Q3 DIGEST



INACH

DEAR SUBCRIBERS,



Welcome to the latest edition of our bulletin. The landscape surrounding online hate continues to evolve, driven by technological developments, changing online behaviours and new policy initiatives. At the same time, persistent gaps in enforcement, platform accountability and support for civil society show how much work remains to translate commitments into meaningful change.

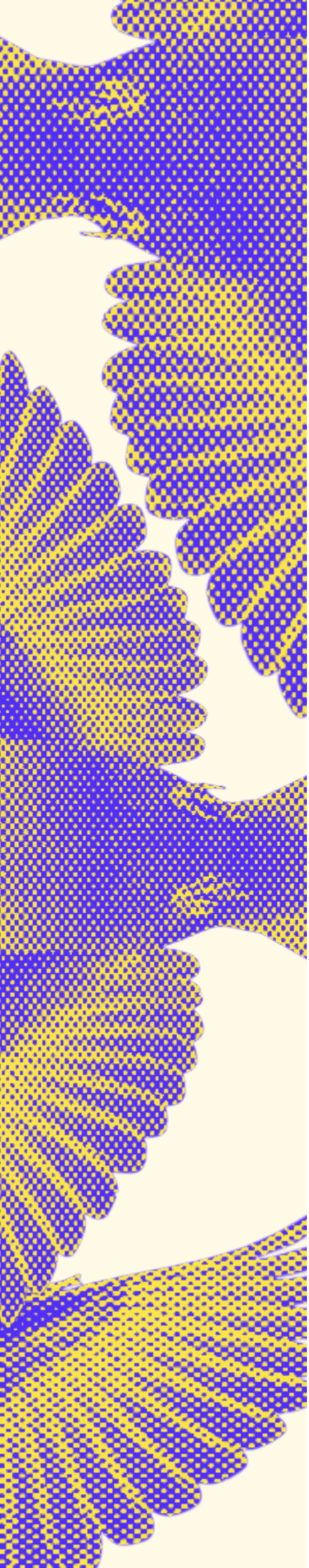
In this edition, we examine several developments shaping this debate. These include new Council of Europe standards on equality and artificial intelligence and on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, as well as the emerging New Democratic Pact for Europe. We also consider what the designation of new very large online services could mean for platform accountability, generative AI and the protection of minors. Alongside these policy developments, we highlight practical experiences, emerging patterns and strategies from across our network.

None of this work would be possible without the expertise, commitment and courage of our members, who monitor online hate, support affected communities and advocate for change every day. I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to our partners, stakeholders, funders and everyone who continues to share knowledge and work alongside us. Your collaboration enables us to strengthen our collective voice and advance our shared vision of an online environment in which everyone can participate safely and equally.

Tamas Berecz,
Director of INACH

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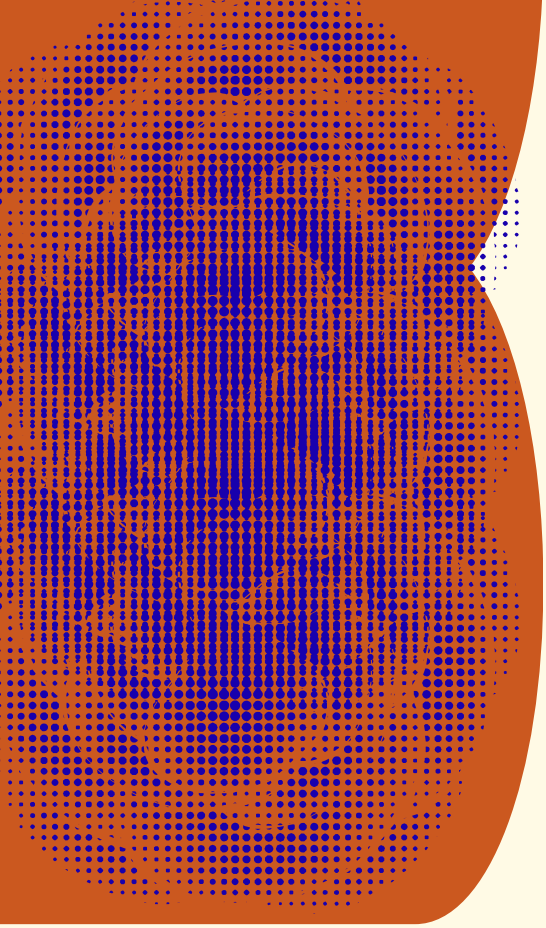


