DIYI LIU

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EDUCATION

2021-2025   **DPhil in Information, Communication, and the Social Sciences, University of Oxford**

Thesis: *Content Moderation, Platform Governance, and Legitimacy: TikTok in South and Southeast Asia*
Supervisors: Prof. Ralph Schroeder (Oxford Internet Institute) & Prof. Reuben Binns (Computer Science)

2019-2021   **M.A. in International Journalism and Communication, Renmin University of China**
GPA: 3.91/4.0; Supervisor: Prof. Wenjing Pan

2015-2019   **B.A. in International Journalism, Shanghai International Studies University**
GPA: 3.95/4.0, Rank 1/44; Thesis advisor: Prof. Peiqin Chen

RESEARCH POSITIONS

2025.1-2025.6   **Research Fellow, Tech Global Institute** (Scheduled)

2024.09   **Research Fellow, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)** *Jakarta, Indonesia*
Host: Mr. Beltsazar Krisetya. Collaborated with the Safer Internet Lab on platform content moderation research; participated in UNESCO Jakarta Office's Workshop on Governance of Digital Platforms.

2024.4-2024.6   **Open Research Fellow, Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society** *Berlin, Germany*
Host: Dr. Clara Iglesias Keller. Research on platform governance, examining platformization, power, and domination; presented findings at the Fellow Colloquium.

2023.8-2023.11   **Visiting Researcher, Department of Communications & New Media, National University of Singapore** *Singapore*
Host: Dr. Renwen Zhang. Collaborated with the Social Well-being, Empathy, and Emerging Technologies (SWEET) Lab on interdisciplinary research related to human-computer interaction.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

[J1] Katrin Etzrodt, Jihyun Kim, Margot Van Der Goot, Andrew Prahl, Mina Choi, Matthew Craig, Marco Marco Dehnert, Sven Engesser, Katharina Frehmann, Luis Grande, Jindong Leo-Liu, **Diyi Liu**, Sandra Mooshammer, Nathan Rambukkana, Ayanda Rogge, Pieta Sikströma, Rachel Son, Nan Wilkenfeld, Kun Xu, Renwen Zhang, Ying Zhu, and Chad Edwards. "What HMC Teaches Us About Authenticity". In: *Human-Machine Communication* 8 (2024), pp. 227–251.

[J2] **Diyi Liu**. "Borderline content and platformised speech governance: Mapping TikTok's moderation controversies in South and Southeast Asia". In: *Policy & Internet* 16(2) (2024), pp. 543–566.

[J3] **Diyi Liu**, Shuhang Yang, Calvin Yixiang Cheng, Lin Cai, and Jing Su. "Online Health Information Seeking, eHealth Literacy, and Health Behaviors Among Chinese Internet Users: Cross-Sectional Survey Study". In: *Journal of Medical Internet Research* 26 (2024), e54135.

[J4] Wenjing Pan, **Diyi Liu**, Jingbo Meng, and Hailong Liu. "Human AI communication in initial encounters: How AI agency affects trust, liking, and chat quality evaluation". In: *New Media & Society* (2024), Online First. DOI: 10.1177/14614448241259149.

[J5] Siyue Li, **Diyi Liu**, Chengyu She, and Wenjing Pan. "Attracting Effective Support on Social Networking Sites: Examining Three Characteristics of Online Support-Seeking Messages". In: *International Journal of Communication* 17 (2023), pp. 5460–5480.

[J6] Jing Su and **Diyi Liu**. "From Monologue to Dialogue: Reimagining Intercultural Communication Studies in the Context of the Belt and Road Initiative". In: *Chinese Journal of Journalism & Communication* 44.11 (2022), pp. 142–159.

[J7] Wenjing Pan and **Diyi Liu**. "How to Obtain Social Support in Online Support Forums? The Effects of Structural Social Capital and Politeness Principle". In: *Chinese Journal of Journalism & Communication* 43.4 (2021), pp. 51–73.

[J8] Wenjing Pan, **Diyi Liu**, and Jie Fang. "An examination of factors contributing to the acceptance of online health misinformation". In: *Frontiers in psychology* 12 (2021), p. 524.

[J9] Wen Shi, **Diyi Liu**, Jing Yang, Jing Zhang, Sanmei Wen, and Jing Su. "Social bots' sentiment engagement in health emergencies: A topic-based analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic discussions on Twitter". In: *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 17.22 (2020), p. 8701.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Proceedings

[C1] Zhilin Zhang, Jun Zhao, Ge Wang, Samantha-Kaye Johnston, George Chalhoub, Tala Ross, **Diyi Liu**, Claudine Tinsman, Rui Zhao, Max Van Kleek, and Nigel Shadbolt. "Trouble in Paradise? Understanding Mastodon Admin's Motivations, Experiences, and Challenges Running Decentralised Social Media". In: *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction. 8, CSCW2*. New York, NY, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, Nov. 2024. DOI: 10.1145/3687059.

