




Digital violence against journalists in Brazil

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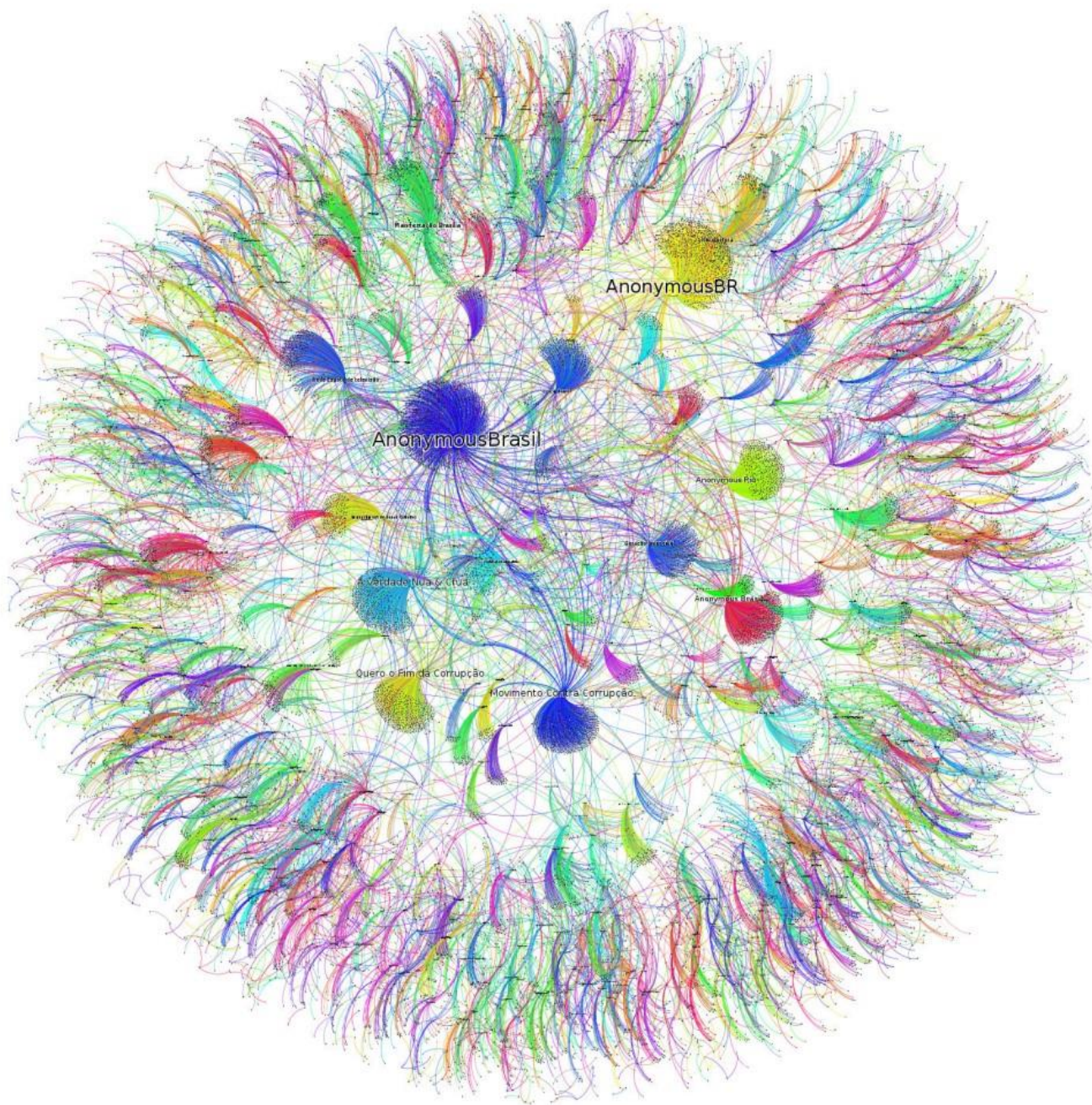