POLICY

MOVES

THAT

MATTER



New services under the DSA:

On 31 August, the European Commission designated ChatGPT as a Very Large Online Search Engine and Reddit and Roblox as Very Large Online Platforms under the Digital Services Act. All three services reported more than 45 million monthly users in the EU and must comply with the additional obligations for very large services by January 2027. These include assessing and mitigating systemic risks, undergoing independent audits and providing regulators and vetted researchers with access to relevant data. For ChatGPT especially, the decision extends the DSA's systemic-risk framework into generative AI. Its assessment should address not only access to illegal material but also whether generated answers, web-search results and underlying safeguards can reproduce or reinforce hateful stereotypes, discriminatory narratives and extremist content—particularly across different European languages and contexts.

European Centre for Democratic Resilience

The European Centre for Democratic Resilience, a flagship initiative of the European Democracy Shield, began operating in February 2026. It brings together EU institutions, Member States and, through a dedicated stakeholder platform, civil society, researchers, academia, fact-checkers and media organisations. Its purpose is to strengthen the EU's collective ability to anticipate, detect and respond to threats to democracy, particularly foreign information manipulation and interference and disinformation. Initial priorities include developing tools for resilient elections, preparing an EU blueprint for responding to information-manipulation campaigns, and improving capacity-building and cooperation between participating countries.

For organisations working against online hate, the Centre provides an important opportunity to demonstrate how hate speech, conspiracy narratives and coordinated amplification can be used to polarise communities, undermine trust in democratic institutions and discourage targeted groups from participating in public life.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO

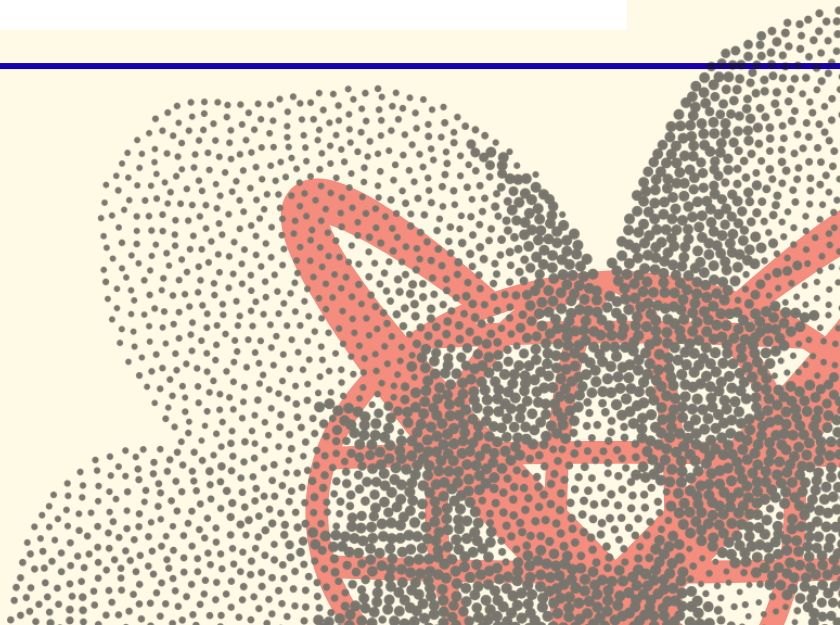
Council of Europe sets new standard on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls

The Council of Europe has adopted the first international legal standard specifically focused on accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. Recommendation CM/Rec(2026)2 calls on member states to strengthen their legal, institutional and regulatory responses so that digital violence is neither facilitated, condoned, accepted nor ignored.

