

Update  
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# Digest Bulletin



# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



**Tamás Berecz**  
Director of INACH

As we move through 2026, the conversations shaping our digital future continue to evolve. Across Europe and beyond, policymakers, researchers, civil society organisations, and technology experts are grappling with some of the most pressing questions of our time: how to create safer online spaces, strengthen democratic participation, protect fundamental rights, and ensure that digital technologies serve people and communities.

In recent months, important developments have taken place in the implementation of digital regulation, particularly under the Digital Services Act. At the same time, new research has provided valuable insights into the ways online hate, disinformation, and harmful narratives spread and interact across digital platforms. These findings continue to underline the importance of evidence-based policymaking and strong collaboration between regulators, researchers, platforms, and civil society.

Our network has remained actively engaged in these discussions through research, advocacy, events, and stakeholder engagement. From contributing to policy consultations and monitoring online harms, to convening experts and supporting organisations working on the front lines, we continue to advocate for a digital environment that is safer, more inclusive, and more accountable.

Looking ahead, there is much to be excited about. We are preparing new publications, contributing to emerging policy debates, and launching *The Web We Deserve*, a new podcast that will explore how technology shapes society and what a more human-centred digital future could look like. Through conversations with experts, practitioners, and changemakers, we hope to foster dialogue about the kind of internet we want to build together.

As always, none of this work would be possible without the dedication and support of our members, partners, and wider community. Thank you for being part of this effort. We look forward to continuing the conversation and working together towards a more inclusive, democratic, and resilient digital world.

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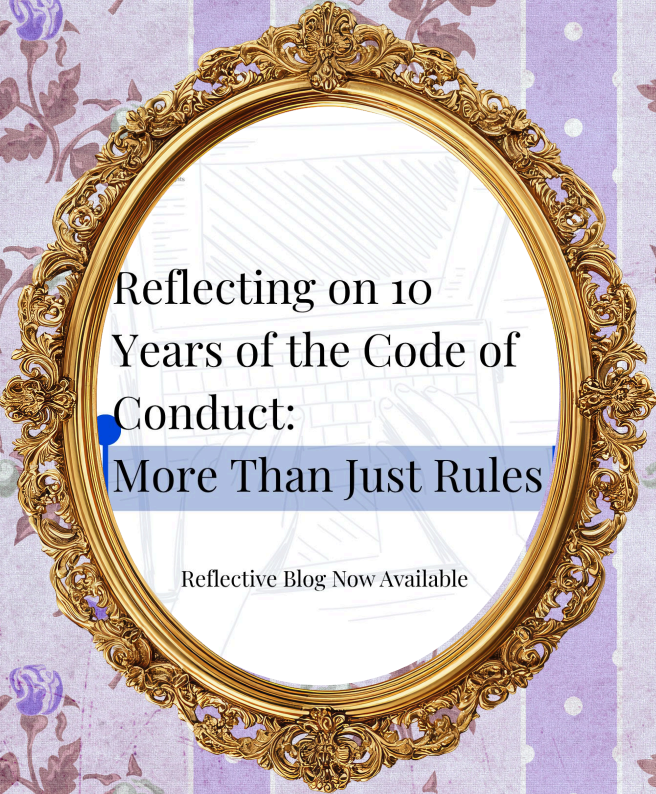
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# Monitoring results

2026 marks 10 years of the EU Code of Conduct on Countering Illegal Hate Speech Online. INACH wrote a short blog about it. The results of the first CoC+ under the DSA Monitoring Exercise were published in April. However, INACH has also published the ME results with their partners. There is quite a significant difference between the results from the European Commission and from INACH since the EC has taken out the Error cases and Disputed cases. These are the cases that contain errors or disputed content according to the platforms. Click on the images to read more.



Reflecting on 10  
Years of the Code of  
Conduct:  
More Than Just Rules

Reflective Blog Now Available



MONITORING EXERCISE REPORT  
FOR 2025 IS NOW AVAILABLE ON  
OUR WEBSITE AND HUB



DIGITAL  
SERVICES  
ACT



# INACH Contributes Digital Perspective to the European Commission's Anti-Racism Civil Society Forum

On June 1-2, 2026, INACH joined over 30 civil society organizations in Brussels for the first meeting of the renewed Anti-Racism Civil Society Forum. Convened by the European Commission, the Permanent Forum serves as a critical mechanism to monitor and guide the implementation of the new EU Anti-Racism Strategy 2026-2030.

