Friedrich Schiller Universität Institute of Political Science Department for International Relations

Regulation and Control of the Internet: Trends and Challenges

Teacher: Matthias Schulze, M.A. contact: matthias.schulze@uni-jena.de

Description

- This is a multidisciplinary seminar at the intersection of International Relations, Science and Technology Studies and Surveillance Studies. Its main question is, how power can be exercised with the help of technologies such as the Internet. Political Science currently lacks a coherent understanding of power in the digital age. Therefore we will import theories from neighboring disciplines such as sociology.
- We begin the seminar with a general discussion of different power concepts and will develop a framework for analyzing power in cyberspace. We will continue to look into the relationship between technology and the social world and will try to answer the question, if technology has any inherent political dimension.
- After this section we will take a closer look on the technology underlying the Internet and how control can be exercised. We will then turn to examples that describe governmental influence on cyberspace in China and in Russia. Finally we will take a closer look on Ukraine and your experiences with power in Cyberspace.

Requirements

- You should read the literature carefully and with an open-mind. Since we are dealing with both complex theories and complex technology I urge you to research individually the things that are not clear to you while reading the literature.
- You really should engage in the seminar discussion.
- There are a few minor assignments.

Final Exam

- There will be an exam at the end of the week. It will consist of two elements: The first section contains a few open questions regarding the literature we have talked about. The second part of the exam will be a short essay where you should discuss arguments about a topic.

Content

	Content			
	Date	Topic		
	24.10.14	Introduction	 Seminar Intro getting to know each other Video Clip & Discussion http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uk8x3V-sUgU https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TWpPaPeiLhw 	
2	24.10.14	Power Concepts	 Barnett, M., & Duvall, R. (2005). Power in International Politics. Int. Org., 59(01). Power over and Power-to on the Internet 	
3	25.11.14	Power and Technology 1	- Matthewman, S. (2011). Technology and Social Theory (Themes in Social Theory). Palgrave Macmillan., Chapter 1 - Theorizing Technology	
4	25.11.14	Power and Technology 2	 Winner, L. (1980). Do artifacts have politics. Daedalus, 109(1), 121-136. Matthewman, S. (2011). Technology and Social Theory (Themes in Social Theory). Palgrave Macmillan, Chapter 3 Assignment: Use Barnett/Duvall's table and try to add the theories discussed (Benjamin, Foucault, Elias) in Matthewman (2011) to the boxes. 	
5	26.11.14	Power and the Internet	 Lessig, L. (2006). Code: And Other Laws of Cyberspace, Version 2.0. Basic Books. Chapter 3. Is-Ism: Is the Way It Is the Way It Must Be? Chapter 4. Architectures of Control Chapter 5. Regulating Code Assignment: Collect and write down examples from your experience where software code forced you to do something or exercised power over you! 	
6	26.11.14	Internet Control 1 - Intermediary Control	 Goldsmith, J., & Wu, T. (2008). Who Controls the Internet?: Illusions of a Borderless World. Oxford University Press, USA. Chapter 5 - How Governments Rule the Net 	
7	27.11	Internet Control 2 - Censorship	 Deibert, R. (2014). Black Code: Surveillance, Privacy, and the Dark Side of the Internet. Signal. Chapter 2 Filters and Chokepoints Zuckernman, E. (2010). Intermediary Censorship. In R. Deibert, J. Palfrey, R. Rohozinski, & J. Zittrain (Eds.), Access Controlled. The Shaping of Power, Rights and Rule in Cyberspace. Cambridge, London: MIT Press. 	
8	27.11.14	Case Russia - next generation of control	 Deibert, R., & Rohozinski, R. (2010). Control and Subversion in Russian Cyberspace. In R. Deibert, J. Palfrey, R. Rohozinski, & J. Zittrain (Eds.), Access Controlled. The Shaping of Power, Rights and Rule in Cyberspace. Cambridge, London: MIT Press. Tselikov, A. (2014). The Tightening Web of Russian Internet Regulatiom. The Berkman Center for Internet & Society Research Publication Series, Research Publication No. 2014-15. https://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2014/russia-0 	
9	28.11.14	Discussion - Liberation or Control?	 Debate: Who should control the Web? Deibert, R., & Rohozinski, R. (2010). Liberation vs. Control: The Future of Cyberspace. Journal of Democracy, 21(4), 43-47. 	
10	28.11.14	Final Exam		
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