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Complex networks of culture wars in the digital era.

Culture Wars can be defined as strong conflicts of opinions in fields that are very sensitive within a society and that occur between two or more sides with marked differences. They are not directly economic, or political issues, but cultural in the sense of beliefs about "the good" and "the bad", or about what "can or cannot be said" in public. By definition, a Culture War is a large public controversy addressed in the news media and the academic and intellectual communities. Nowadays, many "battles" of Culture Wars are fought on on-line social media, like Twitter, generating a massive amount of data suitable to be analyzed quantitatively. This makes possible the application of network science methods and theory for the study of Culture Wars.

Some open questions:

There exists a structural footprint of a battle? Can we identify it? How to structurally identify sides in battles? Is it possible to classify different typologies of battles? What are the roles of actors in the battle and how do they affect the global structure? What can we say about a war as a whole by integrating data about several battles (as layers of a multiplex network)?

We explore these topics on an extended dataset about the Culture War that arose from the Catalan Referendum of the 1st of October 2017.