The Recommendation takes a broad view of accountability. It looks beyond criminal prosecution to include civil and administrative measures, accessible remedies and action by regulators and other institutions. It promotes victim-centred and trauma-informed responses, measures to prevent secondary victimisation, and the involvement of civil society, technology companies, the media and educational institutions. Significantly, it also calls for a "safety-by-design" approach, under which technology companies should ensure that their products and services do not facilitate violence.

While the Recommendation is not limited to hate speech, it is highly relevant to the online-hate field. Gendered hate, misogynistic abuse, threats and harassment frequently overlap with wider patterns of technology-facilitated violence. The new standard therefore strengthens the case for treating such conduct as more than an isolated content-moderation problem: states need coherent laws, effective reporting and redress mechanisms, properly trained authorities, regulatory oversight and preventive responsibilities for digital services.

The instrument also complements the Council of Europe's new Recommendation CM/Rec(2026)1 on equality and artificial intelligence. That Recommendation addresses discrimination throughout the lifecycle of AI systems and emphasises transparency, explainability, oversight and effective remedies. Taken together, the two texts highlight the need to address both abusive uses of technology and the discriminatory risks embedded in the design and operation of digital and AI systems.

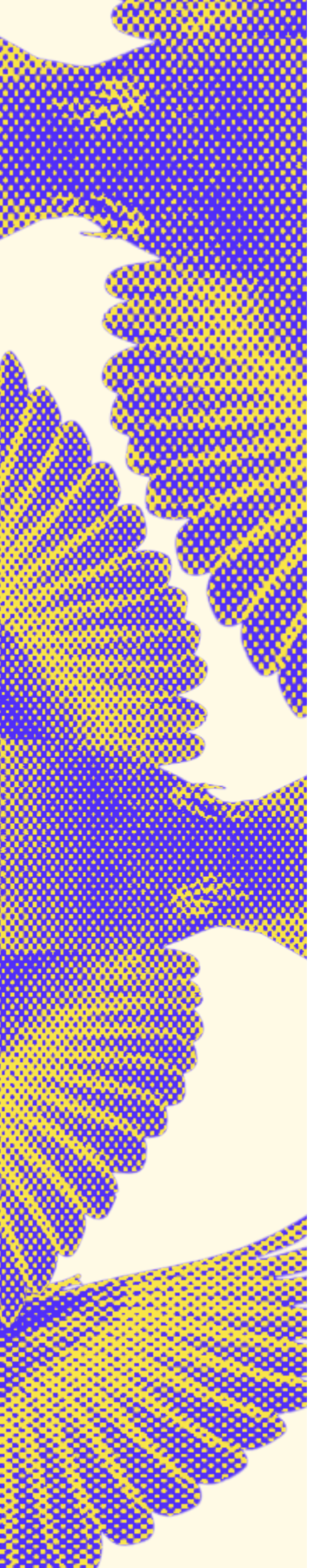


A New Democratic Pact for Europe takes shape

The Council of Europe is developing a New Democratic Pact for Europe in response to democratic backsliding, declining trust in institutions, disinformation and growing authoritarian pressure. Launched by Secretary General Alain Berset in 2025, the Pact is intended to identify integrated responses to these challenges and strengthen the resilience of democratic institutions across Europe. Its first phase consists of an extensive consultation process running until December 2026.

The emerging Pact is structured around three pillars: learning and practising democracy, protecting democracy, and innovating for democracy. Its ambition is not simply to defend existing institutions, but to rebuild public trust, broaden meaningful participation and ensure that democratic governance can respond to technological disruption and periods of sustained crisis.

For organisations working against online hate, the process is particularly relevant. The Council of Europe explicitly recognises that democracy is increasingly shaped by digital information ecosystems, and threatened by disinformation, information bubbles and foreign information manipulation. The Pact therefore offers an opportunity to position civil-society organisations as structural partners in democratic resilience.



WHAT THE RESEARCH REVEALS

DSA Report

The DSA has established a strong regulatory framework, but its long-term success will depend on consistent implementation, effective enforcement, greater platform accountability, and meaningful participation of civil society. To fully realise the DSA's objectives, enforcement must increasingly shift from addressing individual pieces of illegal content to tackling the systemic mechanisms that enable online harms to spread. Our DSA Implementation Report 2026 is out!

