



Company / Organisation Name:	International Organization for Migration
Team / Department:	Global Migration Data Analysis Centre
Address:	Taubenstr. 20-22, D- 10117 Berlin, Germany

Provisional title for project:

Determining the key sources, speed and evolution of anti-migration sentiment on social media

Short description of the problem that would be addressed by the project:

Social media plays a pivotal role in shaping society and has become a main channel of communication, particularly prominent during the pandemic. While it enables social connections in a physically distance world, social media also creates echo chambers which reinforce pre-existing beliefs by restricting exposure to opposing views and facilitate the spread of misinformation and xenophobic and racist sentiment. The proposed project aims to identify key producers and spreaders of negative migration sentiment and misinformation on social media, and estimate the rate of speed of the associated messages.

Short description of the data sources that would be used in the project, and how they would be used

The data to be made available comprise historical geolocated Twitter data in the United Kingdom posted during December 2019-September 2020. The data contain a sample of tweets relating to migration, including original tweets, retweets, users' bio and their tweet interactions. The data have been anonymised and stored at the Geographic Data Science Lab within the University of Liverpool. The data can be accessed via the University of Liverpool VPN network.

Would any work by the student need to be carried out on site at the Company with the exception of supervisory meetings?

No

Any issues of data confidentiality and IPR that would need to be resolved

No

Essential skills

The student is required to have strong quantitative and computational skills and able to work with large and unstructured data.

Desirable skills

Use of Twitter data; Text Data Mining; Network Analysis; Machine Learning

Preferred degree programmes (if any)

Geographic Data Science

Preferred selection method

Online interview

Support and training offered by the company

Online meetings every two weeks

Financial assistance offered by the company

The organisation will pay the honorarium (£500)

Any other comments

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