PlatGovNet 2023

Imagining Sustainable, Trustworthy, and Democratic Platform Governance

PlatGovNet 2023:
Imagining Sustainable,
Trustworthy, and
Democratic Platform
Governance

**About
the 2023
Conference**

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global reliance on the services provided by a range of major online 'platform' companies has skyrocketed. Online marketplaces, social networks, cloud providers, streaming services, and service delivery platforms all rake in record and increasing profits as they continue to embed themselves ever more deeply into public and private life. At the same time, dissatisfaction with the platform economy status quo is growing internationally. Across policy areas like content moderation, competition, labor law, and data protection, governments around the world are developing new rules to tackle troubling forms of outsized political, cultural, and infrastructural platform power. For the 2023 conference, we are pleased to highlight a wide range of research relevant to these issues, including work that seeks to examine how we could make platforms more sustainable, trustworthy, and democratic.

**About
PlatGovNet**

The Platform Governance Research Network (PlatGovNet) brings together researchers interested in 'platform governance', broadly defined. From online labor markets and locally-tethered service delivery platforms to social networks and cloud providers, we are interested in highlighting cutting-edge conceptual and empirical work that engages with the politics and policy of the 21st century 'platformized' internet. We are interdisciplinary, and welcome collaborations from a wide range of researchers (who need not be affiliated with academic institutions). Please get in touch and join our listserv at platgov.net.

**Conference
Day 1**

**April 3
2023**

		Room	**Topic**
Opening Welcome	**11:00 – 11:15 UTC**	**Main Zoom**	Opening Welcome
Panel Session A	**11:15 – 12:30 UTC**	**1**	Regulating Platformed Work
		2	Business Models
		3	Bridging Media and Platform Policy
Open Networking	**12:30 – 14:15 UTC**	**Breakout Rooms**	
Panel Session B	**14:30 – 15:45 UTC**	**1**	Justice in Platform Governance
		2	Ruling the Fediverse
Break	**15:45 – 16:00 UTC**		
Panel Session C	**16:00 – 17:15 UTC**	**1**	Comparative Platform Regulation
		2	Empirical Research

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**Conference
Day 2**

**April 4
2023**

		Room	Topic
Panel Session D	**11:00 – 12:15 UTC**	1	Infrastructures
		2	Cultural Production
Break	**12:15 – 12:30 UTC**		
Panel Session E	**12:30 – 13:45 UTC**	1	Legal Theory
		2	Re-Imagining Core Concepts
Break /Open Networking	**13:45 – 14:15 UTC**	Main Zoom	
Panel Session F	**14:15 – 15:30 UTC**	1	Health and Sexuality
		2	AI and Platform Governance
Break	**15:30 – 16:00 UTC**		
Panel Session G	**16:00 – 17:15 UTC**	1	Understanding Platformed Work
		2	Content Governance
Closing Session	**17:15 – 17:30 UTC**	Main Zoom	

Research Day 1 **April 3 2023**

	Starts	Ends
Los Angeles/Vancouver (-7)	4:15	5:30
Denver/Mexico City (-6)	5:15	6:30
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Room 1 — Regulating Platformed Work

Chair:
Divyansha Sehgal
Center for Internet and Society

Alternate Mechanisms for Labour Organisation and Collective Bargaining in the Gig Economy

Soujanya Sridharan and Gautam Misra
Aapti Institute

Working in the Shadow of the Platform and the Law

Anushka Mittal
Tilburg University

Recognising Alternative Platform Governance and Emergent Design: the Case of Drivers Club Bogotá

Luis Hernando Lozano Paredes
University of Technology Sydney

Room 2 — Business Models

Chair:
João C. Magalhães
University of Groningen

From Brand Safety to Suitability: Advertisers in Social Media Governance

Rachel Griffin
Sciences Po Paris

Managed Sovereigns: How Inconsistent Accounts of the Human Rationalize Platform Advertising

Jake Goldenfein
University of Melbourne

Lee McGuigan
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Platform Governance by Civil Society: the Call for an Accountable Business Model

Alex Rochefort
Boston University

Nathalie Maréchal
Center for Democracy & Technology

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Room 3

Bridging Media and Platform Policy

Chair:
Robyn Caplan
Data & Society Research Institute/Duke University

Media Giants, the Public Interest, and Civil Society

Brenda Dvoskin
Harvard Law School

An Opaque and Qualified Success: a Review of Australia's World-First News Media Bargaining Code

Sacha Molitorisz and Michael Davis
University of Technology Sydney

On Infrastructural Monopoly: From China's Media Reform to Chinese Platform Governance

Angela Xiao Wu
New York University

Research Day 1

April 3 2023

Panel Session B

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Los Angeles/Vancouver (-7)	7:30	8:45
Denver/Mexico City (-6)	8:30	9:45
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Room 1

Justice in Platform Governance

Chair:
Jill Toh
University of Amsterdam

A Restorative and Transformative Justice Model for Platform Governance: the Case of Image-based Sexual Abuse

Amy Hasinoff
University of Colorado

Emulated Guardians — Can the Oversight Board and the DSA's Out-of-Court Dispute Settlement Bodies Control Platform Power?