Read DSA Report Here

Getting Away With Hate: The Use of Hateful Narratives Eluding Regulation on X by Geert Wilders and Viktor Orbán'

Fox Oliver carried out research for INACH: 'Getting Away With Hate: The Use of Hateful Narratives Eluding Regulation on X by Geert Wilders and Viktor Orbán'. His research employed a manual, qualitative content analysis of 172 relevant posts made by right-wing populist politicians Geert Wilders and Viktor Orbán on X during three month periods surrounding their respective elections.

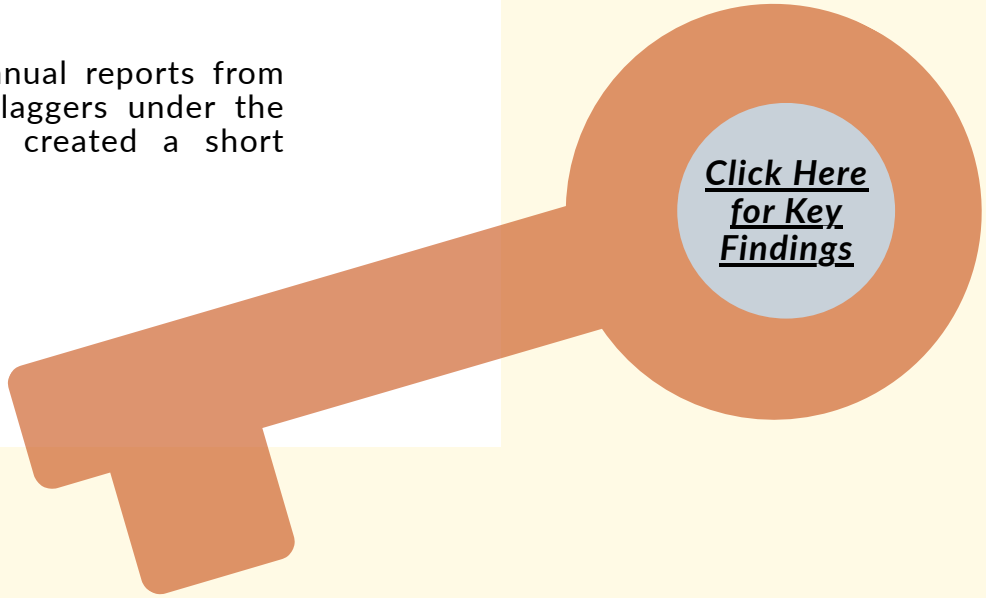
Read Fox's Report Here

The results show that Wilders and Orbán use a mix of frames, including those that highlight criminality, cultural incompatibility, political infiltration, and occasionally economic costs, to depict migrants, Muslims, and LGBTIQ+ people. By being vague and implicit, misrepresenting groups, targeting individuals, and criticizing ideologies instead of people, these politicians are able to create harmful narratives which elude hate speech regulation.

The affordances which allow for these posts to be spread are identified, and relations to and implications for X's current hate speech policies are discussed. While regulation prevents these politicians' use of explicit hate speech, this research shows it still plays a key role in shaping the form that harmful narratives take when they are disseminated online.

Trusted Flaggers Annual Reports

We took a look at the latest annual reports from organisations that are Trusted Flaggers under the Digital Services Act (DSA) and created a short overview with the key findings.