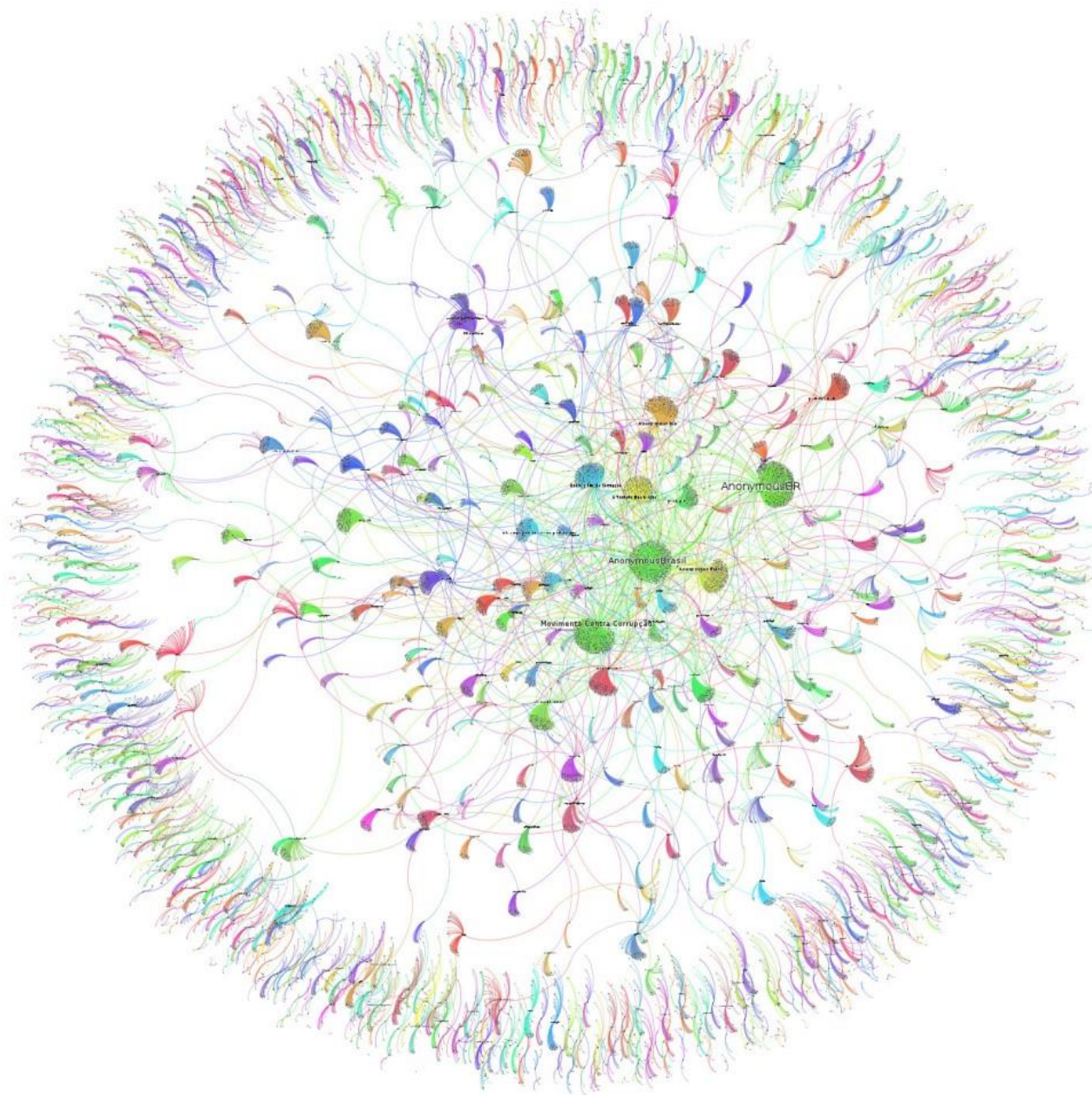
Scenario







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- Since June 2013 Brazil dropped in a increasing polarized political scenario linked with a high fator of desinformation.

