**Project Title: Detecting Fake News, Disinformation, Propaganda, and Bias in Arabic and English**

**Project Description:** Given the recent proliferation of disinformation online, there has been also growing research interest in automatically debunking rumors, false claims, and “fake news”. A number of fact-checking initiatives have been launched so far, both manual and automatic, but the whole enterprise remains in a state of crisis: by the time a claim is finally fact-checked, it could have reached millions of users, and the harm caused could hardly be undone. An arguably more promising direction is to focus on fact-checking entire news outlets or social media posts both textual and visual (image), which can be done in advance. Then, we could fact-check the news/social media posts before they were even written: by checking how trustworthy the outlets that published them are.

We already do this in the Tanbih news aggregator project (http://tanbih.qcri.org/), but primarily using textual information, and we are now going into multimedia content. As news sources often rely on multimedia data, such as images and videos, and use various distribution platforms to convey their message more effectively, the proposed approaches targeting this challenge have not sufficiently exploited the multi-faceted nature of the problem. This project aims at bridging this gap by incorporating secondary information sources to complement textual information in order to make more reliable decisions.

We plan to improve the Tanbih project in a number of aspects, including but not limited to the following (taking the candidates interests into account):
- support for Arabic and English
- analysis of propaganda, bias, and factuality in the news media profiling
- design and visualization
- data analysis
- expose technology through browser extensions

**Project Type:** Research

**Duties/Activities:** The students will be asked to work on one or more of the following:
- system and system components design and development
- data management
- experimentation
- web development
- user interface design

**Required Skills:** Programming experience in Python, Web programming (javascript related frameworks: NodeJs/NextJs/React,/VueJs)

**Preferred Intern Academic Level:** We take all levels: PhD, MSc, undergrad students enrolled in CS, ECE, and EE programs.
**Learning Opportunities:** You will learn about disinformation in the news and its various forms (fake news, propaganda, bias), and how to build systems to detect it automatically.

**Expected Team Size:** 3-5 people

**Mentors**

Firoj Alam fialam@hbku.edu.qa  
Yifan Zhang yzhang@hbku.edu.qa  
Hamdy Mubarak hmubarak@hbku.edu.qa  
Preslav Nakov pnakov@hbku.edu.qa