AIM SINPENG

Department of Government & International Relations
University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia
aim.sinpeng@sydney.edu.au
@aimsinpeng
www.aimsinpeng.co

SUMMARY OF ACHEIVEMENTS

- 25 peer-review journal articles and book chapters and a single-authored book with the University of Michigan Press
- $1.3 million in internal and external research grants
- Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Sydney
- First-ever researcher at the University of Sydney to receive a research award from Facebook
- Emerging Female Leader Award, University of Sydney
- Equity Prize for outstanding research, University of Sydney
- Student commendation for teaching every semester since 2015

QUALIFICATIONS

PhD Political Science, University of British Columbia (2014)
MA Russian and East European Studies (Distinction), University of Toronto (2007)
BA (Honours) Economics and International Relations, Connecticut College (2005)
IB Armand Hammer United World College of the American West (2001)

AWARDS, HONOURS AND PRIZES (Recent)

2021   Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA), Australian Research Council
2019   Equity Prize, University of Sydney
2019   Westpac Research Fellowship Award, finalist
2019   First University of Sydney researcher to receive research grant from Facebook
2018   Emerging Female Leader, University of Sydney
2018   Weiser Center for Emerging Democracy's Inaugural Speaker, University of Michigan
2017   Excellence in Teaching Award, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney
2014   Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research of Canada
2014   Young Southeast Asian Fellow, Southeast Asian Research Group (SEAREG)
2014   Teaching Excellence and Innovation Award, University of British Columbia

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Senior Lecturer in Comparative Politics, Department of Government and International Relations, University of Sydney
Co-Founder, Sydney Cyber Security Network, University of Sydney
Thailand Coordinator, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, University of Sydney
Founding Member, Association of Mainland Southeast Asian Scholars

CURRENT CONSULTANCIES

2015 – Present   Digital Media Strategist, Otus Intelligence Group, Sydney, Australia
2013 – Present   Country Expert for Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem)
2018 – Present   Consultant for the Bartelsmann Stiftung Foundation on the BTI Index on Democracy and Market Economy
2021   Consultant for the International Labor Migration (ILO)
2021   Consultant for Sembra Media

PEER-REVIEW PUBLICATIONS

Books

Opposing Democracy in the Digital Age: The Yellow Shirts in Thailand (2021). Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

From Activism to Disinformation: Social Media in Southeast Asia (2020), co-edited with Ross Tapsell. Singapore: ISEAS.

Journal Articles

"The Normalization of Intolerance: The 2019 Presidential Election in Indonesia." (2021) With Risa Toha and Dimitar Guorguiev. *Electoral Studies*, 74(102391).

"Hashtag Activism: Social Media and the #FreeYouth Protests in Thailand." (2021) *Critical Asian Studies* 53(2): 192-205.

"Strong Fans, Weak Campaigns: Social Media and Duterte in the 2016 Philippine Election." (2020) with Dimitar Guorguiev and Aris Arugay. *Journal of East Asian Studies*.

"Digital Media, Authoritarianism and Internet Controls in Southeast Asia." (2020). *Media, Culture & Society* 42(1): 25-39.

"Thailand's Parliamentary Election: Authoritarian Staying Power and Polarization." (2019). *Asian Politics & Policy*, 11(4): 670-672.

"The 'Crowd Factor' in Connective Action: Comparing Protest Communication Styles of Thai Facebook Pages." (2018). With Max Groemping. *Journal of Information Technologies and Politics,* 15(3): 197-214.

"Participatory Inequality in Online and Offline Political Engagement in Thailand." (2017). *Pacific Affairs* 90(2): 253-274.

"Social Media Data and the Dynamics of Thai Protests." (2015). With Benjamin Nyblade and Angela O'Mahoney. *Asian Journal of Social Science 43(5): 545-566.*

"Democratic Regression in Thailand: the Ambivalent Role of Civil Society and Political Institutions." (2014). With Erik Kuhonta. *Contemporary Southeast Asia 36 (4): 333-355.*

"Party Banning and Its Impacts on Party Institutionalization." (2014). *Contemporary Southeast Asia* 36 (4): 442-466.

"Corruption, Morality and the Politics of Reforms in Thailand." (2014). *Asian Politics & Policy* 6(4): 523-538.

