



What's IN-cubating?

January - March 2022



The first quarter of this year has been an exciting one for IN-cube. We celebrated our first anniversary on 28 January with a webinar presenting our research work for the past one year. We revamped our website and created an interactive blog where users can explore our panel survey data. We also launched our *Fake News in Asia Webinar Series* and have heard from seven researchers from across the region in the first two sessions. We're also looking forward to IN-cube's participation in the upcoming International Communication Association (ICA) conference, which will be held in May in Paris, where our centre's faculty and student members will be presenting a total of 19 research papers. In this issue of our newsletter, we share more details about what has been keeping us busy in the last three months. If there's anything that interests you, let us know, and we'd love to collaborate!

Edson C. Tandoc Jr.
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Public Engagement

IN-cube 1st Anniversary Webinar



During our commemorative 1st Anniversary Webinar held on 28 January 2022, our team at IN-cube shared the findings of our two-year longitudinal study about Singaporeans' internet usage, habits, and experiences; the findings are published in a working paper as well as in an interactive map, accessible via the IN-cube website.

Watch the Zoom recording [here](#).

Fake News in Asia: An IN-cube Webinar Series

IN-cube Director Edson C. Tandoc Jr hosted the first of the Fake News in Asia Webinar Series on 17 February 2022. The webinar series laid the path for future collaborations with overseas universities. Attended by more than 90 participants, the webinar discussed the fake news situation in Asia with four communication and political science experts from Malaysia, Indonesia, China and India. The webinar highlighted the types and causes of fake news in these four countries, and the consequences and the countermeasures being undertaken to combat fake news.



Watch the Zoom recording [here](#).

Fake News in Asia: Fake News and Elections



In our second Fake News in Asia Webinar Series held on 24 March 2022, three experts were invited to discuss the issue of fake news during elections in South Korea, the Philippines, and Hong Kong. The speakers shared about the impact of social media use and fact-checking as well as the challenge in measuring fake news exposure and beliefs.

Watch the Zoom recording [here](#).

IN-cube in the news



On 28 January 2022, our centre's Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Goh Zhang Hao was interviewed on Channel 8. He shared about IN-cube's findings on the current fake news situation in Singapore, highlighting a higher resilience displayed by Singaporeans now as compared to in the past. He further shared that more Singaporeans now factcheck before forwarding information they receive, hence, helping to differentiate actual news from fake ones. This contributes to mitigating the spread of fake news.

To find out more, you may watch the video [here](#).

THE STRAITS TIMES

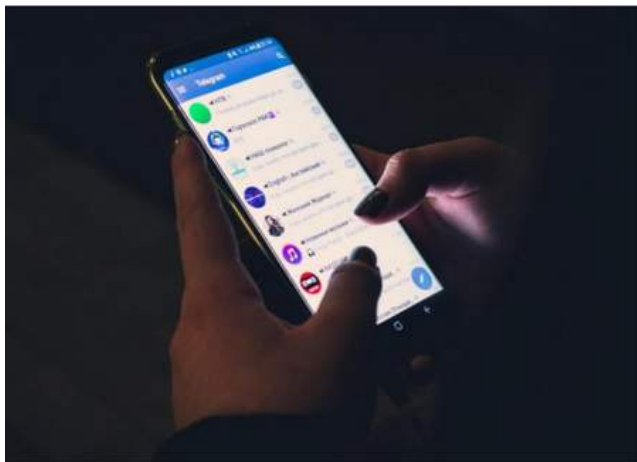
Many in Singapore confident they can spot fake news but may not actually be able to: Study

This article published in The Straits Times on 28 January 2022 discusses the gap between the self-perceived ability of Singaporeans to differentiate between real and fake news with their actual ability to do so amid the Covid-19 pandemic. An IN-cube study has shown that about 7 in 10 people admitted that they have unknowingly shared fake news; due to complacency, people might end up believing information they come across even if they do not have the ability to figure out whether it is true or not

To find out more, you may read the article [here](#).



ST Explains: Why is Telegram so popular and what can be done about its problems?



This Straits Times article published on 8 February 2022 talks about the issues of crime, misinformation, and abuse surrounding the popular social media application Telegram. One of the reasons highlighted by Associate Professor Edson C. Tandoc Jr was the anonymity allowed to its users as a result of the lack of phone number needed for registration.

Read more about it [here](#).