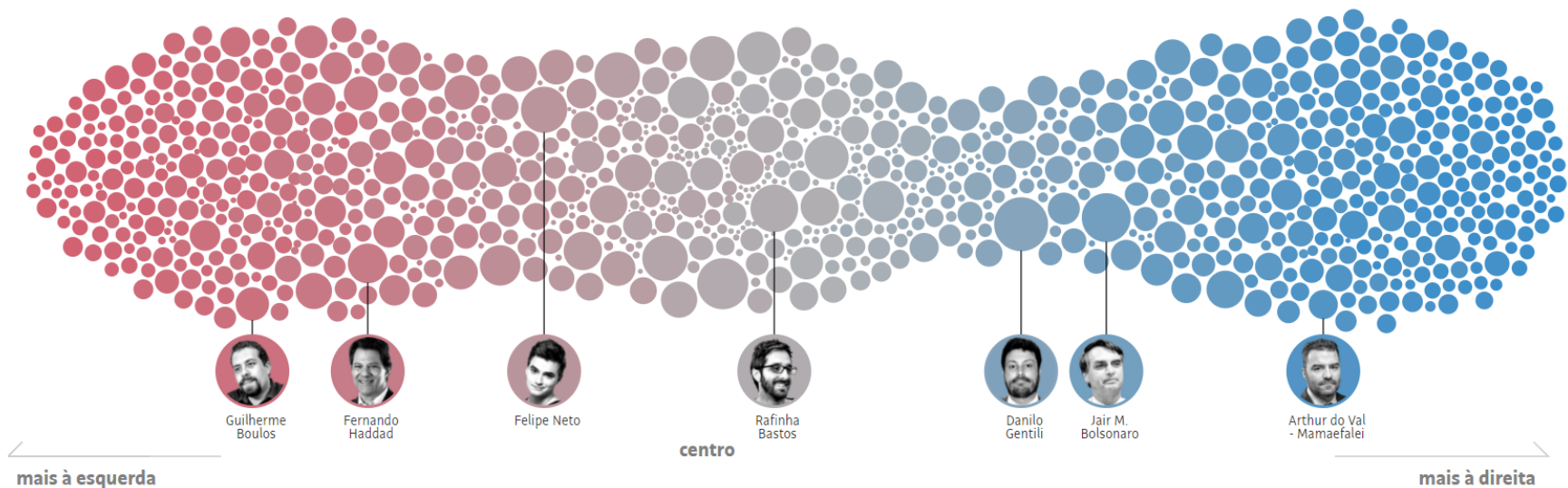






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- Since then, digital platforms, like You Tube, Twitter, Facebook and WhatsApp became amplified disseminations channels of a more and more polarized arena. We had a peak of polarization in 2018 Presidential Elections and since then the situation is far from a resolution or, at least, from a balance.
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- ICT household and individuals 2018 web connection survey, launched at the end of August 2019 (www.cetic.br/tics/domains) indicates that 70% of the Brazilian population (127 million) has access to the internet and 98% of these accesses are made through mobile devices.
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*Seguidores analisados: reportagem considerou quem segue ao menos três influenciadores e tuitou ao menos cem vezes
Dados coletados entre 26 de março e 2 de maio

Influencers in the digital sphere on Twitter: they don't interact between them.

2019: Ideological GPS, Folha de São Paulo.

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- The Brazilian scenario is not an isolated case due all the previous events in the first two decades of the 21st century like Trump election, Brexit and the social movements like Arab Spring, Indignados, Occupy, all of them object of academic studies.
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Objectives, Assumptions, Research and Partial Results

(Sep-Oct 2019)









- Objectives



- 1) What kind of violence against journalists was reported on social platforms during the period focused?