[C2] Manuel Tonneau, **Diyi Liu**, Samuel Fraiberger, Ralph Schroeder, Scott Hale, and Paul Röttger. "From Languages to Geographies: Towards Evaluating Cultural Bias in Hate Speech Datasets". In: *Proceedings of the 8th Workshop on Online Abuse and Harms (WOAH 2024)*. Mexico City, Mexico: Association for Computational Linguistics, June 2024, pp. 283–311. DOI: 10.18653/v1/2024.woah-1.23.

[C3] **Diyi Liu**. "Content Moderation, Platformised Speech Governance, and Legitimacy: TikTok in South and Southeast Asia". In: *Companion Publication of the 16th ACM Web Science Conference*. Websci Companion '24. Stuttgart, Germany: Association for Computing Machinery, May 2024, pp. 27–31. DOI: 10.1145/3630744.3658613.

Commentaries/Op-Eds

[O1] **Diyi Liu**, Manuel Tonneau, and Juliette Zaccour. "OII researchers propose recommendations for effective data governance in light of the EU's Digital Service Act". In: *Oxford Internet Institute* (Dec. 2024). URL: https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/news-events/oii-researchers-propose-recommendations-for-effective-data-governance-in-light-of-the-eus-digital-service-act/.

[O2] Rizal Shidiq, **Diyi Liu**, and Justin Yeung. "Zooming in on the Digital Aspects of the Indonesian Elections 2024". In: *Oxford Internet Institute* (Feb. 2024). URL: https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/news-events/zooming-in-on-the-digital-aspects-of-the-indonesian-elections-2024/.

[O3] **Diyi Liu**. "Internet For Trust: Towards a Multistakeholder Approach in Regulating Digital Platforms". In: *Oxford Internet Institute* (July 2023). URL: https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/news-events/internet-for-trust-towards-a-multistakeholder-approach-in-regulating-digital-platforms/.

[O4] **Diyi Liu**. "Bridging the Gaps in the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway". In: *The Diplomat* (Sept. 2019). URL: https://thediplomat.com/2019/09/bridging-the-gaps-in-the-asia-pacific-information-superhighway/.

Manuscripts Under Review

[R1] **Diyi Liu**. *The Balancing Acts: Communicating Legitimacy in Transnational Speech Governance*. Under review in Social Media + Society. 2024.

[R2] Manuel Tonneau, **Diyi Liu**, Niyati Malhotra, Scott A. Hale, Samuel Fraiberger, Victor Orozco-Olvera, and Paul Röttger. *HateDay: Insights from a Global Hate Speech Dataset Representative of a Day on Twitter*. ACL ARR October Rolling Review. 2024.

Work in Progress

[WP1] **Diyi Liu**. *Drawing the Line: Understanding Factors Influencing Users' Perceived Legitimacy of Borderline Content Moderation*.

[WP2] **Diyi Liu**. *Evolving Role of the States: A Comparative Study of Media and Platform Regulations in Pakistan and Indonesia.* With Dr Asif Ali Akhtar (London School of Economics and Political Science).

[WP3] **Diyi Liu**. *From Press Council to Social Media Council: Speech Regulations in Indonesia.* Invited submission for Indonesian Quarterly.

[WP4] **Diyi Liu**. *Governance Through Platforms: Asserting Power Relations Within Platform Governance.* With Simran Agarwal (Sorbonne Paris Nord University).

[WP5] **Diyi Liu**. *Sequences of Change: Theorizing Platform Governance Through Responses to Major Political Events.* With Letian Cheng (Georgia Institute of Technology) and Le Yang (Tsinghua University).

