

2022 MUNA resolution #1
A framework for regulating social networking companies regarding data storage, usage, transparency, and terms of use to safeguard democracy

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the progress achieved in the field of information and communications technology has brought convenience, especially in education, communication, finance, and advocacy, and the need to continue its development for peaceful purposes,

Recalling the Human Rights Council resolutions [47/16](#) of 13 July 2021 on the promotion, protection, and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet, and [31/7](#) of 23 March 2016 on the rights of the child: information and communications technologies and child sexual exploitation, and General Assembly resolutions [75/176](#) of 16 December 2020 on the right to privacy in the digital age, [74/158](#) of 18 December 2019 on strengthening the role of the United Nations in the promotion of democratization, and [75/32](#) of 7 December 2020 on advancing responsible state behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security,

Acknowledging the Report of the Secretary-General [A74/821](#) of 29 May 2020 on a Roadmap for Digital Cooperation in relation to the misuse of social media by some to spread misinformation to influence elections and fuel discrimination, xenophobia and racism,

Reaffirming that the generation and storage of personal data such as an individual's behaviour, social relationships, private preferences, and identity can threaten their right to privacy; and irresponsible behaviour in its usage may bring unprecedented and dangerous effects,

Expressing concern that member states and companies may use the data for malicious purposes that may threaten international peace and security,

Noting with grave concern that algorithmic or automated decision-making processes online generated by social networking companies can be designed and implemented so as to manipulate the global view and understanding of events and can create significant global crises such as the spread of misinformation and threats to democracy,

Expressing concern that the psychological impacts of distressing content in social networks, especially vulnerable groups such as children and youth are being neglected by social networking companies,

Deeply expressing concern that children and youth who have been exposed to unsafe online environments may suffer the consequences of discrimination, exclusion, and inequality and this may create dangerous effects on the future of humanity such as the spread of incitement to violence, sexism, and racial discrimination,

Operative Section Outline

During informal consultations, sub-groups will draft and present up to two operative paragraphs for their respective sub-topic as outlined below, followed by a discussion of the full operative section. Groups may also propose revisions to the preambular section above.

- **Action related to international cooperation and Internet Governance (Group A [G77 plus United Kingdom]** including – Botswana, China, Egypt, India, Iran, Lebanon, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates).
- **Action related to addressing the rights of children and youth (Group B [Alliance of Small Island States and ASEAN plus Republic of Korea and Sri Lanka and Israel]** including – Barbados, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, Solomon Islands, St. Lucia, Vanuatu, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Israel).
- **Action related to combating misinformation and safeguarding democracy (Group C [JUSCANZ, EU and the Collective Security Treaty Organization]** including – Australia, Canada, Japan, United States, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Malta, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation).
- **Action related to creating a regulatory framework and designating future steps (Group D [Least Developed Countries plus Switzerland and Ukraine]** including – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Sudan, Yemen, Zambia, Switzerland and Ukraine).
- **Action related to monitoring, reporting, and meetings (Group E [GRULAC]** including – Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Uruguay, Venezuela).