Representing the INACH Secretariat, Begüm Ermutlu emphasized the critical need to address the digital dimension of discrimination. Any modern framework for systemic discrimination must recognize the role of digital ecosystems. Today, racism is actively amplified and normalized through platform infrastructures, recommender algorithms, and AI-generated synthetic propaganda, dynamics that must be included in the EU's upcoming working definition of structural racism.



We noted that current data collection often focuses entirely on traditional areas (housing, healthcare, employment) while omitting the digital environment. INACH urged the Commission to treat the digital sphere as a distinct area of potential discrimination, while enforcing robust safeguards so that disaggregated equality data captures lived experiences of racialization and never becomes a tool for profiling or surveillance.

While welcoming the Strategy's alignment with the Digital Services Act (DSA) and the AI Act, INACH reminded the Commission that regulation alone is not enough. The essential work of monitoring and victim support is carried out by CSOs facing shrinking funding and political pressure, making long-term, sustainable financial support absolutely critical.

Moving forward, INACH remains committed to contributing our network's data and expertise to ensure that European anti-racism governance robustly counters modern digital harms while systematically supporting civil society organizations operating on the front lines.





# Transparency and Disinformation Reports

The latest transparency and disinformation reports from TikTok, Meta and YouTube reveal a significant shift in platform governance. Rather than focusing primarily on the removal of illegal content, platforms are increasingly seeking to manage systemic risks such as algorithmic amplification, coordinated manipulation, recommendation systems, and AI-generated content.

This overview identifies the key trends emerging across platforms and examines their relevance for civil society organisations working on online hate, discrimination, and digital rights. It finds that platforms are moving away from content-based moderation towards approaches that focus on limiting the reach and visibility of harmful content through recommendation controls, demotion, and other forms of amplification management.

At the same time, important transparency gaps remain. While platforms devote significant attention to disinformation, election integrity, coordinated influence operations, and synthetic media, they provide comparatively little insight into how recommendation systems operate, which narratives are downranked, and whether these interventions effectively reduce harm. The reports also raise concerns that identity-based harms such as racism, antisemitism, anti-Muslim hate, anti-LGBTQ+ hate, and misogyny receive less explicit attention than broader issues of platform safety and information integrity.

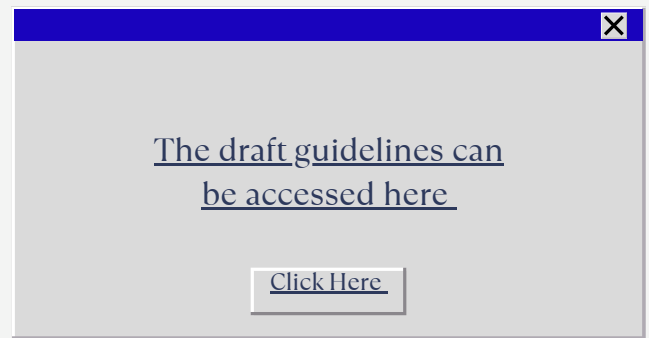
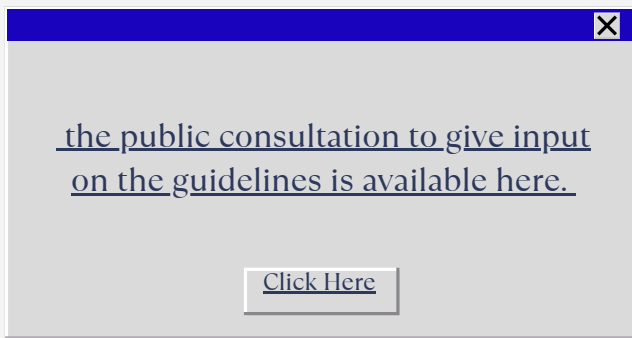
Our report provides a thorough overview of recent developments in platform governance and highlights areas where greater transparency, accountability, and civil society engagement remain necessary.



[Read More Here](#)

# Public consultation on draft TF guidelines

The European Commission has published the draft Trusted Flagger guidelines under the Digital Services Act (DSA). Under the DSA, organisations with specialised expertise and competence in identifying certain specific types of illegal online content can be designated Trusted Flaggers. Platforms are required to prioritise the review of notices of illegal content. The guidelines aim to ensure clarity on how the mechanism of Trusted Flagger operates.



