

A Global Contagion of Infodemics & Conspiracy Theories

February 16, 2021 at 4:00pm Hawaii

Speaker Biographies



Amir ALI

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India

Amir Ali is an assistant professor at the Centre for Political Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. He teaches courses in political theory and has interests in multiculturalism, group rights and political Islam. Previously, he taught at Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi and was a visiting fellow at the University of Oxford. He is the author of the 2016 book *South Asian Islam and British Multiculturalism* (Routledge). His new book, *Brexit and Liberal Democracy: Populism, Sovereignty and Nation-State* will be out this year.



Anna-Sophie HARLING

Managing Director, Europe and Executive Vice President, NewsGuard, London, United Kingdom [@asharling](#)

Anna-Sophie Harling is managing director, Europe and executive vice president of partnerships at NewsGuard, based in London and New York. In 2020, she was selected to serve as a member of the Content Board of Ofcom, the UK's communications regulatory authority. Prior to joining NewsGuard, Ms. Harling worked as Business Development Manager for Lexoo, a technology company in London, and at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, an international law firm. She has previously worked at two German newspapers, *Der Tagesspiegel* and *Märkische Allgemeine*. Ms. Harling graduated from Yale University, where she was a Yale Journalism Scholar.



Stephan LEWANDOWSKY

Co-author, *Conspiracy Theory Handbook*; and Professor of Psychology and Chair of Cognitive Psychology, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom [@STWorg](#)

Stephan Lewandowsky is a cognitive scientist at the University of Bristol. His research examines people's memory, decision making, and knowledge structures, with a particular emphasis on how people update their memories if information they believe turns out to be false. This has led him to examine the persistence of misinformation and spread of "fake news" in society, including conspiracy theories. Professor Lewandowsky was appointed a Fellow of the Academy of Social Science (UK) and a Fellow of the Association of Psychological Science in 2017. In 2019, he received a Humboldt Research Award from the Humboldt Foundation in Germany. He has published more than 220 scholarly articles, chapters, and books, including numerous papers on how people respond to corrections of misinformation and what variables determine people's acceptance of scientific findings. He also frequently appears in print and broadcast media and has contributed nearly 90 opinion pieces to the global media on issues related to his research.



Tom ROSENSTIEL

Executive Director, American Press Institute, Arlington, VA, USA [@TomRosenstiel](#)

Tom Rosenstiel is executive director of the American Press Institute and author of 10 books, including three novels. Before joining the American Press Institute in 2013, he was founder and for 16 years director of the Project for Excellence in Journalism, one of the five original projects of the Pew Research Center in Washington, DC. He was co-founder and vice chair of the Committee of Concerned Journalists. He is also a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. Mr. Rosenstiel's first novel, *Shining City* (2017), about a supreme court nomination, was an NPR Book of the Year. His second, *The Good Lie* (2019), about a terrorist incident, was a *Washington Post* best seller. His third novel, *Oppo*, about a presidential campaign, was published in December 2019. Among his seven books on journalism, politics and ethics is *The Elements of Journalism: What News People Should Know and the Public Should Expect*, co-authored with Bill Kovach, which has been translated into more than 25 languages and is used in journalism education worldwide. During Mr. Rosenstiel's journalism career he worked as media writer for the *Los Angeles Times*, chief congressional correspondent for *Newsweek*, press critic for MSNBC, business editor for the *Peninsula Times Tribune*, and reporter for Jack Anderson's Washington Merry Go 'Round column. He began his career at the *Woodside Country Almanac* in northern California. Mr. Rosenstiel is winner of the Goldsmith book Award from Harvard; four Sigma Delta Chi Awards for Journalism Research from SPJ; and four awards for national media criticism from Penn State. He has been named a fellow of the Society of Professional Journalists, the organization's highest honor, and received the Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism from the University of Missouri Journalism School, the Dewitt Carter Reddick Award for Outstanding Professional Achievement in the Field of Communications from the University of Texas at Austin, and the Columbia Journalism School Distinguished Alumni Award.



Ross TAPSELL

Director, ANU Malaysia Institute, and Senior Lecturer, Department of Gender, Media and Culture, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australian [@RossTapsell](#)

Ross Tapsell is a senior lecturer and researcher at Australian National University's College of Asia and the Pacific, specializing in Southeast Asian media. He also currently serves as director of ANU's Malaysia Institute, and is involved in ANU's Indonesia Project. He is the author of *Media Power in Indonesia: Oligarchs, Citizens and the Digital Revolution* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2017) and co-editor of *From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation: Social media in Southeast Asia* (ISEAS, 2020). He has written for *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *VICE* and other publications in the Southeast Asian region. Dr. Tapsell has been a visiting fellow at Indiana University (Bloomington, USA), the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris) and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Singapore).

Moderator:



Charlotte ALTER

Senior Correspondent, *TIME*, Brooklyn, NY, USA [@CharlotteAlter](#)

Charlotte Alter is a senior correspondent at *TIME* covering politics and social issues. She has covered the 2016, 2018, and 2020 presidential campaigns, the Women's March and anti-Trump resistance, the rise in youth activism around gun violence and climate change, the spread of conspiracy theories and disinformation, and the 2020 Democratic primary and general election. Ms. Alter is also the author of *The Ones We've Been Waiting For: How a New Generation of Leaders Will Transform America*, released in February 2020. Her work has also appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Vox*.