Moritz Schramm
Humboldt University Berlin

'Dysfunctional' Appeals and Failures of Algorithmic Justice in Instagram and TikTok Content Moderation

Carolina Are
Northumbria University

Room 2

Ruling the Fediverse

Chair:
Robert Gorwa
WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Where "Platform" Fails Us: New Approaches to the Study of the Fediverse

Darius Kazemi
Meedan

Fool Me Twice: (How) Can We Prevent the Fediverse From Sucking?

Patricia Aufderheide and Adrienne Massanari
American University

Robert Gehl
York University

Aram Sinnreich
American University

Decentralizing Platform Power: a Design Space of Multi-level Governance in Online Social Platforms

Shagun Jhaver
Rutgers University

Seth Frey
University of California, Davis

Amy Zhang
University of Washington

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Room 1 — Comparative Platform Regulation

Chair:
Heidi Tworek
University of British Columbia

The Blame Game: How Germany's Network Enforcement Act Didn't Have The Global Impact Others Warned About

Sheila Lalwani
University of Texas at Austin

Platform Regulation in Latin America: a Comparative Study on Policy Initiatives to Protect Privacy and Personal Data, and its Conflicts with the Right to Freedom of Expression on The Internet

Bernadette Califano
University of Buenos Aires

Towards Better Platform Governance or Destroying Free Speech: An Analysis of the Failure of Taiwan's Draft Digital Intermediary Services Act

Kuan-Wei Chen
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

Room 2 — Empirical Research

Chair:
Kebene Wodajo
University of St. Gallen

The Operationalisation of Data Access Rights in Platform Governance: Data Protection Rights as a Cautionary Tale

Jef Ausloos
University of Amsterdam

Pierre Dewitte
KU Leuven

Cristiana Teixeira Santos
Utrecht University

Marxian Political Economy and Qualitative Platform Study

Tyler Quick
University of Southern California

Algorithmic Reach Reduction: Platform Accounts of Motivations, Implementation, and Effects

Charlotte Spencer-Smith
University of Salzburg

The Epistemic Potential of Data Protection Datasets

Rohan Grover
University of Southern California

Research Day 2

April 4 2023

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Los Angeles/Vancouver (-7)	4:00	5:15
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Room 1

Infrastructures

Chair:
Sonja Solumun
McGill University

Big Tech's Infrastructural Expansion and Digital Colonialism in "Greece 2.0"

Charis Papaevangelou
University of Toulouse III

Eugenia Siapera
University College Dublin

Authoritarian Smart Cities: Platforms, Governance and Total Urban Surveillance

Azadeh Akbari
University of Twente

David Murakami Wood
University of Ottawa

Platform Governance and the Climate

Emily West
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Regulating cloud platforms as critical infrastructure — An Australian Perspective

Susanne Lloyd-Jones
University of New South Wales Sydney

Room 2

Cultural Production

Chair:
Hanne Stegeman
University of Amsterdam

Social Media Creators' Perspective on Copyright Content Moderation in the EU

Daria Deragcheva, Christian Katzenbach and Paloma Viejo Otero
University of Bremen

Accessing Culture: Grappling with Governance and Content Moderation on Google Arts and Culture

Sarah E.K. Smith
Western University

Bethany Berard
Carleton University

How does Amazon Curate History — and How Should It? Algorithmic Contests over the Past on the World's Largest Bookstore'

Louisa Bartolo
Queensland University of Technology

Strategies of Production and Monetization in the content Creator's Ecosystem: Self-branding and IP-development Dynamics in Argentina

Gonzalo Bustos, Sebastián Cabello, Pilar Huppi Lo Prete, and Carla Gebetsberger
Universidad de San Andrés

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Room 1

Legal Theory

Chair:
Naomi Appelman
University of Amsterdam

Content Moderation Federalism (not Confederalism)

Artur Pericles Lima Monteiro
Yale University

Making Them Dance for their Immunity — the (F)utility of Platform Regulation Through Conditional Immunity

Divij Joshi
University College London

To Ban or Not to Ban? Understanding Platform Discretion in Content Moderation in the Context of Private Governance

Laura Aade
University of Luxembourg

Judicial Challenging of Social Media Platforms' Punitive Power: Private Shopping Mall or Public Square?

