



IGF Internet
Governance
Forum

**BEST PRACTICE FORUM
GENDER & DIGITAL RIGHTS**



IGF 2021

Best Practice Forum

Gender and Digital Rights

Call 3

Friday 25 June 2021

14:00 UTC

Draft Agenda

1. Welcome and draft Agenda
2. Exploring Gendered Disinformation
 - a. Updates from participants on initiatives on gendered disinformation
3. BPF work plan update
 - a. BPF GDR gendered disinformation resource list
 - b. Confirmed experts 8 July meeting
 - c. Outreach and cooperation (including IG initiatives)
 - d. Closing kick-off survey.
4. Exchange on the BPF output(s)



IGF 2021
Best Practice Forum on Gender and Digital Rights

2. Exploring Gendered Disinformation

- **Updates from participants on initiatives on gendered disinformation**

3. Update on the BPF work plan – resource list

Gender and Disinformation Resource List

Compilation of cornerstone documents and reading materials on the topic of gendered disinformation. It serves as a background resource for the BPF's discussions, and is intended as a community resource on gendered disinformation.

The resource list is a living document that will be developed and updated in the course of the BPF's work.

Contribute and suggest a resource via [this form](#) or to gender@intgovforum.org.

Structure of the resource list

- Exploring gendered disinformation
 1. Research
 2. Case studies
- Mediating gendered disinformation
 3. Best Practices
 4. Regulatory initiatives
- Other documents on gendered disinformation
- Key documents on related topics



IGF 2021 Best Practice Forum on Gender and Digital Rights

3. Update on the BPF work plan – next meeting & outreach

- **BPF Call 4, Thursday 8 July, 12:00 UTC**

expert updates

Maria Giovanna Sessa, EU DisinfoLAB

Kristina Wilfore, #ShePersisted

- **BPF Call 5, date to be announced**

- **Outreach**

EuroDIG, 28 June, 13:45 UTC,

BPF Gender and Digital Rights update and Q&A

Outreach opportunities (Events, Organizations, Experts)?

Let us know !

3. Update on the BPF work plan (kick-off survey)

Feedback on the definition of gendered disinformation

Working definition gendered disinformation

The term “**gendered disinformation**” can be used to describe information activities (creating, sharing, disseminating content) which:

- a) Attacks or undermines people on the basis of their gender;
- b) Weaponises gendered narratives to promote political, social or economic objectives

(based on Judson et al, 2020, p. 7, <https://dera.ioe.ac.uk/136786/1/Engendering-Hate-Report-FINAL.pdf>)

Feedback on definition gendered disinformation

- General support
- Comments: ‘weaponizing’ can also apply in a positive context; social media play very active role; gendered disinformation online exists at the intersection of disinformation with online violence & emanating from the same source, engendering hate; definition doesn’t separate between disinformation and hate speech; does b) implicate a clear intent?;
- Additions: ‘... on the basis of gender identities and expressions’; ‘... to promote political, social, cultural, artistic or economic objectives.’
- Alternative and complementary more detailed definitions.

3. BPF Survey update (kick-off survey) (cont.)

BPF deliverables

Community needs and useful BPF outputs?

- awareness raising and education on the issue;
- focus on impact, regulation and accountability;
- effective mitigation (processes, skills, tools) of gendered disinformation;
- support for ambassadors and volunteers who counter gendered disinformation in all parts of the globe;
- how to protect spaces on the Internet occupied (an often run) by youngsters ? e.g. meme culture;
- importance of gender representation and acceptance on social media particularly popular among young children;
- tackle disinformation on gender diverse people online, including impact of social media policies;
- explore impact of gender representation in the media on the creation and circulation of gendered disinformation;
- cultural and geographical differences in approaches to and experiences with 'gendered disinformation';
- 'gendered disinformation' as a national security question - and what are the potential risks and benefits of 'securitising' 'gendered disinformation'



IGF 2021 Best Practice Forum on Gender and Digital Rights

4. Exchange on the BPF output(s)

'BPFs are expected to produce a tangible written output.'

- What output(s) are a useful contribution to policy and stakeholder debates on the topic of gendered disinformation?
- How to contribute to the policy discussion and avoid duplicating existing efforts?



IGF 2021 Best Practice Forum on Gender and Digital Rights

BPF Gender and Digital Rights coordinating team

Ms Chenai Chair (*MAG facilitator*), Ms Amrita Choudhury (*MAG facilitator*), Ms Bruna Martins dos Santos, Ms Debora Albu, Ms Marwa Azelmat, Mr Wim Degezelle (*Consultant IGF Secretariat*).

Contact gender@intgovforum.org

Participation in the work of the BPF Gender and Digital Rights is free and open to all interested. Participants are expected to respect the [IGF Code of Conduct](#).

BPF Gender and Digital Rights webpage

www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-gender-and-digital-rights

BPF Gender and Digital Rights mailing list

http://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/bp_gender_intgovforum.org

AoB ?

Thank you for participating !



Annexe

IGF 2021

Best Practice Forum on Gender and Digital Rights

IGF Best Practice Forums

Provide a platform to exchange experiences in addressing Internet policy issues.

BPF outputs intend to contribute to an understanding of global good practice, and to serve as a resource to inform policy discussions, standards development, business decisions, as well as public understanding, awareness, and discourse.

IGF 2021 BPF Gender and Digital Rights

The 2021 BPF on Gender and Digital Rights intends to explore the concept of **gendered disinformation**.

As the phenomenon of disinformation advances, it gains nuances and levels of complexity. In the current context, it is timely to explore the concept of gendered disinformation, its relation with online gender-based violence and hate speech, as well as its immediate effects on women and gender-diverse groups' existence online and their freedom of expression.

Webpage:

www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/bpf-gender-and-digital-rights

draft BPF work plan

Kick-off phase

- Consultation on the definition of gendered disinformation
- Exploring community needs and available resources

BPF Learning sessions

- **Expert & stakeholder discussions** (BPF calls, dates to be announced)

Information gathering

- **Call for inputs** (June), additional information gathering (e.g. interviews, desk research) and outreach (including outreach to NRIs and youth initiatives) (June – Sept)

Processing of input, discussion and compilation of draft findings (Sept - Oct)

BPF Gender & Digital Rights Workshop at IGF 2021 (6-10 December)

Envisaged goals and deliverables

- Understand how gender based disinformation has been deployed as a strategy against women and gender-diverse groups.
- Understand how the negative effects on digital rights spill over to other sets of rights, such as political participation, what allows gendered disinformation to be used as part of larger political projects of moral policing, censorship, and hierarchisation of citizenship and rights.
- Map strategies and actions to halt the spread of gendered disinformation and build a less toxic environment for female and gender-diverse groups online.
- Showcase positive initiatives that set the beginning of what can be a long term multistakeholder dialogue on gendered disinformation.