



Aalto University
School of Science

Research Group Humans, Security and Privacy

We explore human experiences in technology use, with an emphasis on human-centered security and privacy. Our multidisciplinary research bridges social sciences and computer science to develop a nuanced understanding of how people engage with digital systems.

Key Research Areas

Understand security and privacy experiences



Investigate and build resilience against social engineering



Study responses to inaccurate or manipulative information online



How do people experience security and privacy interactions? How can we use these insights to encourage adoption of secure practices?

Which factors influence human experience and behavior when faced with social engineering? How can we improve resistance to social engineering?

How do technology users cope with inaccurate information in their digital interactions? How might technology support truth discernment?

Recent Publications

Kuusisaari, T., Kujala, S., Holmroos, M., Distler, V. (2026)
Exploring Older Adults' Security Experiences Using a New Public Digital Health App.
Under submission.

Weidhaas, R., von Preuschen, A., Distler, V. (2026).
"I didn't know I would be this excited not to be scammed." Exploring Emotional and Behavioral Responses During Phishing Attacks.
Conditionally accepted at SOUPS.

Sharevski, F., Distler, V., & Alt, F. (2025).
"Helps me Take the Post With a Grain of Salt:" Soft Moderation Effects on Accuracy Perceptions and Sharing Intentions of Inauthentic Political Content on X.
Published at USENIX Security.

Group Members



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Stay up-to-date on our website at the Department of Computer Science:

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/department-of-computer-science/research-group-humans-security-and-privacy>

