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Note from the Chief Articles & Symposium Editor

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Note from the Chief Articles & Symposium Editor

As the Chief Articles and Symposium Editor, it is my privilege to introduce you to the scholarly articles from the Free Speech Media Law Discussion Forum 2023, a prestigious academic gathering hosted at the University of Luxembourg. This forum brought together a group of distinguished experts who engaged in lively discussions on vital topics related to free speech and media law, with a particular focus on the impact of disinformation and misinformation campaigns on democracy.

During the forum, experts engaged in thoughtful debates and discussions, delving into various aspects of the evolving landscape of free speech and media law, including political online speech during election times, current regulatory developments affecting online speech in the U.S., EU, and India, and the role of AI and algorithms in amplifying online disinformation on social media platforms.

The University of Pacific Law Review is honored to publish the scholarly articles that emerged from these insightful discussions. Each of these articles provides a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities in the ever-evolving world of free speech and media law.

Professor Vincenzo Zeno-Zencovich begins the collection by critiquing EU institutions for restricting individual freedom of speech and shifting towards algorithmic regulation. Next Professor Russell L. Weaver addresses the challenge of disinformation in a free society and explores its scope and potential remedies within a democratic context.

Professors Luke M. Milligan and Louis Virelli delve into the U.S. Supreme Court's historical interpretation of "ordered liberty," and provide insights into the concept's evolution, variations in the Court's interpretations, and its significance in understanding free speech.

Professor Michael Losavio continues the forum's discussion with an exploration of how algorithmic design in social media systems can inadvertently promote harmful content and suggests solutions involving curation algorithms and artificial intelligence. Dr. Mariette W. Jones discusses the existing restrictions on online speech in the UK under various laws and the implications of the proposed Online Safety Bill, raising concerns about algorithmic censorship.

Professor Leslie Gielow Jacobs explores the contrasting approaches of European and U.S. courts to regulating false speech, emphasizing broader content-based regulations in Europe and permissible restrictions within the constitutional doctrine in the United States.

The forum concludes with Dr. Mark D. Cole discussing the parameters of European Media Law and its relationship with the European Media Freedom Act, highlighting the legal basis for the EU's authority in this area.

We hope that these scholarly contributions will ignite your interest in the complex and evolving field of free speech and media law.

Kathryn Merrill
Chief Articles & Symposium Editor
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