HONORS, AWARDS & GRANTS

2025	**Tech Policy Fellowship 2024-2025, Tech Global Institute** Awarded fellowship for a 6-month paid structured policy research project focused on addressing existing platform or technology related policy problems in the Majority World countries. $5000.
2024	**PhD Paper Presentation Award – Runner-Up** Runner-up award at the PhD Symposium of the 2024 ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci'24), supported by the Web Science Trust. £25.
2024	**Open Research Fellowship** Awarded Open Fellowship for a two-month residency at the Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society, Berlin, Germany. £6,500.
2021-2024	**Clarendon Fund Scholarship** Full doctoral funding covering tuition fee and £18,000 p.a. living stipend. One of the highly competitive university-wide postgraduate awards.
2023	**Innovation for Policy Foundation Microgrant** Microgrant for convening independent community consultation for Version 3.0 of UNESCO's "Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms". $550.
2023	**Student Travel and Research (STAR) Grant** Academic travel and research grant supported by St Antony's College, University of Oxford. £600.
2022	**China's Digital Expansion in the Global South Project Grant** Microgrant for conducting research project "Transnational Governance behind Chinese Platforms' Overseas Content Moderation: A Case Study of TikTok's Global Reach to Southern and South-eastern Asia", funded by the University of Manchester's Centre for Digital Development & Manchester China Institute. £500.
2021	**Outstanding Graduates** Awarded by the Renmin University of China.
2019	**Rongchang Senior Scholarship for Global Governance** Shanghai Rongchang Foundation award for excellence in international organization governance. ¥41,200 (£4464).
2019	**Best Bachelor Thesis Award** Awarded by the Shanghai International Studies University for top 1% bachelor thesis.
2018-2023	**National Social Science Fund of China, Key Program (18ZDA321)** Student research associate for project "Cultural Identity and International Communication of Traditional Chinese Medicine" PI: Prof. Xiguang Li, Tsinghua University, China. ¥600,000 (£65,000).
2018	**China National Scholarship** Awarded by the Ministry of Education in China, top 0.2% nationwide. ¥8,000 (£870).
2018	**Rongchang Scholarship for Global Governance** Awarded by the Shanghai Rongchang Foundation for excellence in global governance. ¥10,000 (£1083).
2017	**China Government Scholarship for Studying Abroad** China Scholarship Council award for undergraduate international exchange studies, University of Wollongong, Australia. 6400AUD (£3265).

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

[T1] **Diyi Liu**. Research Seminar at the School of Journalism, Media, and Communication, University of Sheffield (Scheduled). Mar. 2025.

[T2] **Diyi Liu**. *The Legitimacy of Platformized Speech Governance: A Mixed-Methods Case Study.* 'Behind the Scenes – Conversations on Empirical Platform Governance Research' Online Talk Series, hosted by Centre for Media, Communication and Information Research (ZeMKI), University of Bremen, and Centre for Media and Journalism Studies, University of Groningen. Dec. 2024.

[T3] **Diyi Liu**. *Content Moderation, Platform Governance, and Legitimacy.* Oxford Technology & Security Nexus. Nuffield College, Oxford. Oct. 2024.

[T4] **Diyi Liu**. *The Balancing Acts: Communicating Legitimacy in Transnational Content Governance.* Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta. Sept. 2024.

Conferences

[P1] **Diyi Liu**. *Borderline Content and Platformised Speech Governance: Mapping TikTok's Moderation Controversies in South and Southeast Asia.* Paper presented at the 2024 Annual Conference of the Association of Internet Researchers (AOIR2024). Sheffield, United Kingdom. Oct. 2024.

[P2] **Diyi Liu**. *Content Moderation, Platformised Speech Governance, and Legitimacy: TikTok in South and Southeast Asia.* Paper presented at the PhD Symposium of 17th ACM Web Science Conference (WebSci'24). Stuttgart, Germany. ***Runner-Up Paper Award**. May 2024.

[P3] **Diyi Liu**. *Taming Tech Giants in China and beyond: Academic Frameworks, Company Strategies, and User Behaviours in Digital Platform (Counter-)regulations.* Panel discussion at the Chinese Internet Research Conference 2023 (CIRC2023). Chiang Mai, Thailand. July 2023.

[P4] **Diyi Liu**. *Platform Legitimation As A Social Process: How TikTok Adapts Its Content Moderation System to Local Contexts in South and Southeast Asia.* The 73rd Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA2023). Toronto, Canada. May 2023.

[P5] **Diyi Liu**. *Decoding the Shadowban Mystery: TikTok's Content Governance and How Creators Interpret the Platform's Visibility System.* Poster presented at the First Trust and Safety Research Conference. Stanford, CA. Sept. 2022.

[P6] **Diyi Liu**. *International News Flow in a Digital Era: A Network Analysis of Online News Websites' Mentions and Hyperlinks.* Paper presented at the 8th Conference of the International Journal of Press/Politics (IJPP). Loughborough, United Kingdom. Sept. 2022.

[P7] **Diyi Liu**. *Revisiting International News Flow: A Network Analysis of Online News Websites' Mentions and Hyperlinks.* Poster virtually presented at the 8th International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2). Chicago, IL. July 2022.

[P8] **Diyi Liu**. *Hyperlinking in the Digital Mediasphere: Transnational Online News Flow and Intermedia Agenda Setting.* Paper virtually presented at the 2020 Sunbelt Conference of the International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA). July 2020.

[P9] **Diyi Liu**. *What Determines the Global Communication Order: A Network Analysis of Transnational News Flow in Digital Mediasphere.* Paper virtually presented at the annual conference of the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR). July 2020.

[P10] Wenjing Pan, **Diyi Liu**, and Peña Jorge. *Body Esteem Mediating the Effects of Social Comparison on Men's Weight-Loss Planned Behaviors.* Paper virtually presented at the 70th Annual Conference of the International Communication Association (ICA2020). May 2020.

