Identification of Orthodox youth in modern conditions of digitalization of living space”
- The future of fake news in the metaverse”

## Schedule:

- ✧ Thematic issue submission deadline: 15 September 2023

## Details of Guest Editor:

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