Hesam Nourooz Pour
University of Malaya

Room 2

Re-Imagining Core Concepts

Chair:
Tomiwa Ilori
University of Pretoria

Exploitation and Platform Power

Daniel Susser
Penn State University

Outside the (Black) Box: From Algorithmic Transparency to Platform Observability in Social Media Regulation

Paddy Leerssen
University of Amsterdam

Exploring the Notion of "Trust" in the Regulation of Platforms, Technology, and Privacy

Shivani Salunke
McGill University

Health and Toxicity in Content Moderation: The Discursive Work of Justification

Anna Gibson
Northeastern University

Niall Docherty
University of Sheffield

Tarleton Gillespie
Microsoft Research

Research Day 2

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Room 1 — Health and Sexuality

Chair:
Jane Bailey
University of Ottawa

Rethinking Platform Governance in India: Rule-making and Norm-Setting in Aarogya Setu

Faheem Muhammed Mp and Musthafa Mubashir
Pondicherry University

Sexual Content? Sex Education in the Crossfire of Social Media Platform Governance

Lisa Garwood-Cross and Ben Light
University of Salford

"I Think Our system is Very Skewed When it Comes to Censorship": Pro- and Anti-abortion Rights Activists' Imaginaries of Platform Governance

Martin Johannes Riedl, Zelly Martin, and Samuel Woolley
The University of Texas at Austin

Moderating Misogyny: Bridging the Gap Between Feminist Theory and the Policies and Practices of Social Media Platforms

Lucinda Nelson and Nicolas Suzor
Queensland University of Technology

Room 2 — AI and Platform Governance

Chair:
Hannah Bloch-Wehba
Texas A&M University

Hate, in a Thousand Languages: Evaluating Social Media Companies' Claims About the Multilinguality of Large Language Models

Gabriel Nicholas
Center for Democracy and Technology

From Liability to Responsibility and Risk Management: Public Discourses on AI and Algorithmic Platform Governance

Tobias Eberwein, Krisztina Rozgonyi, and Florian Saurwein
Austrian Academy of Sciences/University of Klagenfurt

Too Good To Be Rule: AI's Transformative Impact on Content Moderation Regulation in the Mirror of the Rules/Standards Distinction

Renana Keydar, Noa Mor, Yuval Shany, and Omri Abend
Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Research Day 2

Panel Session G

	Starts	Ends
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Room 1 — Understanding Platformed Work

Chair:
Sana Ahmad
WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Navigating Digital Currencies: The Experiences of Latin American Workers with Digital Currency

Julian Posada
Yale University

Asset-light for Whom? Economic Governance of Digital Labour Platforms and Its Effects on Working Conditions

Giulia Varaschin
WZB Berlin Social Science Center

Jonas Valente and Alessio Bertolini
University of Oxford

Balaji Parthasarathy
IIIT International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore

Amela Kurta
Center for Development Evaluation and Social Science Research

Mark Graham and Adam Badger
University of Oxford

Pablo Aguera Reneses
WZB Berlin Social Science Center

The Platform Economy's Worker Classification Dilemma

Atieh Razavi Yekta
University of British Columbia

Room 2 — Content Governance

Chair:
Kate Klonick
St. John's University

One Law to Rule Them All: Comparing Terms of Service on Social Media Platforms Across Regulatory Spaces

Catalina Goanta
University of Utrecht

Giovanni De Gregorio
Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Mateusz Grochowski
Max Planck Institute Hamburg

What Do Users Think About Platform Content Moderation? Empirical Evidence about Trust in "Alternative Governors" of Online Speech

Dennis Redeker
University of Bremen

The Patchwork of Platform Governance: WeChat as a Case Study

Fan Yang
Deakin University

Trust and Safety…for Whom? Interrogating the Homogenization of Content Governance in the Metaverse

Kyooeun Jang
University of Southern California

Acknowledgments

We would like to thank the MacArthur Foundation for their generous support of this conference.

We would also like to thank Data & Society Research Institute, the Center for Internet and Society, the WZB Berlin Science Center, and McGill's Centre for Media, Technology & Democracy for additional support. Many thanks to those that made time to review submissions in January and February 2023, and to Andrea Carrillo Iglesias for designing this conference program guide.

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IT For Change
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