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## **A FEW SKETCHES ABOUT #CONNEXIONS24 (OR WELCOME TO #CONNEXIONS24)**

March 18-20, 2024, The University of Texas at Austin, USA, Texas, hosted the annual #Connexions conference. Traditionally, the organizer of the conference was the Slavic and Eurasian Studies Department (Head – professor Mary Neuburger) for the second year in a row, with the direct participation of the Clement Center for National Security at The University of Texas at Austin and Global (Dis)Information Lab at The University of Texas at Austin. Unlike last year's theme – "Global Media in Diplomacy and Foreign Policy", this year's conference was dedicated to "Developing Global Leadership for the Networked Information Age". Aiming at the development of interdisciplinary cooperation, global thinking, leadership, and the search for innovative solutions, the conference was "dedicated to unraveling the complexities of information disorder, civil (dis)engagement, and the digital (r)evolution".

#Connexions24 was excellent not only in content but also in form. Each day of the conference was equally divided into keynote, panel, book talk, poster session, and networking. This year's «innovation» of the conference was a series of organized workshops and book signing. The topics of the workshops were diverse (Deepfakes/Chearfakes; Puppet Masters; Information Laundering; Foreign Influence Risk Index, etc.). The workshop «Telegram & The Far Right» by Bellingcat was one of the most popular and crowded. This workshop covered how to find, monitor, and archive content from Telegram, and several methods of using information extracted from Telegram in digital footprint investigations, using examples from Bellingcat investigations. Book signing sessions were presented by one of the best-knowing authors Peter Pomerantsev (new book "How to Win an Information War: The Propagandist Who Outwitted Hitler", Hachette Book Group, 2024) and Lee McIntyre (new book "On Disinformation: How to Fight for Truth and Protect Democracy", The MIT Press, 2023).

#Connexions is not about long boring speeches. #Connexions is about cross-industry, cross-disciplinary, and international partnerships that seek creative and diverse solutions to develop the information space and counter-narratives.

### **References**

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## **КІЛЬКА НАРИСІВ ПРО #CONNEXIONS24, АБО ЛАСКАВО ПРОСИМО ДО #CONNEXIONS24)**

Автор заявляє про відсутність конфлікту інтересів. Спонсори не брали участі в розробленні дослідження; у зборі, аналізі чи інтерпретації даних; у написанні рукопису; в рішенні про публікацію результатів.

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