



TITLE

Governance structures and practices in social media companies

LAB & PEOPLE

- Name of the hosting lab: Lab-LEX
General activities of the lab: Legal research
Website: <https://www.univ-brest.fr/lab-lex/fr>
Number of staff / PhD: 30/21
- Supervisor name and contact: Valère Ndior, ndior@univ-brest.fr

TOPIC OF THE INTERSHIP

- **Scientific context of the internship (max 20 lines)**

The research project « Governance and Regulation of Social Media » (GRS) is led by Prof. Valère Ndior within the Lab-LEX center of the University of Bretagne occidentale (Brest, France) and thanks to an “innovation” chair of the Institut universitaire de France (2022-2027).

The project has three objectives: to inventory legislation, private standards, charters and other instruments intended to regulate both the social media themselves and the activities of their users; to determine the adequacy of these guidelines from a legal, technical and ethical perspective, while assessing their adaptability in the light of the mutations of the platforms; and finally, to circulate the findings to public and private stakeholders. This project will ultimately lead to the creation of toolkits that institutions, companies and members of civil society can use to define or rethink their use of social media.

Conferences, seminars and workshops open to the public are organized as part of this research project. Reports and policy papers are also published. The project holder has developed partnerships with several institutions at a global scale.

<http://grsmedia.wordpress.com>

Keywords: social media, technology, digital, law, business, economy, internet

Bibliography: S. Roberts, *Behind the screen – Content moderation in the shadows of social media*, Yale Univ. Press, 2021; D. Boyd, N. Ellison, « Social Network Sites: Definition, History and Scholarship », *Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication*, 2007, vol. 13, n° 1; R. Badouard, *Les nouvelles lois du web. Modération et censure*, Seuil, 2020; Z. Tufekci, *Twitter and tear gas: the power and fragility of networked protests*, Yale Univ. Press, 2017 ; D. Kaye, *Speech police: the global struggle to govern internet*, Columbia Global Reports, 2019; Sh. Zuboff, *The age of surveillance capitalism*, Public Affairs, 2019; J. Kosseff, *The twenty-six words that created Internet*, Cornell Univ. Press, 2019; Sh. Frenkel, C. Kang, *The Ugly Truth*, Bridge Press, 2021; K. Klonick, « The New Governors: the people, rules and processes governing online speech », *Harvard Law Review* 131, 2017; T. Gillespie, *Custodians of the Internet*, New Haven, Yale Univ. Press, 2018.



2023-24 – doing a Master internship at UBO



- **Tasks and duties entrusted to the student**

Monitoring of events affecting social media companies' governance (US, EU and some other countries). Data collection and analysis. Contribution to written reports, notes and seminars.

Depending on their academic profile, the intern might be invited to publish short pieces (blog notes) under their name, with the guidance of the supervisor. The intern will be provided sufficient time to work on their dissertation/internship report if needed.

- **Skills to be acquired or developed**

Communication, data collection and analysis, writing, teamwork in a multicultural environment, sense of organization, autonomy, critical thinking.

PROFILE OF THE DESIRED STUDENT

- Minimum level of study required: Master
- Field(s) of study: Law, Economics, Management, Sociology or Political science
- Scientific skills: Writing and analysis skills. Data collection. Genuine interest for technology and societal issues. The student must be able to read and understand documents in English (articles, news, reports). The student is expected to be able to contribute to research activity.
- Language skills required: English (C1, written and spoken); French (optional, basic knowledge recommended for daily communication with staff)

THE INTERNSHIP ASSIGNMENT:

Desired duration of the internship (in months): 3

Desired Starting date of the mission: Mid-January 2024

Indicative weekly schedule: 35h / week

Remuneration: 600€/month, paid on national SEA-EU funds for a maximum of 5 months; additional Erasmus grant could be asked to your own university

Internship agreement: *an internship agreement will be signed.*

To SEA-EU students:

If you're interested please send your CV and letter of motivation to the scientist in charge, ndior@univ-brest. before December 1st 2023.