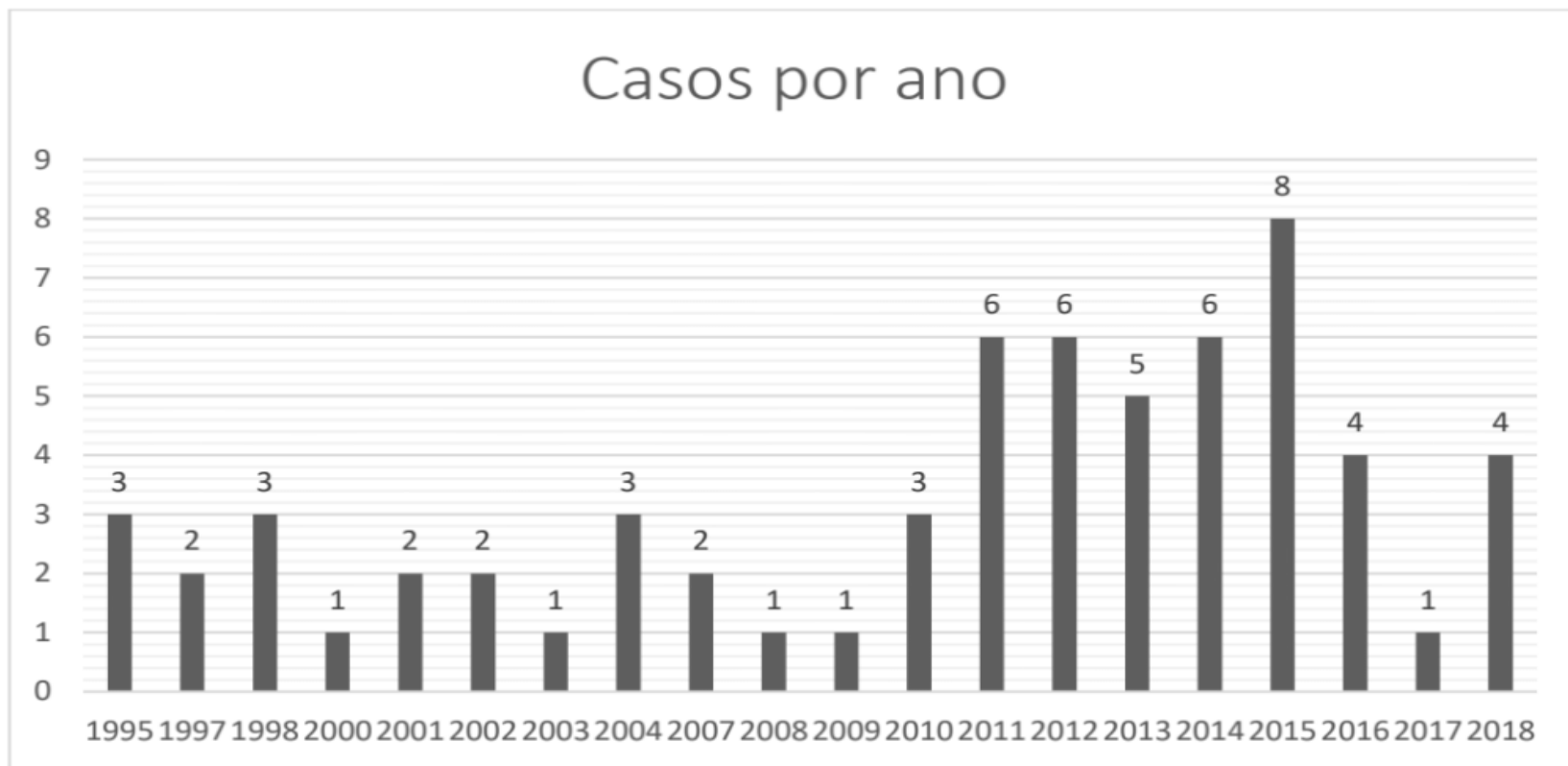
- 2) What can we learn from journalists who suffered digital violence?