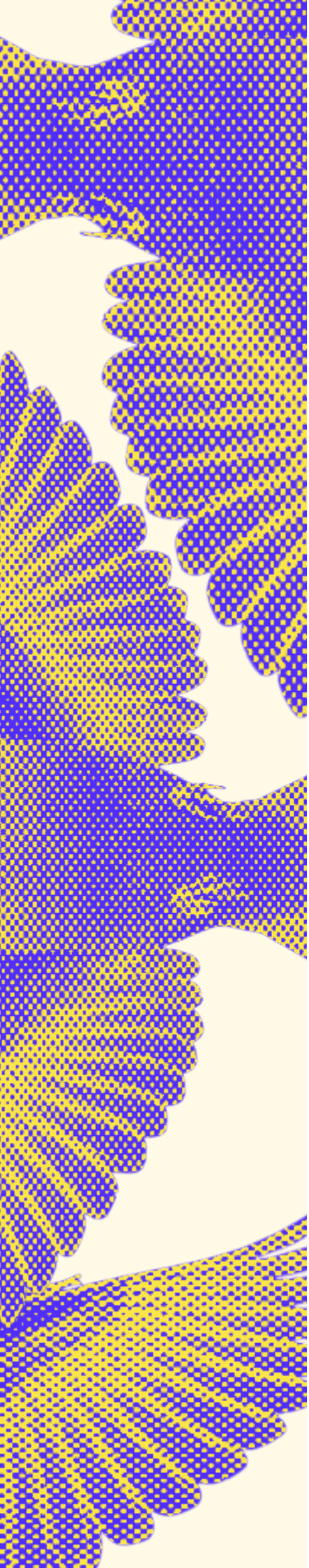
Internship Report

This article provides an overview of Türkiye's relationship with hate speech by examining existing literature, with a focus on targeted groups, taxonomies, and their intersection with algorithmic moderation. Rather than offering an exhaustive account, it presents a synthesized perspective on how political tensions and shifting agendas affect Türkiye's socio-cultural mosaic, subjecting marginalized groups to discrimination. Furthermore, it highlights the high-context nature of Turkish discourse, which poses important challenges for identifying hate speech in media, particularly with the emergence of new algorithm-centred approaches. Finally, it examines the dissimilarity between academic detection methods and the opaque moderation systems employed by the media companies.

Research Report the Netherlands: Islamisation and Great Replacement

With the EOOH dashboard we measured and analyzed the presence of content mentioning the conspiracy theories of Islamisation and the Great Replacement. They are two hate narratives that are increasingly mentioned together and often presented as objective truths in Dutch society with only one solution: remigration. These theories and concepts appeared until a couple of years ago mostly on fringe platforms but are now mainstream.





STRATEGIES

THAT

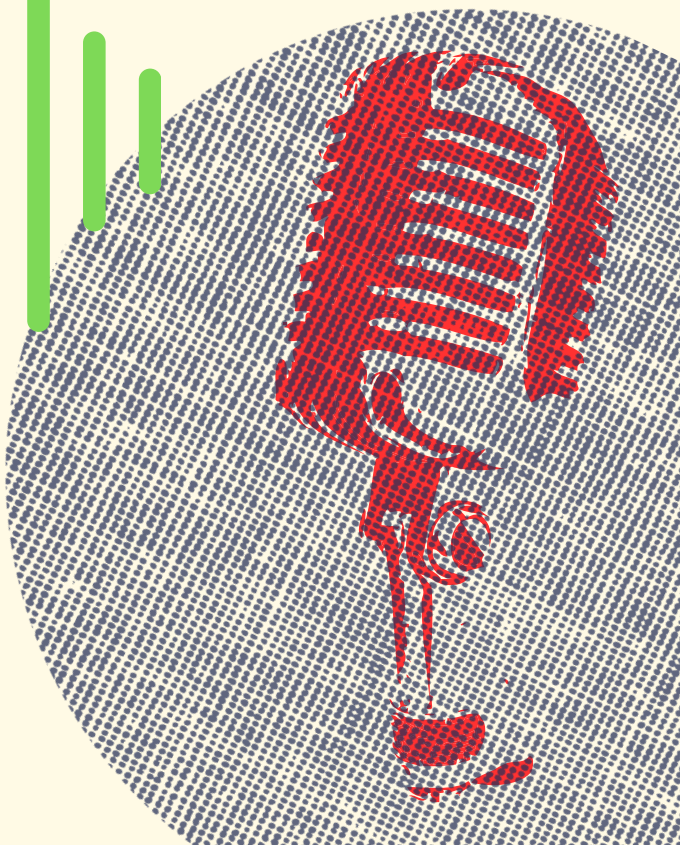
WORK

The Web We Deserve

Storytelling plays a central role in this project, transforming complex and often abstract issues into relatable narratives that inspire action and amplify impact. At the heart of the podcast is a simple but important question: how can we create the web we deserve? Each episode examines this question from a different perspective, exploring both the challenges and opportunities involved in building a safer, more inclusive, and more accountable digital environment.

