


The Freedom of Speech Technology Initiative (FSTI)

Strategic Planning 2023
The Freedom of Speech Foundation





Mission



Mission: The Freedom of Speech Technology Initiative (FSTI) is an initiative by the non-profit Freedom for Speech Foundation, an organization dedicated to harnessing the power of technology to promote and protect freedom of speech worldwide. Recognizing that the digital age presents both unprecedented opportunities and challenges for free expression, FTI aims to ensure that every individual, regardless of their location or background, has an unhindered platform to voice their opinions and access information.



Background: Founded in 2023 to act as a community that brings together tech enthusiasts, journalists, and human rights activists, FTI emerged in response to the increasing global challenges of state-sponsored censorship, digital surveillance, and misinformation campaigns. The founder, having witnessed both the liberating potential of technology and its misuse, decided to act as a bridge between the tech community and free speech advocates.

Functions performed by the organization

INNOVATOR

Researches, identifies, and executes novel ways to better enable and sustain Free Speech through Technology

- Identify stakeholders that innovate or contribute to relevant technology innovation
- Identify critical technologies, as well as policies and programs.
- Assess effectiveness and cost of above
- Promote or conduct innovation

IMPLEMENTOR

Determines applies the most effective method for implementation of programs

- Identify stakeholders that implement or enable technology, policy or program implementations
- Evaluate current and historical implementations
- Enable or conduct implementations of programs for Free Speech

CLEARINGHOUSE

Assess and identify information on the status of Free Speech, the availability, and effectiveness of mitigations and programs

- Evaluate the nature and maturity of free speech in countries, as well as identify any ongoing or past initiatives.

FIDUCIARY

Ensure adequate financial transparency and controls are in place

- Reporting for entire lifecycle of a specific funding program, including
- Ensure regulatory compliance through controls
- Provide fiduciary oversight of implementation and outcomes

Fall 2023 Priorities

SETUP OF GOVERNANCE

- Private Foundation
- 501(3)(c)

Solicit candidates for:

- Board of Directors
- Advisory Board
- Management team

- Well-known leaders in their field, passionate about the freedom of speech and global issues around democracy.

FUNDRAISING & CAPITALIZATION MODEL

- Ford Foundation Model
- Asset allocation principles
- Short-term fundraising for “critical mass”

STRATEGIC PLAN

- Long-term Execution of functions
- Stakeholder identification and analysis
- Prioritization of initiatives



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