

FORUM: Human Rights Council

QUESTION OF: Safeguarding Freedom of Opinion and Expression in Digital Spaces

MAIN SUBMITTER: Israel

CO-SUBMITTERS: Chile, Bangladesh, Dominican republic, Algeria, Bolivia, Switzerland

The Human Rights Council,

Recognizing the essential role of digital platforms in enabling free expression, democratic participation, and the exchange of information, while also acknowledging the risks and consequences of the misuse of these platforms for spreading hate speech, provocation to violence, and the threatening of societal harmony,

Affirming that freedom of opinion and expression in digital spaces should be exercised responsibly, with proper safeguards against harmful content, such as the spread of terrorism, radicalization, and antisemitism, while preserving the fundamental rights of individuals to express diverse opinions,

Addressing the need to protect vulnerable groups from harmful content such as hate speech, incitement to violence and misinformation

1. *Instructs*, social media platforms to restrain users and accounts of hate speech towards vulnerable groups and other netizens by:

- a. Requesting platforms to require all accounts to sign in agreement of consequences of misusing offensive words or statements by;
 - i. Having the accounts being suspended for a period of time
 - ii. Banning accounts that have been suspended multiple times for the same reasons
- b. Advising victims of hate speech to contact the platform and report the accounts spreading hate speech and other controversial messages
- c. Insisting social media platforms to employ workers to review reports that include;
 - i. Hate speech
 - ii. Terrorism
 - iii. Radicalization
 - iv. Racism
 - v. Antisemitism
 - vi. Sexism

d. Social media platforms providing AI machines to overlook reports and accounts in question

2. *Calls for* governments to require social media platforms to implement modifications to their algorithms to protect vulnerable groups and to prevent development of extremists by:

- a. Encouraging youth to be more resourceful and critical to content that deploy extremists narratives
- b. Utilize AI machine tools to recognize patterns of propaganda and potentially harmful content,
- c. Provide explanations as to why receiving content with diverse viewpoints is more insightful and reduces the echo chamber effects

3. *Encourages*, member states to protect the fundamental right to freedom of opinion, as stated in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), while making sure that these freedoms are utilized in a way that doesn't contradict public safety and national security by:

- a. Promoting the development of national and international frameworks to prevent the misuse of digital platforms for inciting violence, extremism, or hate speech that may harm national security or undermine public safety;

4. *Expresses appreciation*, for member states to address websites using cookies (HTTP cookies) that target website users and possesses privacy risks by:

- a. Restricting tracking of online activity reduced to only the website itself
- b. Prohibiting data being shared between third parties without consent meaning;
 - i. Other unauthorised websites
 - ii. Platform creators

5. *Insists*, that governments require media platforms apply for verifications (free of charge) to online accounts to prevent misinformation being spread by:

- a. Implementing verified icons next to accounts that are educated and trustworthy by;
 - i. Stating that 'this is a doctor' next to profile name
 - ii. Stating that 'This is a researcher' next to profile name
 - iii. Stating that 'This is a professor/Teacher' profile name
- b. Verifications being taken into consideration when online accounts are being created

6. *Calls for*, governments to provide psychological help in the form of therapy to support victims of:

- a. Online bullying

- b. Online stalking