



**„I voted leave!
So, why are you still here?“
The Rise of Hate Speech
on British Mainstream Websites
in the Context of Brexit**

History shows that debates on political and economic transitions that have massive implications for the respective in-group usually serve as a catalyst for negative emotions such as hatred, fear or hostility leading to an increase in instances of hate speech. By examining the impact of Brexit on current conceptualizations of different out-groups on British mainstream news websites, Dr. Matthias J. Becker reveals how these exclusionary or even hateful concepts are verbally constructed. Have these concepts reached the status of ‘socially acceptable’? Hence, does the British mainstream already represent a forum for explicit discrimination? And if so, how do other web users react to its presence?

To answer these questions, Dr. Becker is applying a mixed method approach which is partly predicated on Machine Learning-based technology – making the project the first of its kind. This guest lecture will shed light on current trends of cyberhate based on extensive sets of authentic texts, a pragmalinguistic understanding of hate speech and technological solutions for web-specific challenges.

HCGES Open Lecture

Dr. Matthias J. Becker,
Postdoctoral researcher HCGES

Thursday, November 28

Library Auditorium, Room 146

**The Lecture will be held in English and
will be open for the public!**