## The Council of Europe Recommendation on Combating Hate Speech

2026 marks the 5th year anniversary of the CoE Recommendation on Combating Hate Speech. In assignment of the CoE INACH is carrying out a small study to measure the impact of the Recommendation from a CSO perspective. If you are a CSO, you can hand in your input by clicking on the image (right).



# Irish DSC Coimisiún na Meán

Coimisiún na Meán is responsible for overseeing Ireland's Online Safety Framework, ensuring that digital services based in Ireland comply with their obligations and that people, particularly children, are protected from harm online.

An Coimisiún recognises the breadth and depth of expertise within civil society and the value this brings to our evidence base through research, insights and analysis. We also recognise that many organisations wish to share their work and real-world experience so that it can inform regulatory practice and strengthen online safety outcomes.

To support this, we have developed a CSO Pilot Programme, which will provide a structured channel for civil society organisations to share information relevant to the Online Safety Framework. The Pilot will trial a dedicated route for CSOs to raise online safety related issues with us, with the aim of strengthening how civil society input informs regulatory implementation.

The Pilot will run for 18 months, from 2 June 2026 to 2 December 2027. Following this period, we will evaluate what has worked well and what could be improved, which may inform the development of a future statutory mechanism (i.e. the Nominated Bodies Scheme under Section 139ZC of the Broadcasting Act 2009, as amended).

Participation is limited to civil society organisations, defined as independent, not-for-profit, voluntary and public-interest oriented bodies representing societal interests. Further information, including the Guidance and Self-Declaration and Submission Form, is available below.

Submissions and any queries can be sent to: [CSOSubmissions@cnam.ie](mailto:CSOSubmissions@cnam.ie)

[Click Here](#)

# What the Research Reveals

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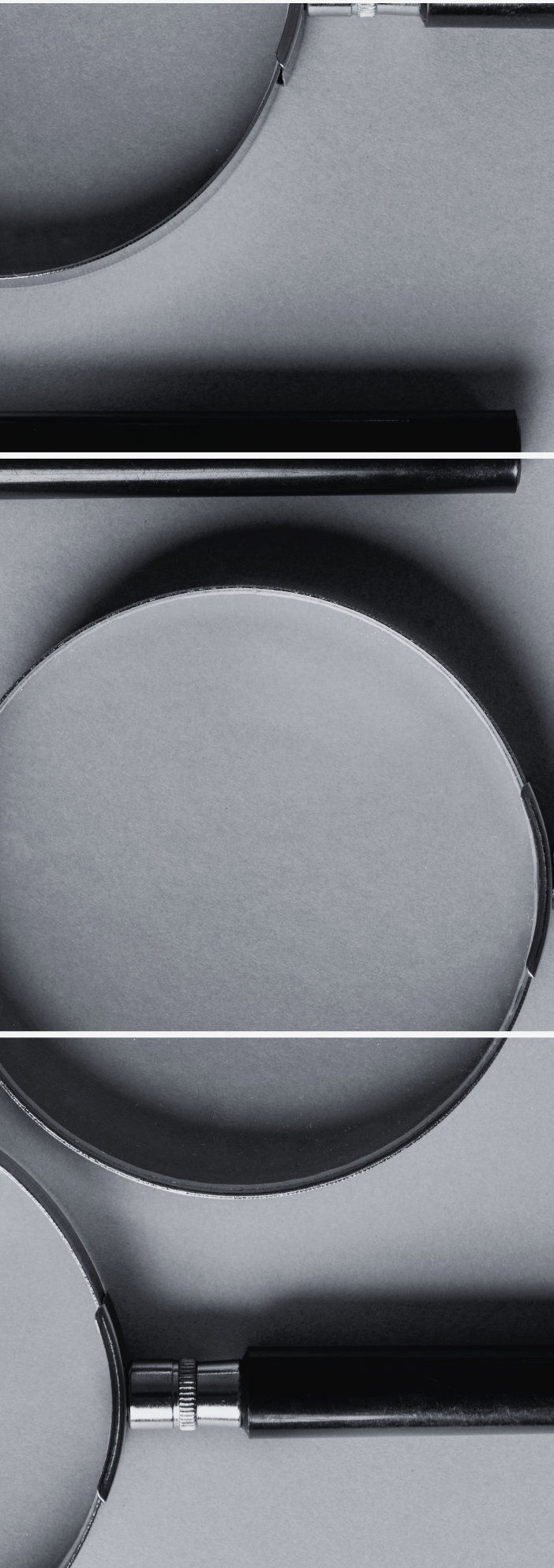
[Municipality elections  
2026 in the  
Netherlands](#)