Through The Web We Deserve podcast, we share best practices, insights, and experiences from across the Network, highlighting the work of Trusted Flaggers (TFs), moderators, activists, researchers, and mental health advocates. The series explores the challenges of addressing online harm, showcase the contributions of Network partners, and demonstrate practical applications of tools such as the EOOH Dashboard. Featuring expert perspectives and real-world case studies, The Web We Deserve provides valuable knowledge and learning opportunities for both Network members and wider audiences. By fostering collaboration, sharing lived experiences, and spotlighting innovative approaches, the podcast will bring a human dimension to the collective effort to create a better online world.

Listen Here

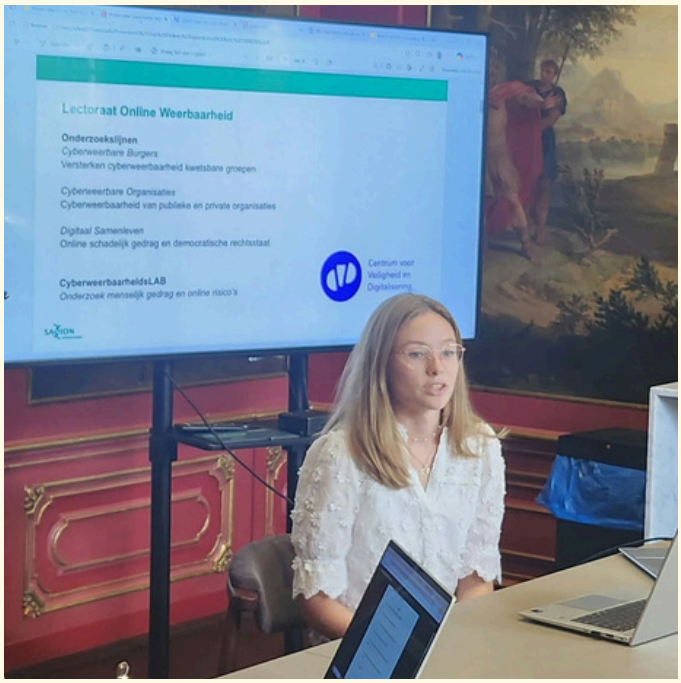


Roundtable Event on Cyber Hate Neutralization Hub in Amsterdam

On 10 September INACH secretariat and Textgain organized a roundtable event in Amsterdam to show the first results of the Dutch extension of the Cyber Hate Neutralization Hub, a project funded by SIDN Fund.





