


# The Cost of Disbelief: Fracturing Societies and the Erosion of Trust

 INDIVIDUAL SESSION

 JULY 16 TO AUGUST 2, 2019  
SCHLOSS LEOPOLDSKRON, SALZBURG, AUSTRIA

 MORE INFORMATION:  
[SALZBURGGLOBAL.ORG/GO/SAC13](http://SALZBURGGLOBAL.ORG/GO/SAC13)

*Platform technologies are designed to divide communities by ideology. Politicians take advantage of this information architecture to position people against one another. The result is a fracturing of belief, where truths have splintered and trust has eroded. Our digital media environments are at the center of this fracturing. Our social and civic cohesion is at risk.*

## STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

**PAUL MIHAILIDIS**  
Program Director and Faculty Chair  
[pmihailidis@salzburgglobal.org](mailto:pmihailidis@salzburgglobal.org)

**ALLISON COWIE**  
Davidson Impact Fellow  
[acowie@salzburgglobal.org](mailto:acowie@salzburgglobal.org)

The Salzburg Academy on Media and Global Change will bring together emerging media makers and storytellers to create speculative futures, focused on media infrastructures that can renew trust, re-imagine community engagement, and inspire new norms for participation in daily life.

## KEY QUESTIONS

- What is the relationship between media platforms and trust?
- How are norms of truth and facts impacted by social networks?
- What are the repercussions of algorithms for media and news institutions?
- What types of journalism and storytelling can combat disbelief and distrust?
- What media systems and structures are needed to reinstate norms of trust, truth, and social cohesion?

## PARTNER SCHOOLS



## PARTICIPANT PROFILE

The Academy will gather 75 emerging media practitioners – journalists, filmmakers, activists, storytellers and advocates – from partners schools alongside 25 faculty and 20 visiting scholars, who span across media disciplines, fields and industries.

## PROGRAM FORMAT

The Academy features plenary presentations and discussions on a range of media-related topics; immersive workshops on game design mobile storytelling, guerilla filmmaking, immersive design, and community engagement; and sessions on world building, cultural representation, and human interaction complement the program. Project-based work is conducted through student-led groups, where a human-centered design process is put forward. The Academy also features reading groups and a film club.

See online for **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**, **SPEAKERS** and more.