[Recent Hub  
research](#)

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Europe](#)

[INACH Technology  
Roundtable](#)



# Municipality Elections 2026 in the Netherlands

INACH monitored the municipal elections in the Netherlands in March 2026 for online hate narratives. Drawing on data collected through the European Observatory on Online Hate (EOOH) dashboard, the study examines thousands of social media posts across multiple thematic channels, including anti-LGBT+, anti-immigration, and politically neutral discussions. The findings show that online hate is highly politicized and rarely exists in isolation. Narratives targeting migrants, Muslims, Jewish people, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other minority groups frequently overlap, creating an interconnected ecosystem of exclusionary discourse.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

## Recent Hub Research

With the Hub INACH and Textgain also followed and analyzed the municipal elections of March 2026 in the Netherlands on a bot level. Bots are detected based on three indicators: How regularly are identical texts posted, how regular does an individual account post and how quickly does an account reply. Together the three indicators form a bot score. The data on the elections contained about 15% more bot comments than regular data sets

[Click Here to Read More](#)

In early May, INACH hosted its webinar “Who Sets the Rules Online? Democracy, Regulation and Global Power.”



Aidan O'Brien, a researcher and analyst from EDMO Ireland. Using Ireland as a case study, O'Brien explained how mainstream American right-wing conspiracy theories are being slightly modified to align with Irish themes, and then adopted at a high rate. These conspiracy theories often lead to violence against minority groups and politicians, even when they are demonstrably false. This illustrates how what O'Brien calls the “three horsemen of the infocalypse: disinformation, hate, and extremism,” co-occur and lead to real world violence.

Read the full summary [here](#).

## Webinar



Zenith Khan, digital research analyst at the Center for the Study of Organized Hate (CSOH). She spoke about [CSOH's report](#) which detailed how Elon Musk and far-right actors weaponized discourse about UK 'grooming gangs' and child protection to spread and amplify Islamophobic narratives on X. Khan described how, in January of 2025, Elon Musk used X to accuse the British Prime Minister of secretly covering up 'grooming gangs.' The CSOH says the term 'grooming gangs' has “come to signify groups of men (typically Muslim and of Pakistani heritage), often operating in networks, to systematically groom, exploit, and sexually abuse vulnerable (white) children, primarily teenage girls.”

Read the full summary [here](#).



## Webinar



Aishik Saha, a PhD candidate at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He took the time to explain how X's [Community Notes](#) system really works, and to ask how algorithms like those underlying community notes can be improved. Saha describes how Community Notes are ranked based on rater's “helpfulness scores,” which are used to ensure a diversity of viewpoints are present in notes and the system isn't dominated by a single point of view.

Read the full summary [here](#).



## Webinar



# Appeals Centre Europe

Appeals Centre Europe have released their latest Transparency Report, revealing new insights about hate speech on social media. In 70% of the 1,400 cases where the Appeals Centre reviewed platforms' decisions to leave up content reported as hate speech, they disagreed with the platform. These cases included hateful content targeting religious minorities, Roma people, migrants, and LGBTQI+ communities.

If your organisation is interested in working with the Appeals Centre, please email [engagement@appealscentre.eu](mailto:engagement@appealscentre.eu).

## INACH Technology Roundtable

On 3 June 2026 INACH organised its first annual Technology Roundtable in Dublin. The focus of the Roundtable was to shed light on both the opportunities that developments in technologies offer with detecting and analyzing online hate speech while also the different ways technologies influence the form and shape of online hate speech.



Speakers included Check my Ads, Algorithm Audit, EOOH, Textgain, Danes Je Nov Dan and DG CNCT.

Read our LinkedIn piece on it [here](#).



# Next on the Horizon

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The Web We Deserve

Announcement on  
the DSA Shadow  
Report 2026

Digital Fairness Act

# The Web We Deserve

We're excited to announce the launch of The Web We Deserve, a new podcast exploring how the internet shapes our societies, democracies, and everyday lives—and what a better digital future could look like. In each episode, we speak with leading experts, practitioners, and changemakers about the challenges and opportunities of our online world. Together, we explore how algorithms, engagement-driven platforms, and digital environments influence the way we think, connect, and participate in society, while also imagining alternative futures that place people, communities, and democratic values at the centre. The podcast will be available soon on our website.