"Thailand's Cyber Coup." (2014). *Cultural Anthropology* (September). Available online here: http://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/568-the-cyber-coup

"State Repression in Cyberspace: The Case of Thailand." (2013). *Asian Politics and Policy* 5(3): 421-440.

"From the Street to the Ballot Box: the July 2011 Election and the Rise of Social Movements in Thailand." (2012). With Erik Kuhonta. *Contemporary Southeast Asia* 34(3): 389-415.

"From Assembly to Streets: Contentious Politics in Thailand." (2011). *Rian Thai: International Journal of Thai Studies* 4: 1-25.

"Democracy from Above: Regime Transition in the Kingdom of Bhutan." (2007). *Journal of Bhutan Studies*, 21-47.

Book Chapters

"Cambodia: From Democratization of Information to Disinformation." With Mun Vong. In Aim Sinpeng & Ross Tapsell (Eds.). *From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation: Social Media in Southeast Asia*, (pp. 126-144): ISEAS: Yusof Ishak Institute.

"From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation." In Aim Sinpeng & Ross Tapsell (Eds.). *From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation: Social Media in Southeast Asia*, (pp. 1-19): ISEAS: Yusof Ishak Institute.

"From the Yellow Shirts to the Whistle Rebels: Comparative Analysis of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) and the People's Democratic Reform Committee (PDRC)." (2020) In *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Thailand*, edited by Pavin Chachavalpongpun, p. 145-155.

"The Changing Dynamics of Media and the Political Mobilization in Thailand." (2019). With Wimonsiri Hemthanon In *After the Coup: 22 May 2014 and the Future of Thailand*, edited by Michael Montesano, Terence Chong and Mark Heng. Singapore: ISEAS, p. 254-281.

"Varieties of Authoritarianism and the Limits of Democracy in Southeast Asia." (2018). With Aries Arugay. In *Contemporary Southeast Asia*, 3rd edition, edited by Alice Ba and Mark Beeson. London: Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 91-110.

"Chasing ISIS: Network Power, Distributed Ethics and Responsible Social Media Research." (2017). With Jonathon Hutchinson and Fiona Martin In *Internet Research Ethics for the Social Age: New Cases and Challenges*, edited by Michael Zimmer and Katharina Kinder-Kurlanda. Peter Land: Digital Transformations, pp. 57-71.

"The Middle Class and Democracy in Southeast Asia." (2015). With Aries Arugay In *Routledge Handbook of Democratization in Southeast Asia*, edited by William Case. London: Routledge, pp. 102-116.

"Party-Movement Coalition in Thailand's Political Conflict." (2013). In *Contemporary Socio-Cultural and Political Perspectives in Thailand*, edited by Pranee Liamputtong. Dordrecht: Springer, pp. 157-168.

"Balancing Non- Traditional Security and Human Rights: An ASEAN Experience." (2009). In *Geopolitics v. Global Governance: Re-Interpreting International Security*, edited by Sabrina Hoque. Halifax: Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, pp. 247-258.

Policy Reports (selected)

Regulating Hate Speech in the Asia Pacific (2021). Facebook Research. Access: https://hdl.handle.net/2123/25116

Thailand Twitter Takedown. (2020). Stanford Internet Observatory in consultation with Twitter. https://stanford.app.box.com/v/202009-sio-thailand

Australia's Cybersecurity Future(s). (2018) with Frank Smith, Sara Logan, Ralph Holz, Jonathon Hutchinson and Hui Xue, *Australian Strategic Policy Institute*, p. 1-15.

GRANTS

2021

Cyber Repression and Political Protests in Thailand, Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA), Australian Research Council ($380,000)

2020

Unpacking Trust and Bias in Social Media News in Developing Countries, Facebook, with Denis Stukal and Deborah Farias ($110,000)

Strengthening Australia's Information Warfare Capabilities in Fighting Foreign Interference and Propaganda, Department of Defence, with Justin Hastings and Nitin Agarwal (98,000)

2019

Equity Prize, University of Sydney ($60,000)

Regulating Hate Speech in the Asia Pacific, Facebook, with Fiona Martin, Katherine Gelber and Kirrill Shields ($77,00)

