EUROPEAN COMMISSION

EU INTERNET FORUM

WORKSHOP ON POTENTIAL RISKS RELATED TO THE MISUSE OF ALGORITHMIC AMPLIFICATION TECHNIQUES

17 SEPTEMBER 2021

VIRTUAL MEETING 14:00-18:00

This workshop aims at reaching a better understanding of the possible risks related to the misuse of algorithmic amplification techniques, through the exchange of technical knowledge and expertise between EUIF stakeholders and external experts in the field. The objective is to increase our understanding of how amplification techniques can be exploited to disseminate terrorist or violent extremist content and what is the extent of the threat posed by the misuse of such techniques. We also aim at increasing transparency on the role played by algorithmic amplification techniques in potentially facilitating the user journey towards radicalisation.

FINAL AGENDA

14:00 - 14:10 Opening remarks and presentation of agenda by the European Commission

First session: evidence and assessments of threats and risks related to misuse of algorithmic amplification

- 14:10 14:30 Presentation of RAN Policy Support's paper: Malign use of Algorithmic Amplification of Terrorist and Violent Extremist Content
- 14:30 14:40 Presentation by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD): *Case Studies from Amazon, TikTok and More: Research and Implications.*
- 14:40 14:50 Presentation by Tom Siegel, co-founder and CEO of TrustLab: Trust but verify
- 14:50 15:00 Presentation by Alexander Ritzman, Counter Extremism Project: *Understanding* insufficient content moderation and algorithmic extremism learning from NetzDG and implications for the EU Digital Services Act
- 15:00 15:30 Q&A and open discussion
- 15:30 15:40 coffee break

- Second session: policy concerns and measures related to misuse of algorithmic amplification
- 15:40 15:50 Presentation by the European Commission: *Digital Services Act (DSA) sections* concerning algorithmic amplification
- 15:50 16:00 Presentation by the EU Counter Terrorism Coordinator office: *Policy concerns* related to the misuse of algorithmic amplification
- 16:00 16:10 Presentation by Dr Hany Farid: *Addressing algorithmic amplification and online* extremism
- 16:10 16:40 Q&A and open discussion
- Third session: tech companies assessment and actions to prevent use of algorithmic amplification to disseminate terrorist content
- 16:40 16:50 Presentation by Facebook: *Algorithmic amplification, a perspective from Facebook*
- 16:50 17:00 Presentation by Google: How recommendations work on Google and YouTube
- 17:00 17:10 Presentation by Tech Against Terrorism: *Update and recommendations for policy-makers and small companies perspectives*
- 17:10 17:50 Q&A and open discussion
- 17:50 18:00 Wrap up and closing remarks