

# Preface

The 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Forum for Information Retrieval Evaluation (FIRE 2021) was organized virtually from 13-17<sup>th</sup> December 2021. FIRE 2021 saw 6 tracks and 9 sub-tracks, with a record 138 paper submissions from all over the world.

Several tracks on hate speech detection, legal information access and mixed script information retrieval continued from 2020 with the addition of a few new tracks. A novel vaccine stance identification task was introduced as a part of the IrMiDis Track, which focused on identifying the general public opinion about COVID-19 vaccines. A track on Arabic language was reintroduced this year alongside other languages like Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Marathi, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and English.

The tracks and subtracks offered this year were:

- Hate Speech and Offensive Content Identification in Indo-European Languages
- Artificial Intelligence for Legal Assistance
- Offensive Language Identification for Dravidian Languages in Code-Mixed Text
- Arabic Misogyny Identification
- Abusive and Threatening Language Detection Task in Urdu
- Sentiment Analysis of Dravidian Languages in Code-Mixed Text
- Fake News Detection in the Urdu Language
- Information Retrieval from Microblogs during Disasters
- Causality-driven Ad hoc Information Retrieval

We express our gratitude to all the track organizers for their dedication in organizing these tracks and thus promoting scientific progress. We also thank all participants for their enthusiastic participation and work on the tasks.

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Parth Mehta  
Thomas Mandl  
Prasenjit Majumder  
Mandar Mitra

# List of Senior PC Members

## **Hate Speech and Offensive Content Identification in Indo-European Languages (HASOC)**

Thomas Mandl, University of Hildesheim, Germany  
Sandip Modha, DA-IICT & LDRP-ITR, Gandhinagar, India  
Gautam Kishore Shahi, University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany  
Durgesh Nandini, University of Bamberg, Germany  
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Johannes Schäfer, University of Hildesheim, Germany  
Tharindu Ranasinghe, University of Wolverhampton, UK  
Marcos Zampieri, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

## **Artificial Intelligence for Legal Assistance (AILA)**

Parth Mehta, Parmonic AI, USA  
Paheli Bhattacharya, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India  
Ayan Bandyopadhyay, TCG Crest Kolkata, India  
Kripabandhu Ghosh, IISER Kolkata, India  
Vedant Parikh, DA-IICT and Amazon, India  
Upal Bhattacharya, IISER, Kolkata, India  
Saptarshi Ghosh, IIT Kharagpur, India  
Arindam Pal, CSIRO's Data 61, Sydney, Australia  
Arnab Bhattacharya, IIT Kanpur, India  
Prasenjit Majumder, DA-IICT, India

## **Offensive Language Identification for Dravidian Languages in Code-Mixed Text**

Bharathi Raja Chakravarthi, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland  
Ratnasingam Sakuntharaj, Eastern University, Sri Lanka  
Anand Kumar M, National Institute of Technology Karnataka Surathkal, India  
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Thomas Mandl, University of Hildesheim, Germany

## **Abusive and Threatening Language Detection in Urdu**

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Sabur Butt, IPN - Computing Research Center, Mexico  
Iqra Ameer, IPN - Computing Research Center, Mexico  
Alisa Zhila, Ronin Institute for Independent Scholarship, United States

Oxana Vitman, IPN - Computing Research Center, Mexico  
Grigori Sidorov, IPN - Computing Research Center, Mexico  
Alexander Gelbukh, IPN - Computing Research Center, Mexico  
Noman Ashraf, Mayo Clinic, United States  
Andrey Labunets, Independent Researcher, United States

### **Arabic Misogyny Identification (ArMI)**

Hala Mulki, ORSAM Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Turkey  
Bilal Ghanem, University of Alberta, Canada

### **Sentiment Analysis of Dravidian Languages in Code-Mixed Text**

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Sajeetha Thavareesan, Eastern University, Sri Lanka  
Dhivya Chinnappa, Thomson Reuters, USA  
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### **Fake News Detection in the Urdu Language (UrduFake)**

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### **Information Retrieval from Microblogs during Disasters**

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Saptarshi Ghosh, IIT Kharagpur, India  
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### **Causality-driven Ad hoc Information Retrieval (CAIR)**

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