Ensuring the Integrity of Information for Freer Societies

SNAPSHOT

On Campus: The Student Media Initiative offers experiential learning opportunities, giving HKS students the chance to publish policy analysis that helps shape solutions to pressing problems.

In the World: The Shorenstein Center’s research initiatives regularly generate and provide expert research to policymakers and practitioners working on critical issues in technology, journalism, film, and other related fields.

Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy

Changes in the way people communicate and consume information are reshaping every aspect of society. The Shorenstein Center illuminates the shifting interplay between the media, technology, politics, policy, and public perceptions. From the challenges of maintaining news quality to digital platforms’ impact on the public sphere, the research of the Shorenstein Center helps journalists, citizens, and public leaders navigate rapid changes in communications.

Well-informed citizens are essential for thriving, just societies. Bringing clarity to a complex information landscape contributes to Harvard Kennedy School’s work of improving public leadership, policy, and people’s daily lives.
BY THE NUMBERS
All numbers are annual unless otherwise noted.

3,000+
Participants in speaker events, convenings, and study groups

2.5 million
Reads of Shorenstein Center content online

65,000
Email subscribers to Center newsletters

12+
Research initiatives led by Harvard Kennedy School faculty members

FROM THE DIRECTOR
“Right now free societies are facing twin crises of trust and of truth. They’re connected and the Shorenstein Center is focused on both: it’s our mission is to help newsrooms, policymakers, and civil society navigate a challenging new landscape. Since, as a School, we’re committed both to the very best research and to engagement with practitioners, the learning that occurs in real time, and with real urgency, creates an energy and purpose that is at odds with the image of a university as ivory tower, stepped back from the fray. At the Kennedy School, we are the fray.”

Nancy Gibbs

The Work of the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy

The Shorenstein Center focuses on research that is integral to maintaining a healthy information ecosystem, strengthening:

- **Quality Information**—The Shorenstein Center is bridging gaps between academia and media and serves as a convening space to support the sustainable creation of effective, high-quality information that bolsters healthy democratic societies.

- **Technology and Democracy**—While offering many benefits to society, technology also poses significant risks, including privacy concerns, misinformation, and algorithmic biases. The Shorenstein Center works to improve understanding of digital harms, public interest technology, and the impacts of tech and data use on public policy issues.

- **Behavioral Science & Decision-Making**—Decision scientists affiliated with the Shorenstein Center are leaders in the field of understanding core questions about how people make decisions, communicate, and process messages about a wide range of public concerns.