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- Assumptions
 - This research is based on a **multi-method approach** and its epistemic framework proposes views combining Internet Studies, information and data science concepts, sociology of violence, journalists' testimonials and journalism' digital transformation studies.
 - Digital violence against journalists takes places in a fragmented public sphere as a consequence of its mediation by algorithms, because they “calculated” audience (Gillispie, 2013).
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- Assumptions
 - The 2018 elections period set the bar for polarization and hate expressions against journalists and media outlets until the present days;
 - Most of the violence cases have its dissemination vectors on common citizens with a radical right and left hand ideological option.
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- Research
 - Violence against journalists as a triple violation (Blotta, 2016):
 - “- to individual rights and freedom of journalists professional practice;
 - - to visibility rights of facts and events reported;
 - - and to public/audience rights to be informed.
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There was a peak of homicides between 2011 and 2016.

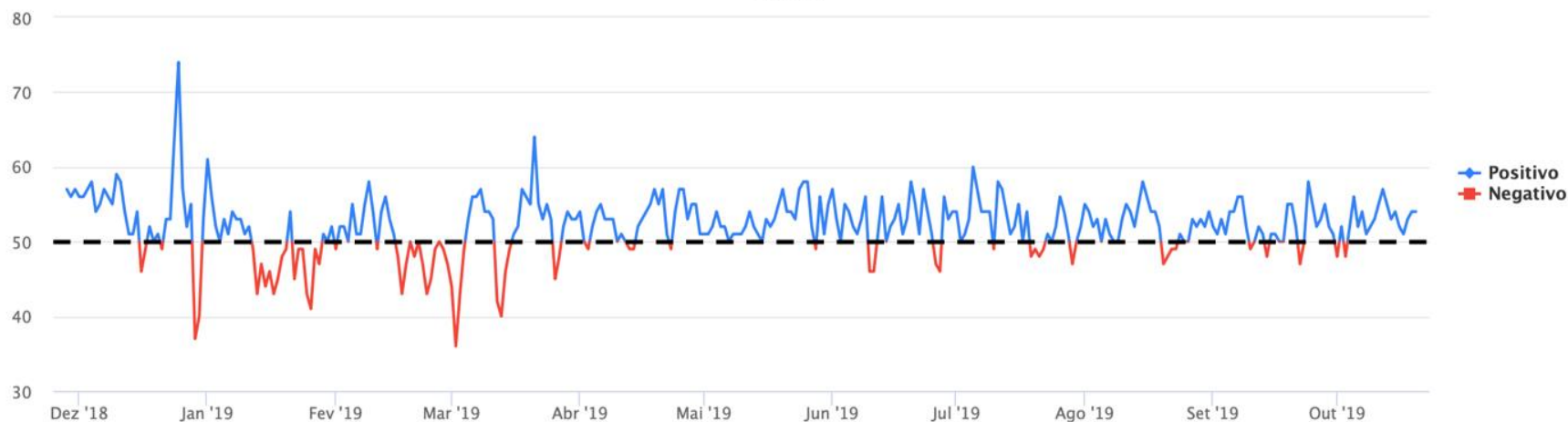
Source: Relatório. Violência contra comunicadores no Brasil: um retrato da apuração nos últimos 20 anos. CNMP/ENASP: 2019, p.40.