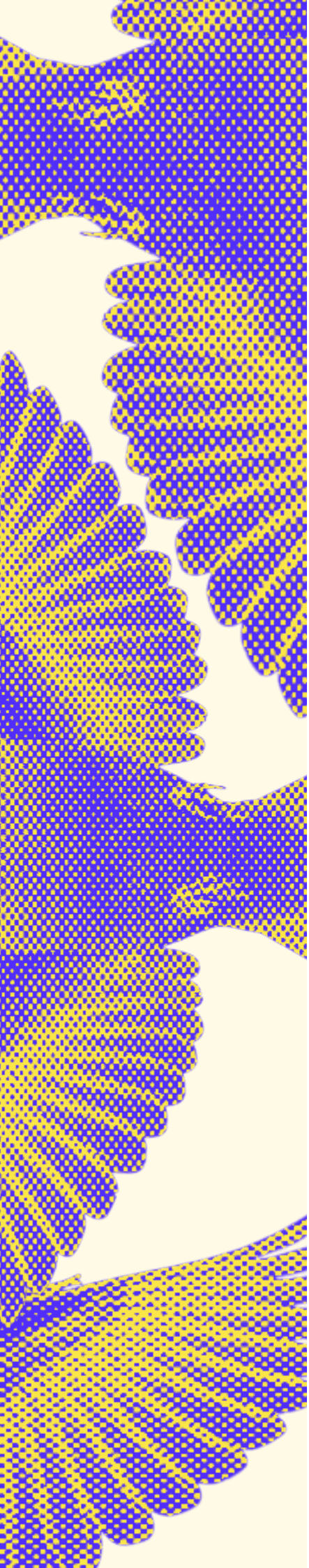


insights were shared on how Dutch toxic bot content is detected on TikTok, what the narratives are that bots spread, how coordinated bot attacks on local politicians are detected and what types of different bot behaviour was seen. Based on the results so far, recommendations include treating coordinated bot campaigns as a systemic risk under the DSA, require platforms to be more transparent about their bot detection and do not reward the so called outrage spam and hate campaigns with algorithmic amplification.

Three other speakers presented their projects from Leiden University, Saxion University of Applied Sciences and PostX Society. The participants of the event included Dutch authorities, the national police, SIDN Fund and Civil Society Organisations. Next year a second (online) event will be organized.







NEXT ON THE HORIZON

ECRI Event

On 15 and 16 October 2026, the Annual Seminar of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) with Equality Bodies, will take place in Strasbourg. Arrangements will also be made to allow participation via videoconference.

The seminar is organised by ECRI in cooperation with the European Network of Equality Bodies (EQUINET) and the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). The working languages of the event will be English and French.

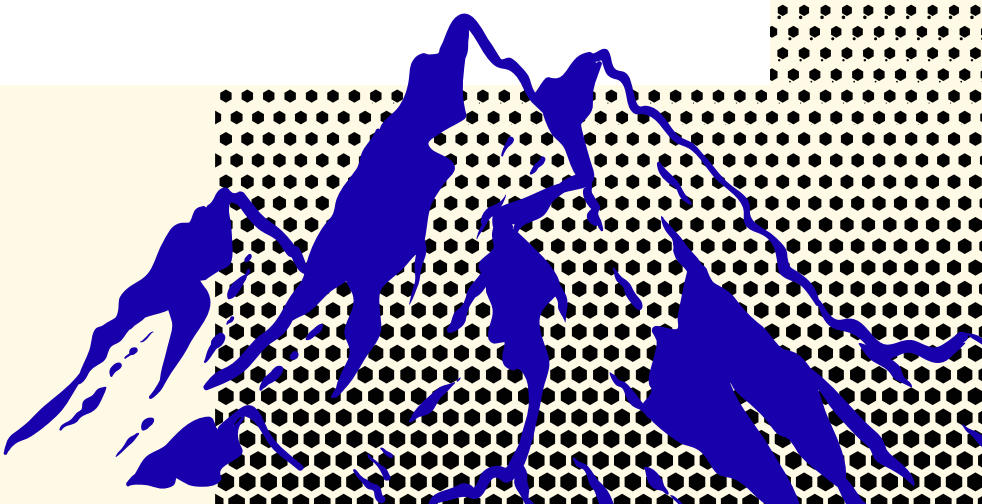
This year's seminar will focus on: "The Role of Equality Bodies in Addressing Hateful and Discriminatory Narratives in Political and Other Public Discourse."

Against a backdrop of hate speech and the growing political instrumentalisation of national, ethnic, religious, gender and other identities, the seminar will bring together representatives of national equality bodies, European and international independent institutions and bodies, civil society organisations and affected communities to exchange experiences, reflect on challenges and explore possible responses. The seminar will place particular emphasis on practical exchanges and the experiences of those working directly with communities affected by racism, discrimination and intolerance. The contribution of civil society organisations will therefore be particularly valuable to the discussions.

The Concept Note and Draft Programme are available on ECRI's website.

We encourage you to consult the page regularly, as the programme will continue to be updated.

ECRI WEBSITE



ACT NOW

Run Against Hate

We are forming Team “Run Against Hate!” — a charity running team taking part in the TCS Amsterdam Marathon 7.5K on Saturday, 17 October 2026. We are looking for runners who want to turn their kilometers into impact.