Workshops and Summer Programs

[P1] **Diyi Liu**. *Borderline Speech and Networked Governance: TikTok's Moderation Controversies in South and Southeast Asia.* Presented at the Workhop on Content Moderation and Free Speech on Social Media. Technical University of Munich. Munich, Germany. Oct. 2023.

[P2] **Diyi Liu**. *Content Moderation, Platform Governance, and Legitimacy: TikTok in South and Southeast Asia.* Alternative Platforms/Platform Alternatives: Comparisons and Transnational Flows Workshop. Weizenbaum Institute for the Networked Society. Berlin, Germany. Oct. 2023.

[P3] **Diyi Liu**. *Content Moderation, Platform Governance, and Legitimacy.* Participated and presented at the Digital Good Network (DGN) Summer School. University of Sheffield. Sheffield, UK. July 2023.

[P4] Gregory Clark, **Diyi Liu**, and Benjamin Evans. *Spectral ranking inversions as a function of network dimensionality.* Participated and presented at the Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS). Oxford, United Kingdom. July 2022.

[P5] **Diyi Liu**. *Transnational Governance behind Chinese Platforms' Overseas Content Moderation: A Case Study of TikTok's Global Reach to Southern and Southeastern Asia.* Paper presented at the China's Digital Expansion in the Global South Workshop. University of Manchester. Manchester, UK. July 2022.

TEACHING

Teaching Qualifications

Associate Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (AFHEA), Reference No. PR303626

Fall 2022-2024   **Foundations of Social Data Science** *Teaching Assistant, Oxford Internet Institute*
This course is for MSc students in Social Data Science about the fundamental questions raised in the field of computational social science. I attended lectures, hosted weekly seminars, and hosted one-on-one office hours to assist students in completing formative and summative essays. *Course Introduction*

October 2023   **Political Influencers, Cybertroopers and Emotions** *Guest Lecturer, National University of Singapore*
Guest lecture at Prof. Taberez Ahmed Neyazi's course for the undergraduate students at the Department of Communications and New Media.

Fall 2022   **JRLC 5080 International Mass Communication** *Tutor, University of Georgia*
The course is for visiting students from the University of Georgia in Oxford to critically examine global communication studies. I independently developed course syllabus, led weekly tutorial sessions, designed & marked assignments, mentored and answered questions. *Course Syllabus*

Spring 2021   **Applied Research Method in Communication** *Teaching Assistant, Renmin University of China*
Designed for part-time communication major students focusing on quantitative social scientific research methods including surveys, experimental design, and social network analysis. Attended lectures, developed and led discussion activities, answered questions, collected and graded assignments.

Fall 2020   **Quantitative Research Method in Communication** *Teaching Assistant, Renmin University of China*
Designed for communication major students focusing on social scientific research methods employed in communication studies. Attended lectures, developed and led discussion activities, collected and graded assignments.

ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIP & SERVICES

Professional Memberships

International Communication Association (ICA)
Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)

2020-2024   **Journal and Conference Reviewer**
New Media & Society; Journal of Information Technology & Politics; Social Science Computer Review; Social Science & Medicine; International Communication Association (ICA) Annual Conference; International Network for Social Network Analysis (INSNA) Annual Conference; Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) Annual Conference

Nov 2022   **Panel Chair**
Challenges and Opportunities in Computational Research on Media and Politics, 8th Annual Conference of The International Journal of Press/Politics, Loughborough, UK

June 2022   **Conference Organiser**
Connected Life 2022: Designing Digital Futures. Oxford, UK

Jan-Jun 2022   **Session Lead**
Co-Working Community, Social Sciences Division, University of Oxford

2021-2022   **Cultural Secretary** The Clarendon Scholars' Council

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

2024   **Meta** Actor and Behavior Policy Expert Circle
2021.05-08   **Kuaishou Technology** Beijing, China

Intern, Global Government Affairs & Public Policy. Worked closely with global Trust and Safety Teams, as well as regional policy teams in Southeast Asia, to advise on the political and policy implications of product development.

2019.06–2019.09 **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization** Bangkok, Thailand
Intern, Communication and Information (CI) Sector. Extensively contributed to the pilot study in Thailand on the Internet Universality Indicators (IUI) Framework; Assisted in research, implementation and reporting of communication and information programs in Mekong region focused on media governance, freedom of expression and journalism education.

2018.11–2019.05 **Thomson Reuters Shanghai News Bureau** Shanghai, China
Intern, Company, Commodities and Technology News Team. Covered China's macroeconomy, primarily commodities market, internet companies, and government policies; Desk research on 20+ industrial economy issues including cement market, co-working industry, and Apple-Qualcomm feud

SKILLS

Technical R, SPSS, Gephi, LIWC, LaTeX, Tableau, Python, SQL
Language Mandarin (native); English (proficient); German (elementary)

Last updated: December 18, 2024