调查：疫情期间 主流媒体取代社交平台成为最常用新闻来源

订户

来自 / 联合早报
文 / 尹云芳

IN-cube's work was mentioned in a 29 January 2022 article published in the largest Chinese-language newspaper in Singapore, Lianhe Zaobao. The article talks about the three-wave study conducted by the centre and, in particular, it highlights the changes in news consumption behaviour in Singapore. The findings reflect that over the past year, there has been a decrease in the usage of social media platforms as sources of news and an increase in the usage of mainstream media sites and platforms.

You may read more about it [here](#).

Conference Presentations



IN-cube will have a strong presence in the upcoming 72nd Annual International Communication Association (ICA) conference in Paris this May. The annual ICA conference is an important event for communication scholars to network and share their research ideas, findings, and knowledge with one another.

Our very own IN-cube members (comprising of research staff, students, and faculty members) will be participating by presenting a total of 19 papers throughout the course of the conference on 27-31 May 2022.

List of papers to be presented by IN-cube cluster members and collaborators

AI Agency vs. Human Agency: Understanding Human-AI Interactions on TikTok and Their Implications on User Experience (Chen Lou, Hyunjin Kang)

Can Press Freedom Enhance the effect of News Exposure on COVID-19 Health Beliefs? A Health Belief Model Perspective (Zhang Hao Goh, Edson Tandoc, Charles Salmon, Hye Kyung Kim)

Content tracing: Examining forwarded WhatsApp messages during the COVID-19 pandemic (Edson Tandoc, Seth Seet, Ker Hian Lua, Weng Wai Mak)

COVID-19 Goes Viral: Social Media and Messaging Apps During a Pandemic (Yong Jia Toh, Edson Tandoc, Zhang Hao Goh)

Directing People to Contact with Moral Compass: Examining Moral Foundations of Contact Willingness (Jingwei Zheng, Nuri Kim)

Drug, Demon or Donut? Theorizing the Relationship Between Social Media Use, Digital well-being and Digital Disconnection (Edmund W.J. Lee)

Examining Data Absenteeism and Data Chauvinism in Topic Modelling of COVID-19 Vaccine-Related Content on Social Media (Huanyu Bao, Ryan Heen Sunn Chang, Edmund W. J. Lee)

Fake News vs. Real News (Edson Tandoc, Matthew Chew)

For You Page, but Is it Worthwhile? Modality Effects of Tiktok News on Credibility, News Sharing and Intention to Continue Use (Matthew Chew, Gabriel Wong, Shruti Malviya, Siti Rahil Dollah)

Functional Interlopers: Lifestyle Journalists' Discursive Construction of Boundaries Against Digital Lifestyle Influencers (Matthew Chew, Lydia Cheng)

Lying together? Spreading and correcting fake news as groupwork (Seth Seet, Edson Tandoc)

Plan B is for Burnout — Community Building and Social Support between Journalists (Matthew Chew, Lydia Cheng)

Plant-Based Meat and the Perceived Familiarity Gap Hypothesis: The Role of Health and Environmental Consciousness (Sofia Tan Contreras, Pengya Ai, Shirley Ho)

Predictors of Ehealth Behaviors: A Comparison Between United States, Singapore, and India Using the Imehu Perspective (May O. Lwin, Zoe Ong, Hye Kyung K. Kim)

Prospective Testing of The Theory of Normative Social Behavior on Mask-Wearing during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Hye Kyung Kay Kim, Hui Min Lee, Edson Tandoc)

Tight versus Loose Cultures: Testing the Theory of Normative Social Behavior Across Eight Asian Countries (Jingyuan J. Shi, Hye Kyung K. Kim, Zhang Hao Goh, Edson Tandoc, Charles Salmon)

Videoconferencing and work-family conflict: Exploring the role of videoconference fatigue (Benjamin (Benjy) J Li, Shruti Malviya, Edson Tandoc)

What is (Automated) News? A Content Analysis of Algorithm-Written Stories (Edson Tandoc, Shangyuan Wu, Jessica Tan, Sofia Tan Contreras)

Weaponizing visibility: Online vigilantism during COVID-19 (Edson Tandoc, Guan Peng Loy)

About IN-cube

IN-cube stands for Centre for Information Integrity and the Internet, a new research centre at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at Nanyang Technological University Singapore. It aims to contribute to promoting information integrity in online spaces, especially in an era of misinformation and disinformation, through timely, rigorous, and relevant research that links academics, policymakers, industry players, and the public. Learn more about IN-cube by visiting our website: ntu.edu.sg/incube