

FIGHTING DISINFORMATION ON THE FRONTLINES

June 16, 2020 at 4:00PM Hawaii

Speaker Biographies



Aya LOWE

Strategic Partner Development, APAC, Facebook, Singapore @AyaLowe

Aya Lowe supports news partnerships through programs and manages fact-checking partnerships across the Asia Pacific at Facebook. Before joining Facebook she worked as a journalist across the Middle East and Asia for over 10 years. Her latest role was managing the Philippine bureau for Channel NewsAsia. Ms. Lowe was a **2017 East-West Center Jefferson Fellow**.



Alan C. MILLER

Founder and CEO, News Literacy Project, Washington, DC, USA @alanmillerNLP

Alan C. Miller is founder and CEO of the News Literacy Project (NLP). He established the national education nonprofit in 2008 to teach teenagers how to discern fact from fiction in the digital age. NLP now serves more than 24,000 educators and 159,000 students in all 50 states and in 112 other countries through its Checkology® virtual classroom. Previously, Mr. Miller served as a reporter at the *Los Angeles Times* for 21 years. He has received more than a dozen national reporting honors, including the 2003 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting. Mr. Miller is a graduate of Wesleyan University and has a master's degree in political science from the University of Hawaii that he earned while a graduate student in the **East-West Center Education Program**.



Baybars ÖRSEK

Director, International Fact-Checking Network, Florida, USA @baybarsorsek

Baybars Örsek is director of the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) at The Poynter Institute, the premier global coalition of fact-checking organizations, where he has launched internationally recognized initiatives on fact-checking and open data and acted as a board member since December 2016. In that capacity, he has taken an active part in overseeing the fact-checking project's applications. Prior to joining IFCN, Mr. Örsek founded Turkey's first and only political fact-checking project Doğruluk Payı (Share of Truth) in 2014 and Turkey's open data platform Veri Kaynagi (Data Source). He was also founding chairman of Turkey's leading media non-profit İzlemedeyiz (On Watch) and in 2018, led efforts to organize the first international fact-checking conference in Antalya, Turkey. Mr. Örsek has frequently served as an expert for major media including the Voice of America and the BBC and has received awards from Transparency International and the Sabanci Foundation Turkey. Mr. Örsek holds an MA in conflict resolution and a BA in international relations from Istanbul Bilgi University.



Harry SUFEHMI

Founder, MAFINDO, Jakarta, Indonesia @Sufehmi

Harry Sufehmi is the founder and presidium of MAFINDO, an anti-hoax organization based in Indonesia. Since its founding in 2016, MAFINDO has expanded into multiple chapters in 14 cities, with over 75,000 local and online volunteers. At MAFINDO, Mr. Sufehmi focuses on developing anti-hoax technology that volunteers can use to combat hoaxes and misinformation. These technologies include Yudistira, the core anti-hoax engine with an open API facility; Kalimasada, a WhatsApp chatbot that enables users to fact-check information on WhatsApp; and Hoax Buster Tools (HBT), an app that enables fact-checking on smartphones. A seasoned IT consultant with over 20 years of experience, Mr. Sufehmi specializes in high-performance and high-availability systems and open source technologies. His technology was most notably used as the IT system for an Indonesian Election, the largest system for a same-day election in the world, which managed and processed data for over 540,000 voting booths and more than 100 million voters. Mr. Sufehmi earned his master's degree in computing at Birmingham City University.