Postgraduate Coursework Project, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences ($20,000), with Stewart Jackson

Conference Travel Grant, School of Social and Political Sciences ($6,500)

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Collaborative Research Scheme, with Jonathon Hutchinson and Chao Sun ($10,000)

Collaborative and Interactive Learning Project, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences ($3,000)

2018

Free but Fake? Facebook Digital Inequality and Polarisation in Contemporary Philippines, Australian National University ($13,500)

SSSHARC Launch Fellowship, SSSHARC ($17,500)

Education Funding Initiatives, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences ($8,000)

Sabbatical Research Grant, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre ($5,000)

2017

Policy Scenarios for the Future(s) of Australian Cyber Security, Joint funding between the Sydney Cyber Security Network and the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, Sydney Policy Lab Grant Scheme, with Frank Smith, Jonathon Hutchinson, Janet Xue, Sarah Logan, Ralph Holz ($15,000)

Internet, Politics and Democracy in Southeast Asia, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Workshop Grant ($20,000)

Digital Media Method Workshop, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Workshop Grant, with Ariadne Vromen ($10,000)

Analysing Social Media Data of the Vietnam's National Assembly Election, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Mobility Grant, with Nhu Truong ($4,000)

2016

The Political Economy of Myanmar's Media Privatisation Post-2011 Reform, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Research Support Scheme – Small Grant ($2,500)

Mapping the Political and Gender Biases in Southeast Asian Wikipedia Communities, with Ying Zhou, Cross-Disciplinary Research Support Scheme for Social Impact, University of Sydney ($12,000)

Sydney Cyber Security Network, Co-Founded with Frank Smith, NSW Ministry of Industry, SSSHARC Scheme, ($38,000)

Institutional Blockage and Anti-Democratic Movements in Thailand, School of Social and Political Sciences Conference Funding Scheme ($3,000)

Analysis of the Philippines 2016 Presidential Election, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Mobility Grant, with Aries Arugay ($2,000)

The Politics of Truth: Mapping Truth Construction on Wikipedia during Thailand's Political Crisis, CI with Ying Zhou, Sydney Southeast Asia Centre Collaborative Research Grant ($20,000)

2015

Mapping the Social Networks of Cyber Separatists: The Case of the Patani State Liberation Group on Facebook, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Research Support Scheme ($8,000)

Social Media and Digital Citizenship, with Gerard Goggin, Ariadne Vromen, Fiona Martin and Jonathon Hutchinson, SSSHARC Collaborative Projects Support Scheme ($15,000)

Opposing Democracy in Democratising States: Evidence from Thailand, Multiple internal funding sources ($5,000)

Authoritarian Politics Reading Group, with James Loxton and Lily Rahim, Faculty Reading Group Grant Scheme ($2,500)

Digital Media and Political Participation in Southeast Asia, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Fellowship ($45,000)

Measuring Political Polarization on Thai Political Facebook Groups, McGill University Research Funding ($3,000)

Full Doctoral Scholarships, Political Science, University of British Columbia ($98,000)

TEACHING

Excellence in Teaching Award, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (2017)
Student Commendations, 2015 (semester 1, 2); 2016 (semester 1); 2017 (semester 2); 2018 (semester 1, 2); 2019 (semester 1, 2)

Undergraduate units: GOVT3901: Digital Politics; GOVT3980 Democracy and Dictatorship
Postgraduate unit: GOVT6109: Political Regimes and Regime Transition

PhD supervision:
Kihong Mun, "Engineering Democracy: The Origin of the Political Transition from the Military Authoritarian Rule in Myanmar (completed 2021)
Youngjoon Koh: "Electoral Populism: Thailand and the Philippines"

SERVICE

2015 – Present	Thailand Country Coordinator, Sydney Southeast Asia Research Centre (SSEAC)
2015 – Present	Reviewers for: *Pacific Affairs, British Journal of Political Science, American Journal of Political Sciences, Perspectives in Politics, Asian Studies Review, Journal of East Asian Studies, Contemporary Southeast Asia; Asia Politics & Policy; Pacific Review, New Media & Society, Social Media + Society*
2016 – Present	Co-Founder, Sydney Cyber Security Network
2019 – Present	Chair of Meetings, Department of Government and International Relations
2018	Member of the Review Committee for TEQSA, Department of Media and Communications

