TERROR FEEDS: Inside the Fear Machine

12th conference of the Disruption Network Lab. Directed by Tatiana Bazzichelli and curated with Mauro Mondello. In cooperation with: Kunstraum Kreuzberg /Bethanien, Spektrum and Supermarkt Berlin. Funded by: the Reva & David Logan Foundation (grant provided by NEO Philanthropy), the Mozilla Foundation, the Bertha Foundation and the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation. Supported by the Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN). In collaboration with the Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society (HIIG). Media Partner: ExBerliner, Furtherfield.

Speakers:

November 24, 2017: Sue Turton (Reporter and Journalist, Former Al Jazeera Correspondent, UK), Charlie Winter (Senior Research Fellow ICSR Centre, Associate Fellow ICCT The Hague, PhD Fellow King’s College London, UK), Dleshad Othman (Activist and IT Security Engineer, SY/US), Aymenn Al-Tamimi (Jihad-Intel Research Fellow at the Middle East Forum, SY/UK), Mauro Mondello (Investigative Journalist, IT/DE), Frederike Kaltheuner (Programme Lead and Policy Officer, Privacy International, DE/UK).

November 25, 2017: Abdalaziz Alhamza /Raqqa Is Being Slaughtered Silently (Media Activist, SY/DE); Aaron Y. Zeil (Founder of Jihadology.net and JihadPod, Richard Borow Fellow at the Washington Institute, US); Heba Y. Amin (Visual Artist, Researcher and Lecturer, EGY/DE); Tufyal Choudhury (Assistant Professor at the University of Durham Law School in England and Senior Research Affiliate of the Canadian Terrorism, Security and Society Research Network, UK); Sindyan Qasem (Research Associate at the University of Münster, Centre for Islamic Theology, DE); Michèle Hassen, (Working Group Leader, Radicalisation Awareness Network RAN Education, EU/FR); John Goetz (Investigative Journalist US/DE); Saud Al-Zaid (Scholar of Islamic Studies, Berlin Graduate School of Muslim Cultures, DE); Pieter Van Ostayen (Historian & Arabist, PhD candidate KU Leuven, BE), Dave Keating (Journalist, US/BE).

TERROR FEEDS: Inside the Fear Machine highlights the change ISIS (the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or Daesh. by its Arabic language acronym) represents in how terrorism is conducted and analyses how electronic jihad and strategic messaging affect the worldwide public opinion, both in the western countries and in the Arab world, representing a new icon of "global jihad".

How can ISIS and its media strategy be analysed? What is the meaning of cyber jihad, its characteristics, its role in shaping the image of ISIS, and identifying ways of confronting with this challenge? Which are the reasons why young people are attracted by this phenomenon, and enrol it as foreign fighters? ISIS makes a profound use of cyber jihad as an instrument for recruitment, radicalisation, and dissemination of propaganda. It has captivated a global network of supporters that articulates, intensifies and disseminates its violent extremist messages worldwide.

On the other hand, in the context of the reflection of openness of communication and freedom of speech, activists and human right defenders risk their life while reporting stories to reveal misconducts by ISIS and document the horrors caused by the terror regime. The conference and workshop analyse how activists are working to circumvent censorship, Internet shutdown and repression of speech in the Middle East - as well as how they find political countermeasures via activist/artist practices, reporting on initiatives to combat extremism and terrorism.

The goal is to understand and to discuss how ISIS unleashed cyber jihad, as well as the strategies activists and human right advocates use to oppose this form of terror, Internet censorship and surveillance.

You can access details about the program and the speakers here. Press releases, press images, information about earlier events as well as logos are on our press page. Press images can be used free of charge in connection with editorial coverage of the event; the rights holder must be named in the credits.

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