6,169,424 Tweets

Polaridade de Sentimentos

Historial

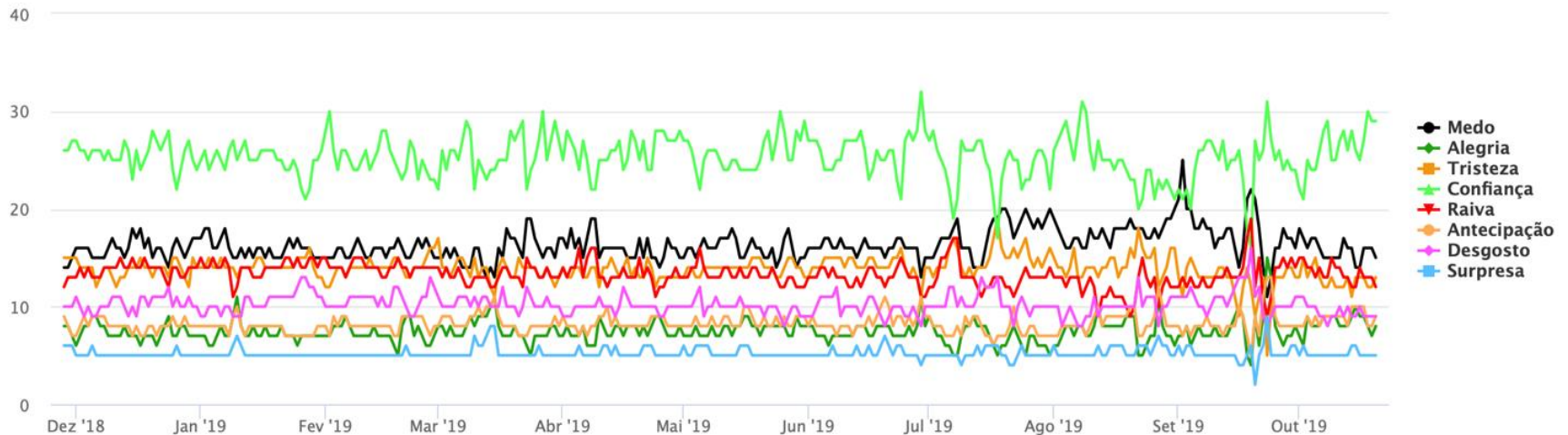


Sentiment Polarization on Twitter – positive (blue) negative (red). Source: AP EXATA, 17/10/2018.





6,169,424 Tweets

Temporal



Sentiment reactions on Twitter. Green line above means trust; black (right below), fear; orange, sadness; red, anger; pink, disgust; yellow, anticipation; bold green, joy and finally, blue, surprise. . Source: AP EXATA, 17/10/2018.

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- Research
 - Data about the journalists we've selected for case study and hashtag reference in Buzzsumo app. Leonardo Sakamoto, Patricia Campos Mello were, and still are, one of the most visible and attacked on social platforms although they have different kinds of exposure in these ambiances.
 - AP-EXATA is mining more than 10 million tweets and 624.827 posts since May 2018 to nowadays, originated from 146 Brazilian cities, and detected more than 2500 active robots to present day in Twitter.
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Web Content

Find the top performing articles and blogs across the web

Q sakamoto Expand SEARCH SAVE SEARCH CREATE ALERT

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Content Analysis

Sort by: Total Engagement 552 Results EXPORT

SELECT ACTION		Facebook Engagement	Twitter Shares	Pinterest Shares	Reddit Engagements	Number of Links	Evergreen Score	Total Engagement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Justiça nega pedido de indenização de MBL por reportagem de Sakamoto no UOL By 04/06/2019 13h43 - Jun 4, 2019 uol.com.br	11.1K	22	0	68	1	3	11.2K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto divulga fake news sobre Brumadinho para atacar Reforma Trabalhista – Senso Incomum By Flavio Morgenstern - Jan 28, 2019 sensoincomum.org	7K	822	0	0	1	4	7.8K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto: Bolsonaro fez discurso de derrotado Oct 13, 2019 conversaafiada.com.br	5.2K	0	0	0	-	0	5.2K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SBT dá espaço e dono da Havan faz ataques gratuitos a Sakamoto Revista Fórum By Revista Fórum - Dec 10, 2018 revistaforum.com.br	4.1K	15	0	0	-	3	4.2K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto: o que leva alguém defender trabalho infantil num país com milhões de adultos desempregados? By Jose Cassio - Jul 5, 2019 diariodocentrodomundo.com.br	2.9K	418	0	0	-	4	3.3K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto e Haddad divulgam fake news sobre Brumadinho - RENOVA Mídia By Carlos Junior - Jan 29, 2019 renovamidia.com.br	2.4K	803	1	0	-	4	3.2K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto: Bolsonaro provou não ter qualificação técnica e ética para o cargo By Brasil 247 - Jul 20, 2019 brasil247.com	2.5K	191	0	0	1	0	2.6K	🔍 < ...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sakamoto: Se Flávio é um "garoto", quem é o "adulto responsável"? By Walter Atsushi Niyama - Jan 24, 2019 diariodocentrodomundo.com.br	2.4K	76	0	0	-	3	2.4K	🔍 < ...

