SHARENEWS: Predicting the shareworthiness of 'real' and 'fake' news in Europe

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

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Project abstract:

Given the central role that information plays in democratic societies, one of the pressing challenges for the social sciences is to better understand which information (news, but also disinformation, misinformation, and malinformation) citizens are exposed to. While traditional media still are the main source for information for some groups of citizens, in other groups, this exposure is increasingly shaped by what others share on social media. However, our understanding of what actually gets shared, or not, is limited. The proposed project aims at explaining and predicting the sharing of information in the domain of news and politics in four European multi-party systems – Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Poland. We know from decades of research on news values that some characteristics inherent to or ascribed to news events (such as the relevance, importance, unique character, or involvement of elite actors) influence what is considered newsworthy; in addition, the specific framing of a news story (for instance, putting an emphasis on conflict or human interest) can lead to increased attention. We have comparatively little evidence, though, about the role of these features when it comes to the shareworthiness of news. We then compare whether these features have a different role when comparing legitimate news with so-called fake news, when comparing mobile devices with desktops/laptops, and when comparing countries

Last modified: 22-01-2019

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Administrative details

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2018-PCJ-9354

12 months

Data creation/collection, organisation & documentation

- Other (please specify)

Plain text and metadata associated with URLs shared on Facebook in the domain of news

order of magnitude of a TB, but this is still unsure

- Other (please specify)

The data need to be collected based on the URLs provided by Social Science One. Assuming that these URLs are not supposed to leave a service operated by Social Science One, this data will be stored there as well. For any activity needed on our end, including backup, we plan to use UvA storage services and SURFsara's cloud computing services.

Given the size of the dataset, we will use a database such as ElasticSearch, which we will run on the services described above. Code for the interaction with the database will be documented and available.

Data security

- Physical security
- Access restrictions on network storage
- De-identification (anonimisation, pseudonimisation)

- Researchers outside the UvA
- Researchers in the UvA

- No non-digital data used

Data archival

- Deposit in faculty storage

Data publication and access

The database of articles that will be collected won't be published afterwards

The main interest of the project is the analysis of the URL dataset on the infrasture of Social Science One. We only need the articles to enrich that dataset with information about the characteristics of the articles. The articles themselves are not of central interest.

- Other (please specify)

NA

- Other metadata standard (please specify)

NA

- Other (please specify)

NA

Faculty policy

- No

Created using DMPonline. Last modified 22 January 2019

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