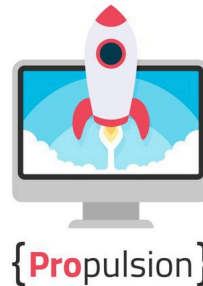


Migration and Social Media

Hackathon

19th & 20th of March



Welcome to Webster Geneva

- Migration is a key topic at the university across departments (e.g., Humanitarian conference, the WHA)
- Creativity and innovation are equally important (the WCCI), and this encouraged us to participate in Open Geneva
- The topic of social media chosen based on current research on malevolent linguistic creativity on Twitter

Welcome from Open Geneva

- Thomas Maillart, Université de Genève
- President of Open Geneva



Why migration?

Arrivals by sea

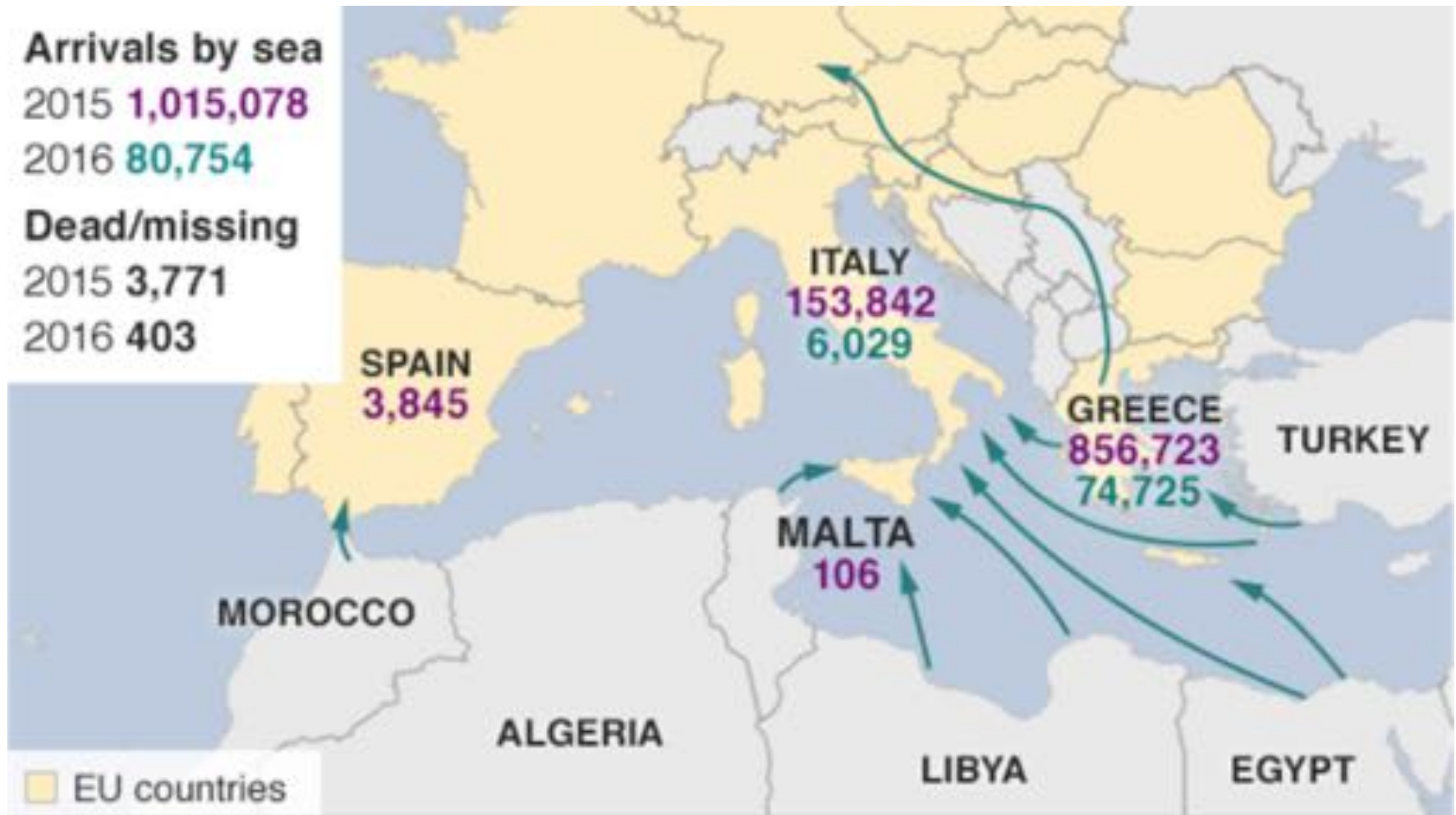
2015 **1,015,078**

2016 **80,754**

Dead/missing

2015 **3,771**

2016 **403**



Source: UNHCR

BBC

Why migration?



