Holding Platforms Accountable: Online Speech in the Age of Algorithms

This project at New America’s Open Technology Institute seeks to explore how internet platforms use automated tools in four key areas, and how companies, policymakers, civil society, and researchers can promote greater fairness, accountability, and transparency around algorithmic decision-making.

Internet platforms are increasingly adopting artificial intelligence and machine-learning tools in order to shape the content we see and engage with online. However, there is often a lack of transparency around how these automated tools are leveraged. This raises questions regarding how algorithmic tools impact user expression, how platforms safeguard user rights, and how these companies can be held accountable for their practices.

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Open Technology Institute (OTI)

**Stakeholder(s):**
Spandana Singh

**Vision**
Greater fairness, accountability, and transparency around algorithmic decision-making

**Mission**
To explore how internet platforms use automated tools

**Values**
- Fairness
- Accountability
- Transparency
1. Moderation

*Explore how Internet Platforms Are Using Artificial Intelligence to Moderate User-Generated Content*
2. News Feeds

*Explore how Algorithms Rank and Curate Content in Search Results and on News Feeds*
3. Ads

*Explore how Internet Platforms Use Artificial Intelligence to Target and Deliver Ads*
4. Recommendation Systems

Explore how Video and E-Commerce Platforms Use Recommendation Systems to Shape User Experiences

Stakeholder(s)

Video Platforms

E-Commerce Platforms
5. Proposals

Chart a path forward for internet platforms, civil society, researchers, and policymakers

Stakeholder(s)
- Internet Platforms
- Civil Society
- Researchers
- Policymakers

The fifth and final report in this series brings together analysis and recommendations to chart a path forward for internet platforms, civil society, researchers, and policymakers.

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