You don’t need to be a serious athlete. The 7.5K is accessible for all fitness levels. You just need a pair of running shoes and a belief that online hate should be challenged, not ignored.

What joining the team means:

- You run the 7.5K through Amsterdam on 17 October
- You get a personal fundraising page
- You raise whatever amount you want by reaching out to your personal circle

You join a motivated community of runners
Spots are limited. We want a focused, motivated team.
Interested?

Sign up below.

Questions?

Write to us at emrah@inach.net — we’d love to have you.



INACH

Contact us now at
fundraiser@inach.net

Run Against Hate

SIGN UP HERE

ACT NOW



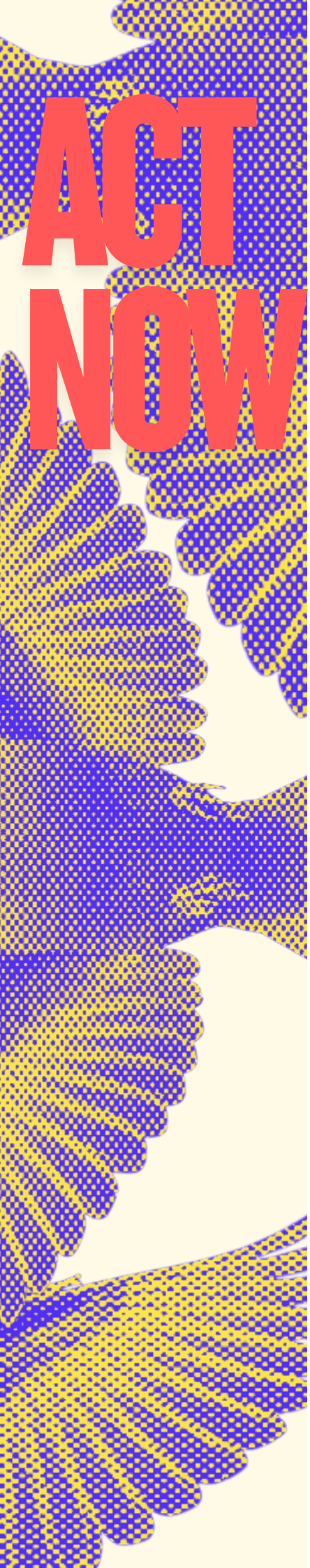
INACH is partnering with grownfromhate to address hate on X

How it works: If you come across a hateful post on X, reply to it and tag @grownfromhate. The bot takes the post apart, letter by letter, and regrows it into an ASCII flower made from nothing but its own characters. The harsher the original message, the more the flower blooms.

Great news: grownfromhate will donate 50% of its net profits from memberships, merch and tips to INACH. The flowers make the argument. INACH does the work.

Go deeper: To create your own flowers and learn about our partnership, please visit:





Stronger together: Building Joint Jewish Muslim Responses to Online Hate

6 October 2026, 11:00-14:30

Hosted by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD) and the Coalition to Counter Online Antisemitism, in collaboration with the International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH), Nordic Safe Cities, United Religions Initiative (URI) and other partners to be confirmed, this event focuses on building joint responses to online antisemitism and anti-Muslim hate and strengthening cooperation between Jewish and Muslim communities as they navigate shared digital threats and broader systemic harms. It will create space to exchange experiences, explore practical approaches and identify opportunities for greater solidarity and joint action.

About the Coalition to Counter Online Antisemitism

The Coalition to Counter Online Antisemitism (CCOA) brings together a wide range of actors working to address antisemitism online with the aim of building new partnerships and strengthening existing efforts. CCOA works to connect research, education, and policy practice, and to amplify effective approaches across Europe. The initiative unites over 90 stakeholders in ten European countries, including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

VIEW AGENDA HERE

REGISTER FOR EVENT HERE



MEET OUR TEAM

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MEET OUR TEAM

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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.

SIDN fonds

Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations

Co-funded by the European Union

Saily

TikTok

Google

Microsoft