Why migration?



Donald J. Trump ✓

@realDonaldTrump

Following

23% of Federal inmates are illegal immigrants. Border arrests are up 240%. In the Great State of Texas, between 2011 & 2018, there were a total of 292,000 crimes by illegal aliens, 539 murders, 32,000 assaults, 3,426 sexual assaults and 3000 weapons charges. Democrats come back!

9:42 AM - 12 Jan 2019



**If I had a bowl that was filled with 10,000 M&M's
But I told you that 10 of them were deadly poison
would you eat a handful?**

**This is how I feel about
the Syrian refugees**

**DON'T FORGET TO HATE REFUGEES
AS YOU SET UP A NATIVITY SCENE**



**CELEBRATING A MIDDLE EASTERN COUPLE
DESPERATELY LOOKING FOR SHELTER**

Definitions

- **Migrant:** a person who moves from one place to another, within or between countries
- **Types of migrants:** economic, political, environmental, etc. A refugee is a person forced to flee his or her country (UNHCR)
- These categories can become **blurred** and, in practice, their use depends on different **agendas** (e.g., expats, illegal aliens)



Definitions

- **Social media:** websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or to participate in social networking
- **Types of social media:**
 - Social networking (Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+)
 - Microblogging (Twitter, Tumblr)
 - Photo sharing (Instagram, Snapchat, Pinterest)
 - Video sharing (YouTube, Facebook Live, Vimeo)



Program Day 1

09:30 - 9:50 – Welcome and opening

09:50 - 10:10 – Mixed Migration and *Telling the Real Story*. Talk by Daniela Cicchella, UNCHR

10:10 - 10:30 – Group creativity and collaboration. Talk by Vlad Glaveanu, Head of Psychology, Director WCCI

10:30 - 11:00 – Hackathon challenges

11:00 - 11:30 – Group formation (around coffee)

11:30 - 13:00 – Work on challenges

13:00 - 14:00 – Lunch

14:00 - 16:30 – Work on challenges

16:30 - 17:30 – Wrapping up the day

17:30 - End of the day apero



Program Day 2

09:00 - 10:00 – Join us for breakfast

10:00 - 13:00 – Work on challenges

13:00 - 14:00 – Lunch

14:00 - 15:30 – Work on challenges and prepare final presentation

15:30 - 17:00 – Presentations

17:00 - 17:30 – Drinks (and jury deliberation)

17:30 - Awards ceremony and wrap up



Prizes

1st prize to the value of 200 CHF

2nd prize to the value of 150 CHF

3rd prize to the value of 100 CHF

(no 'prizes per challenge')



- These amounts can be donated by Webster to a charity of your choice!

Practical info

- Get on **Sparkboard**! We will use this platform to communicate throughout the hackathon (opengeneva.sparkboard.com)
- The **bathrooms** (and a whole new works space, with sofas) can be found downstairs
- **Lunches** will be served in this room (LLC Commons) and **coffee / fruits / cookies** should be available throughout*

* We will make our best efforts

The challenges

1. Fighting misinformation on social media concerning migration

- Identify representations of migration and/or
- Reduce the spread & impact of misinformation



The challenges

2. Discovering new and positive uses of social media for migrants

- Target users: migrants or helpers of migrants
- Adapt existing social media or propose a new one



Working on the challenges

- You will work for these challenges in interdisciplinary groups (3 to 5 people)
- You will ideally work here or downstairs; can also work outside the schedule
- We also have mentoring / support for you:
 - Vlad Glaveanu (Webster University Geneva)
 - Constance de Saint Laurent (Univ. of Bologna/EPFL)
 - Nitin Kumar (Propulsion Academy)



Mixed Migration and *Telling the Real Story*

- Daniela Cicchella

Team Leader – Communicating with Communities

Division of External Relations

UNHCR Geneva



Group creativity and collaboration

Vlad Glaveanu

Associate Professor

Head of Psychology and Counseling



Geneva

What creativity is about

What creativity is about

- Novelty
- Originality
- Value
- Meaning
- Surprise
- Openness
- Curiosity
- **Difference**