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patricia campos mello

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Content Analysis



Sort by: Total Engagement



11 Results

EXPORT

<input type="checkbox"/> SELECT ACTION	Facebook Engagement	Twitter Shares	Pinterest Shares	Reddit Engagements	Number of Links	Evergreen Score	Total Engagement	
<input type="checkbox"/> mblivre-ta-ac3ad-a-jornalista-militante-da-folha-patricia-campos-de-mello-que-fez-a-fake-nmp4 Oct 19, 2018 w66apccs.com	1.4K	19	0	0	-	2	1.4K	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> EDITORIAL: SOLIDARIEDADE A PATRICIA CAMPOS MELLO By Jornalistas Livres - Oct 24, 2018 jornalistaslives.org	1.3K	59	0	0	-	3	1.4K	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Jornalista Patricia Campos Mello, da Folha, é alvo de ataques após Denúncias contra Bolsonaro By Notícias NUB TV - Oct 23, 2018 youtube.com	213	2	0	0	-	1	215	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Jornalista da Folha de São Paulo Patricia Campos Mello e sua preferência Política. Oct 18, 2018 youtube.com	80	11	0	0	-	0	91	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Campos Mello: Difícil prever o futuro do Brexit Jan 16 2019 youtube.com	5	2	0	0	-	0	7	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Campos Mello, Criadora do Fake News do Whatsapp no Folha de S Paulo é do PT By Vicente Tolda - Oct 22, 2018 youtube.com	3	2	0	0	-	0	5	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Campos Mello fala sobre Mídia e Fake News By RSC - May 23, 2019 youtube.com	2	0	0	0	-	0	2	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Campos Mello on Twitter: 'Como disse uma amiga, o Bolsonaro vai instituir cota pra macho hetero branco, essa minoria oprimida' Oct 18, 2018 twitter.jp	0	2	0	0	-	0	2	< ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Patricia Campos Mello on Twitter: 'Nobel da Paz para o Brasil seria o reconhecimento ao país como uma ditosa'								

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- Research: #hashtags – “How to organize without organizations” (Clay Shirky, 2011)
 - Biggest Brazilian media multimedia outlets – Rede Globo and Folha de S. Paulo have a bunch of hashtags disseminated on Twitter:
 - #globolixo, #foraredeglobo, #globofakenews, #felizsemglobo, #folhalixo, #folhafakenews (i.e. garbage, get out, happy without). The legacy media as a whole and independent one is also frequently hashtagged as #midiaesquerdista (i.e. far left media).
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- Research: #hashtags – “How organize without organizations” (Clay Shirky)
 - For Leonardo Sakamoto we could find as main hashtags: #LeonardoSakamoto; #sakamoto; #petralhas; #comunistas; #DireitaJa (i.e. communist, activist of Workers Party). For Patricia Campos Mello the main hashtag is her name itself always connected to her image with accusatory content and in a misogynistic way.
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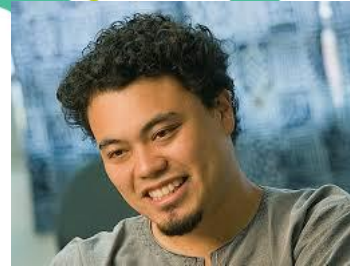
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- Partial conclusions about this topic: dynamics after journalist publication of the story:
 - Identification who signed the story or made que question identification of its presence on social platform → releasing the first attacks by interference profiles or websites → massive distribution through groups of activists → amplification through bots. The attack's content, depending on how popular and visible the journalist is, goes like a spiral beginning by threats and harassments, and progressive going to verbal aggressions, physical aggressions, invasion of private life, and lawsuits.
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- Leonardo Sakamoto -



- *“My case is already chronic and became personal. It is not only an attack to a journalist, now it is personal”.*
- He suffers digital violence since 2013. In 2014, started to being cursed and physically attacked on the street.

