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Swiss Internet Governance Forum

Swiss Youth IGF Message on Social Media:

There are various issues regarding online safety and well-being in social media that concern us, including addictive algorithms, cyber harassment, real-life security threats enabled through digital tracking, a lack of transparency on information sources and accuracy. We as young people believe that platforms should be held accountable. And if they do not yield, we build our own, better version.

Main Questions:

- Content Moderation on Social Media (Misinformation and harmful content)
- Online Space as a real threat to physical safety and well-being
- Erosion of trust in Big Tech, through repeated scandals (Cambridge Analytica, Grok and AI nudes... etc.)

Main Follow-Ups:

- We call on the private sector for more community notes and «flagging of content» for social media, and a system of watchdog NGOs. No take-down, just a warning flag.
- We call on the government and schools for more mandatory classes on digital literacy, for students and teachers. But also involvement of parents.
- We call on the private sector for more Social Media Platforms built with trust by design. It does not have to be a «vegan» version. Profit-seeking with guardrails. Well-trained people as developers.



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Swiss Youth IGF Message on generative AI

Main Questions:

- AI is convenient to use in education because schools reward and assess students based on grades rather than on learning.
- Over the past few years, generative AI has become a major part of our daily lives, for example by allowing us to automate repetitive and time-consuming tasks. However, this has happened at an unforeseen speed and scale, and without clear responsibility or accountability from the actors driving it. As a result, it has become difficult, for example, to distinguish fact from fiction online.
- AI usage has grown, placing greater strain on social and environmental factors, for example, water usage, the information landscape, and our mental health.

Main Follow-Ups:

- We need governments and the private sector to provide greater support for pedagogical AI by design. AI that is accessible as well as competitive, in the specific context of professors and students, against general consumer AI chatbots.
- We call on governments and international organizations to centralize their efforts to govern AI and to deploy nationwide hard law that would enable us to enforce rules, for instance, on the transparency, provenance, and watermarking of synthetic content.
- We call on the private sector, civil society, and academia to evaluate the use of computing and to better allocate resources, so that these resources are used only for good purposes, in order to limit water usage and to safeguard the digital public sphere from unneeded slop.