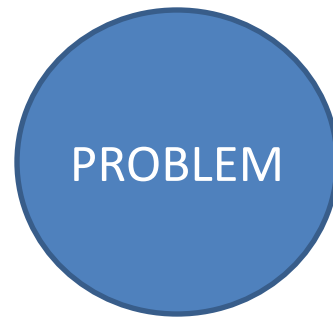
Creativity and difference

- Creativity is a process that thrives on differences between:
 - People: worldviews, knowledge, experience
 - The past, the present, and the future
 - The real and the possible or imagined
 - The conventional and alternative(s)
- In other words, between established or dominant perspectives and new points of view

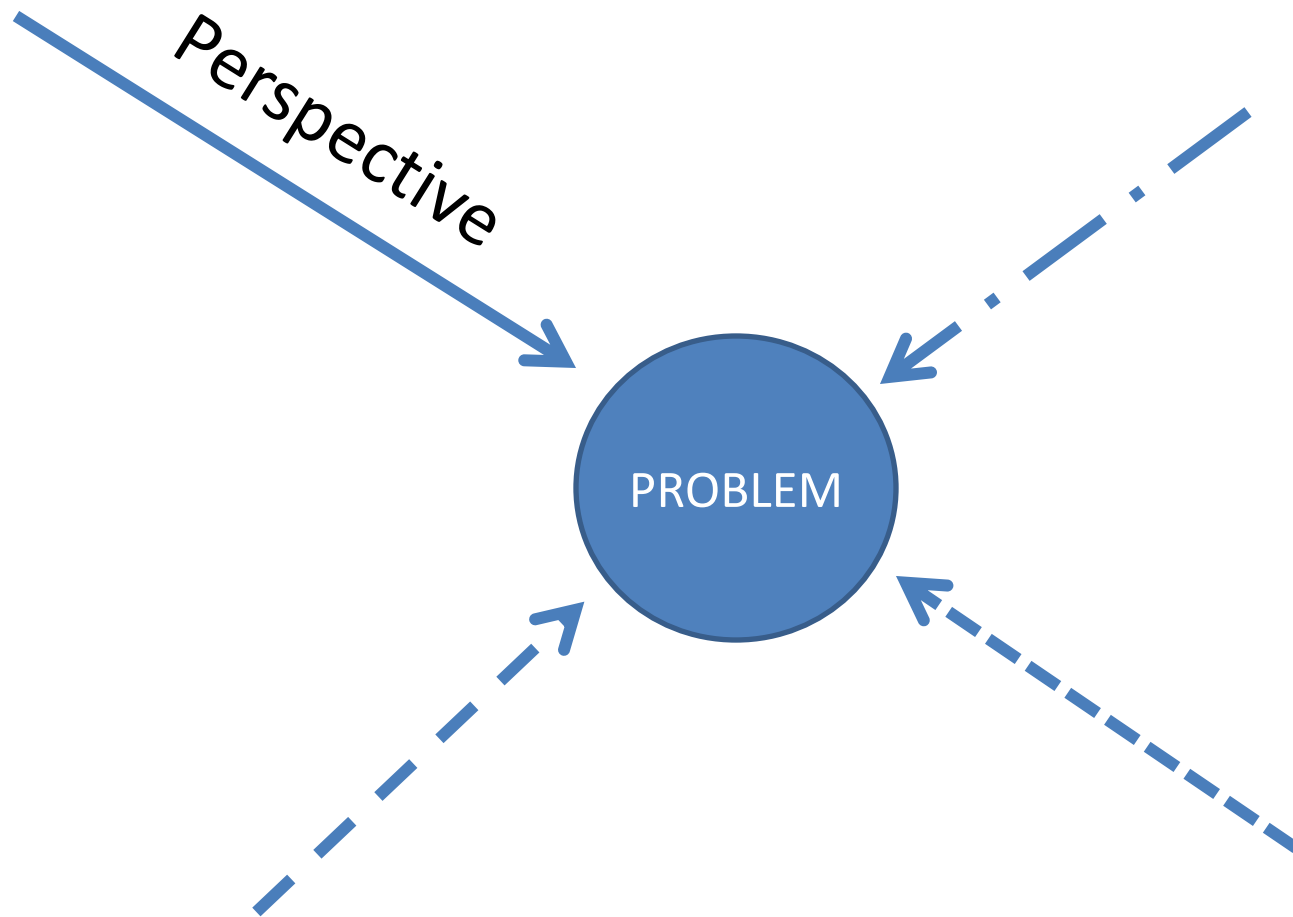














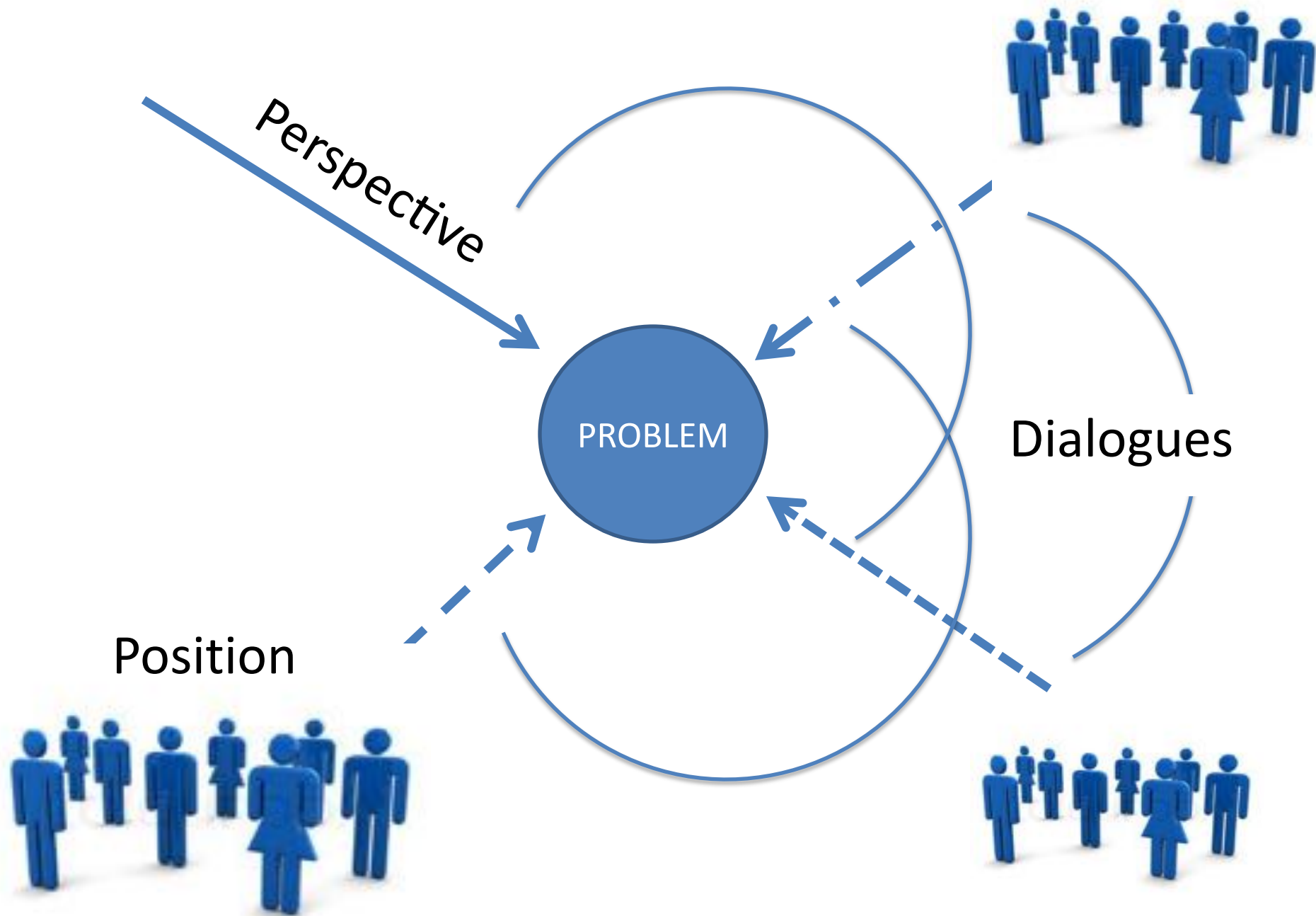
Perspective

PROBLEM

Position













Simple and yet

- There are many obstacles to this process:
 - We are often not aware of differences in perspective or easily dismiss them
 - We might think we understand (take) the perspective of others when we don't
 - Perspective-taking is shaped by power relations
- Difference is **a necessary but not sufficient condition** for creativity, including in groups

Brainstorming: a success story (?)

- A group creativity technique made popular by Alex Osborn's 1953 book *Applied Imagination*
- The 'golden rule' is not to criticize ideas at all during the generation stage
- The assumption is that people will be inspired by the ideas of others
- The main principle of brainstorming is: **quantity will lead to quality**

NOISE TO SIGNAL

Rob Cottingham

We're brainstorming here,
and there are no dumb ideas.
But if we weren't brainstorming,
that would have been
a really, really dumb idea.