- Leonardo Sakamoto -



- *“Physically violence, in my case, clearly came from digital violence”.*
- *“We live in an information war, in an ultra-polarized country. These polarized bubbles are very bad to journalists and to press freedom”.*
- *“There is such a promotion of hate that I’m not a human anymore; so, every person could be a potential aggressor”.*

• Patricia Campos Mello



After the publication of “Entrepreneurs bank WhatsApp campaign against PT”, in which Patricia revealed how candidate Jair Bolsonaro's campaign was benefiting from an illegal corporate-funded messaging scheme:

- *“It’s better not to live in Brazil anymore”, “Slut”, “We know where your son studies”.*
- *“It’s brutal, especially if you are a woman. It’s very similar to India, very misogynistic. They will assault women always by three ways: appearance (“your fat, ugly”, etc); by calling women “sluts”; and offending their family. If other man signs the report, they will run only after the woman, not the man. The woman is the best target”.*

- Denis Russo Burgierman







- *“Uselessness of the profession”.*
- *It became harder to do what I do nowadays. Being exempted is offensive now. Journalistic values that we learn at university became defects in this new narrative of polarization. I know how to separate information of public interest from information that possible may hurt or put people in danger, but when people believes that they have to attack someone because that person is the cause of all evil in the world, they don’t know how to measure that.”*



- Denis Russo Burgierman



- Another effect is the sense of “social validation” of being a journalist: *“in the past, it was easier to feel that what I do was useful to society”*.
- *“The political polarization we are living is about to become more real and physical. There are more and more people willing to be violent. The dehumanization is real, and in Brazil even people from the left or right hand doesn’t believe in professional journalists anymore”*.

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- Partial results
 - 1) What kind of violence against journalists was reported on social platforms during the period focused?
 - - There is an organized procedure based on IT and social behavior manipulation to attack and lynching persons with the objective to erode professional credibility, intimidate journalists and Journalism itself;
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- Partial results
 - 2) What can we learn from journalists who suffered digital violence?
 - - It is possible that digital violence migrates to physical violence;
 - - Digital violence against women tends to be worse than for men;
 - - False information produced to attack journalists has a long life on internet than any form of clarification that can come after the misunderstood, creating a kind of digital violence long tail, that fills the space.
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- Partial results
 - Polarized ambiances/digital spaces are not healthy and secure for journalism and journalists, especially if it's settled on social platforms;
 - - The traditional values of good journalism, like exemption, hear both or more sides, have investigative behavior, checking facts, are under attack due the invasion of disinformation contents.
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FINAL THEORETICAL REMARK 1

If the perspective of Arendts “banality of evil” can be applied to an “(...) individual who has been desubjectivated or has never been subjectivated, (...) we are dealing with a non-subject.”

Wieviorka (Violence: a new approach, 2009, p.117). He criticizes this hypothesis because if we think so, we must eliminate people as actors. A long discussion.






FINAL THEORETICAL REMARK 2

On the other hand, he says that “(...) the failure to distinguish between good and evil stems from the absence of any capacity for reflexivity, of the ability to stand back and give a meaning to the violence perpetrated against other human being” (2009, p. 119).

- There is a South Korean philosopher rooted in Germany, Byung-Chul Han, that is supporting the hypothesis in his work that machine-mediated hypercommunication is destroying the human capacity for reflection.



Danke schön, thank you, obrigada.

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