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2011 – 2016	Consultant, Political Risk Assessment for Southeast Asia, IHS Markit
2007 – 2008	Business Development Manager, All Group Financial Services, Toronto, Canada

2006	Consultant, The World Bank Group, Central European Office, Slovakia
2005	Economic Advisory Team, Deputy Prime Minister Somkid Jatusripitak, Government of Thailand
2004	Intern, Embassy of the Czech Republic, Washington DC, USA
2002	Campaign Assistant, New York State Democratic Party, Syracuse, NY, USA

FUNDED PUBLIC TALKS

Facebook, Twitter, Asia Society of Australia, Lund University, Columbia University, Australian National University, Nanyang Technological University, Griffith University, ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (Singapore), Ateneo University, Queensland Technological University, University of Technology Sydney, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Singapore Management University, Cornell University, University of Michigan, University of Melbourne, University of Toronto, University of Copenhagen, University of British Columbia, Columbia University

CONFERENCES (RECENT)

2021

Crowdsourcing Dictatorship in Thailand, *American Political Science Association (APSA)* and the International Convention on Asian Scholars (ICAS), virtual

Politicized Intolerance: The Case of the 2019 Presidential Election in Indonesia, *American Political Science Association (APSA)*, virtual

2019

The Politics of Trust on Social Media in Southeast Asia, Keynote Speaker, Digital Asia Workshop, Lund University

Disinformation on Facebook Election Campaigns in Southeast Asia, Center for Excellence of National Security, Nanyang Technological University

Trust, Truth and Platforms: Disinformation in Southeast Asia, Keynote Speaker, Association of Internet Researchers

Digital Media and Political Participation in Southeast Asian Elections, Invited Speaker, University of Melbourne

Activism Trolled: How Human Rights Activists Lost the Social Media Battle in the Philippines, Workshop on Activism in Authoritarian Asia, Macquarie University

Social Media Campaigning in Southeast Asian Elections. *ASEAN Forum 2019*, University of Sydney

Tracking Duterte's Supporters on Facebook: A Computational Social Science Approach. *Peace, Conflict and Development in the Philippines Workshop*, Ateneo University, Manila.

Social Media Campaigning in Southeast Asian Elections. *StrathComAPAC*. Singapore.

2018

Mapping the Sentiment and Networks of Pro-Regime Supporters in Thailand's Dictatorship. *American Political Science Association (APSA)*, Boston.

Voting Machine Hacking Village, *DEFCON*, Las Vegas.

Who Supports Dictatorship Online? Evidence from Thailand. *Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA)*, Sydney.

Opposing Democracy: Authoritarian Participation and Digital Media in Thailand, book manuscript workshop, *Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies*, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

2017

The Politics of Information Control in Southeast Asia. *International Convention on Asian Scholars (ICAS)*, Chiang Mai.

Strong Fans and Weak Campaign: How Duterte Won the Philippines Election on Facebook. *Democracy, Politics and the Popular Symposium*, Brisbane. Also presented at the Authoritarian Innovation in Southeast Asia Workshop, Griffith University, Brisbane.

Participatory Divide in the Online and Offline Political Engagement in Thailand. *International Studies Association (ISA)*, Hong Kong.

The Politics of Digital Activism and Cyber Security. *International Conference on Thai Studies (ICTS)*, Chiang Mai.

2016

Institutional Blockage and Anti-Democratic Movements in Thailand. *American Political Science Association (APSA)*, Philadelphia.

The Crowd Factor in Collective Action Online: Protest Mobilisation through Thai Facebook Pages. With Max Groemping. *International Political Science Association (IPSA)*, Krakow.

The Crowd Factor in Collective Action Online: Protest Mobilisation through Thai Facebook Pages. With Max Groemping. *Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference in Asia (AAS in Asia)*, Kyoto.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Thai, English, French, Czech, Laotian

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Python, R

SOFTWARE

NodeXL, Tableau, NVivo, ArcGIS, InDesign, Gephi, CRM, Overleaf, Zoom, Canvas, Blackboard, Slack, Soundcloud, Google Classroom, Google Analytics