Why groups (can) fail

- Social loafing, conformity, production blocking, and downward norm setting (Thompson, 2004)
- Topic fixation and social inhibition (Sawyer, 2007)
- Social comparison processes leading to convergence (Larey and Paulus, 1999), as well as group think (Janis, 1972)
- Reduced motivation to share divergent ideas and concerns over evaluation (Paulus et al., 2006)

Creative group work

- There are many positive outcomes of group work when it comes to creativity
- Group members can share new perspectives and use complementary skill sets
- For this though there are a few preconditions:
 - **Openness** to the views of others
 - **Respect** for the expertise of others
 - **Ability to integrate** different perspectives

Creative group work

- Stage 1: **Preparation**
 - Getting to know each other more broadly
 - Listening to what everyone has to contribute
- Stage 2: **Ideation**
 - Not deciding too early on a certain idea
 - Being able to tolerate ambiguity and tension
- Stage 3: **Implementation**
 - Evaluate ideas best of a set of clear criteria
 - Integrate perspectives whenever possible
 - Be open to emergence

Disciplinary perspectives

- **Mono-disciplinarity:** less conflict but also less emergence (i.e., creative potential)
- **Cross-disciplinarity:** disciplinary perspectives are listened to but not integrated
- **Inter-disciplinarity:** disciplinary perspectives are used to generate novel perspectives
- **Trans-disciplinarity:** disciplines disappear – missing the tension needed for emergence

Creativity is based on cultivating
meaningful types of difference



Back to the challenges



Reminder

The challenges

1. Fighting misinformation on social media concerning migration

- Identify representations of migration and/or
- Reduce the spread & impact of misinformation



Challenge 1: Questions

Address ONE or MORE:

1. How are migrants represented on social media?
2. What kind of misinformation circulates around migrants on social media?
3. How can we identify misinformation?
4. How can we prevent people from spreading misinformation?
5. Can we inoculate people against misinformation?
6. What are the consequences of misinformation?

Challenge 1: Data

- Over **one million tweets** collected over **one month period** using the keywords '**immigration**', '**immigrant**', '**immigrants**'
- Available at this [link](#) (original data also in Json format available on demand; too big for online)
- Available in CVS format for those who want to use **R or Python** or similar (those who want to use **Excel** or similar should talk to Constance)
- Other datasets are perfectly fine to use!

Reminder

The challenges

2. Discovering new and positive uses of social media for migrants

- Target users: migrants or helpers of migrants
- Adapt existing social media or propose a new one



Challenge 2: Questions

Address ONE or MORE:

1. How can we make existing social media more migration-friendly (fight racism, etc.)?
2. What kind of tools / resources can social media provide to help migrants at different stages of their migration process (prepare departure, the journey, adapt to the new country and/or keep connection with home country)?
3. What kind of social media can we propose to facilitate efforts to help migrants?

Challenge 2: Data

- There is no dataset we offer for this challenge, however, there are plenty of data sources and innovations out there you can look into!
- [Telling the Real Story](#) (UNHCR)
- [Media portrayals of refugees project](#)
- [The health of refugees and asylum seekers in Europe](#) (evidenceaid.org)
- [United Nations Global Pulse](#) (Harnessing big data for development and humanitarian action)
- [Is your app the best way to help refugees?](#) (UNHCR page)

Challenges: Outcome

- At the end of two (intense and fun) days, you are expected to come, as a group, with ONE innovative solution for ONE challenge
- The outcome is your group presentation of your solution – **15 minutes** end of day two
- The format of this presentation is completely up to you, including who presents it
- BUT there are criteria of evaluation

Challenges: Criteria of success

1. Clearly **address one challenge** and answer one (or more) questions within it
2. Demonstrate **creativity** – the tasks are open ended but it's important not to reinvent the wheel
3. Solutions need to be **evidence-based** (not necessarily use our data but process some data)
4. **Proof of concept** – solutions need to 'work' in a demonstrable manner
5. Bonus criterion: solutions should reflect **interdisciplinarity** and mix areas of expertise

Judges

- **Vlad Glăveanu**, social psychology / creativity research, Webster University Geneva
- **Constance de Saint Laurent**, social psychology / data science, University of Bologna / EPFL
- **Claude Chaudet**, computer science, Webster University Geneva
- **Jubin Goodarzi**, international relations, Webster University Geneva
- **Francesco Arese Visconti**, media and communication, Webster University Geneva
- **Nitin Kumar**, data science, Propulsion Academy, Zurich

Group formation

- Participating groups have **3 to 5 people**
- Most participants registered without a group so please use a **red dot** to signal you are looking for people to work with
- Also use the **labels** to write down your name and main area(s) of expertise (e.g., social scientist, humanitarian worker, data scientists, qualitative researcher, etc.)

Find your group over coffee
And **good luck!**
(we will be here with you)

