MAPPING HATE SPEECH AND DISINFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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Abstract:
Malicious social media content has caused significant damage to our digital societies and economies. From a hoax to bot attacks to state-sponsored propaganda, false and harmful information has become a fabric of our digital lives, shaping how we make day-to-day decisions and impacting how countries conduct relations. Despite the widespread recognition of the harm malicious social media content can cause, our ability to detect, map and understand how such content emerges, spreads and affects us cannot keep pace with these problems. This talk will discuss the ways in which Southeast Asia's linguistic and culturally diverse background and repressive regulatory environment presents a challenge to identifying and mapping malicious social media content, such as hate speech and disinformation. It will also provide suggestions on ways forward to countering malicious social media content.

Aim Sinpeng is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Government and International Relations at the University of Sydney. She's currently a Discovery Early Career Research Fellow (DECRA) for her project *Cyber Repression and Protests in Thailand*. Her book, *Opposing Democracy in the Digital Age: The Yellow Shirts in Thailand* (University of Michigan Press, 2021) won the Early Career Book Prize from the Asian Studies Association of Australia in 2022. She has also recently won the Early Career Outstanding Researcher Award from the University of Sydney. Aim is currently working on two projects on AI and Gender Bias in Southeast Asia with collaboration from Google and UNESCO and Unpacking Bias in Social Media News in Illiberal Regimes funded by Facebook.

31 October 2022 (Monday)
4:00-5:30 PM (HKT)
Virtual via Zoom

How to attend this seminar:
Zoom Registration
https://bit.ly/3eKNx3z

Zoom Passcode: 868567

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All are welcome
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