



# Combat Disinformation on Internet in Conflict with Human Rights.

Any medium transports any message. Some are unwanted.

# Different aspects of the tension.

What to expect:

- This intro ;-)
- Legal Perspective  
Dr. iur. Elif Askin, University of Zurich
- Historical Overview  
Dr. Richard Hill, Association for Proper Internet Governance
- Current Situation Concerning Internet Platforms  
Philippe (Pipo) Burger, Pirate Party Switzerland
- Q&A and Public Discussion  
Moderated by Monica Amgwerd, Pirate Party Switzerland

# Truth – a nerd's perspective.

- Is it correct that Galaxy class starships have a length of 641 meters?
- Well, in Star Trek universe it is ;- ) (Unfortunately for the fans, only there.)
- Saul Kripke (Princeton) speaks of “possible worlds”.
- Models and even physics exist in possible worlds.
- All possible worlds exist in our imagination. Including the Real World.
- The Real World is the one we believe to match reality.
- Reality is what does not go away when you stop believing.
- Sensible people adapt their idea of the Real World based on evidence.
- But there is a more common way to learn about reality: communication.

# The Real World out of communication.

- Your parents speak to you. And you believe.
- In school you're taught. The teacher speaks to you. And you believe.
- Your schoolmates and friends speak to you. You want to believe.
- Evidence shows up. And you may learn what deception is.
- This forms the first version of your Real World.
- Communicated evidence is pure believe, because it is pure claim.
- Evidence you perceive yourself is the only type of evidence which directly relates you to reality.
- Communication scales way better than perception.
- Therefore, most parts of your Real World are based on believe and not on evidence.

# Speech Acts.

- A speaker is a person.
- Persons have intentions and follow interests.
- They do things in intention to follow their interests.
- One thing they do is to speak to other people.
- John Searle (Berkeley) calls this a Speech Act: to speak is to act.
- Your parents may love you so much that they never use deception.
- Minus Santa and his reindeer.
- Your teachers tell you about their Real World. They believe what they say.
- Not all people are so kind. And religious schools exist.

# Not all people always speak truthfully.

- Scientists found out that politicians who lie do exist. No, really.
- To be fair: democracy is a competition of people and their ideas.
- The job of a politician is to convince people by talking to them.
- The goal of this competition is to talk to them in a way, that they do what you need them to do. I.e. elect you, vote for the wanted party, etc.
- They speak to form your Real World in a way, that you conclude to do what they want you to do.
- Believe is the substance politics works with.
- Politicians searching for power are just doing their job. That's the system.

# Where is the truth?

- Sentence: smallest possible grammatically complete part of a statement in a language.
- Proposition: the sense of the sentence.
- $\mathbb{R} \leftrightarrow \{ \forall p \in \mathbb{R}: "p \in \mathbb{R}" \}$
- Sentences are countable because Language is countable.
- Propositions are not.
- Propositions are true if their intension matches reality. If so, we call them facts.
- We can talk about Galaxy class spaceships. And about the Real World. Even about talking.
- Talking about reality always implies talking about mathematics or about the Real World.

# But where is the truth now?

- People who are in error and talk truthfully do not speak the truth. They say what they believe.
- Everyone talking truthfully say what they believe.
- Liars intentionally do not say what they believe. By mishap they may say the truth.
- Everyone using speech acts to reach a goal says what others shell believe.
- Advertising and propaganda communicate through mass media to reach as many people as they can.
- Who is the judge?



# Who is the judge?

- Nietzsche: All seeing is perspective seeing.
- There is no “objective viewpoint”.
- There are people with interests in the topic.
- There may be people without obvious interests in the topic.
- There may actually be people without own interests in a topic. But follow the money.
- The answer of enlightenment is you are the judge for your own Real World.
- No, really. Not Minitrue. Not the fact checkers. You.
- A judge needs to hear all positions to decide.
- And this is why we support Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Information.
- Because the alternatives are all worse.



Be careful when you believe what  
you think!

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