## Announcement on the DSA Shadow Report 2026

INACH is gathering all the input and knowledge available through its network and contact with stakeholders to write its DSA Shadow Report. It will be published by the secretariat at the end of June.



# Digital Fairness Act

The Digital Fairness Act (DFA) is a forthcoming EU law aimed at strengthening consumer protection in the digital environment. The European Commission is expected to publish a legislative proposal in late 2026. The DFA is expected to become the EU's main instrument for tackling manipulative digital design and unfair online business practices, complementing the DSA's focus on platform accountability and online safety.

## **Issues likely to be covered:**

Protection of minors from addictive digital design;  
Restrictions on dark patterns;  
Greater transparency around recommender systems and personalization;  
Fairer subscription and purchasing processes;  
Regulation of AI-powered manipulation and behavioural targeting.

## **Although the DFA is not specifically about hate speech, it touches on several issues relevant to online harms:**

- Algorithms that amplify outrage, polarisation and hateful content;
- AI-driven engagement systems that reward harmful content;
- Protection of children and vulnerable users online;
- Manipulative design practices that may contribute to radicalisation or exposure to harmful content.

# Act Now

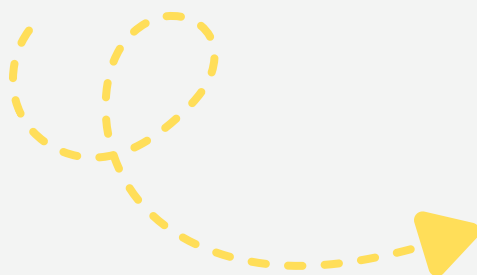
## Join Our One Day Of Online Happiness



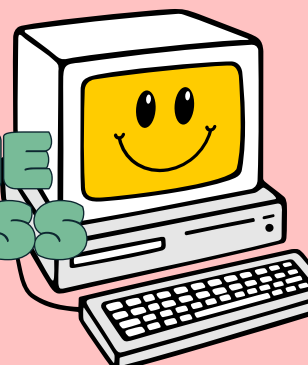
Do you want to make the internet a happier place on 25 June, even if it only costs a few minutes? [Join us for the One Day of Online Happiness!](#)

The goal is to flood the feeds of social media with positive content. No worries, you do not need to make the content yourself, you can use our Happiness Machine that we built for you, to generate GIFs, memes, jokes, posts, etc.. You can set the Happiness Machine to your local language in order to generate the content. If your language does not appear there, please let us know and we will add it. While posting the content please use the #1DayOfOnlineHappiness hash tag.

Preview our Happiness Machine  
(click on the computer)



**ONE DAY  
OF ONLINE  
HAPPINESS**





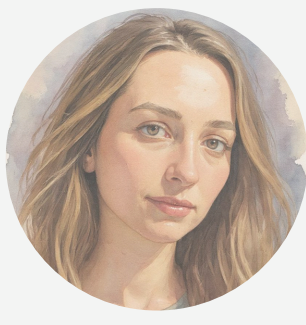
# MEET OUR TEAM

## SECRETARIAT

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**Tamas Berecz**  
*Managing Director*  
tamas@inach.net



**Charlotte Devinat**  
*General Manager*  
charlotte@inach.net



**Adinde Schoorl**  
*Head of Research and Advocacy*  
adinde@inach.net



**Emrah Gursel**  
*Head of Fundraising*  
emrah@inach.net



**Begum Ermutlu**  
*Interim General Manager*  
begum@inach.net



**Naomi Tidball**  
*Communications & Office Manager*  
naomi@inach.net



**Jan Bruin**  
*Financial Advisor*  
secretariat@inach.net



# MEET OUR TEAM

## BOARD MEMBERS

---



**Philippe Schmidt**  
*Chairman*



**Jonathan Vick**  
*Treasurer and US Representative*



**Steffen Eisentraut**  
*Board Member*



**Selma Muhič Dizdarevič**  
*Board Member*

# DONORS AND SPONSORS

INACH has received operating grants from the European Commission since 2018 and project funding for initiatives such as SafeNet, while also being supported by foundations, public institutions, and philanthropic funds, with corporate sponsorships limited to charitable projects, transparently acknowledged, and capped so that no single social media company contributes more than 20% of the organization's annual income.



Co-funded by  
the European Union

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