FORUM:Human Rights Council

QUESTION OF:Measures to Prevent the Spread of Misleading Information and the Deficiency of Privacy in Social Media Platforms

MAIN SUBMITTER:France

CO-SUBMITTED:UK, Egypt, Republic of Korea, Portugal, Ethiopia, Afghanistan,Syria, South Africa, Japan, Germany, Iran, USA, Denmark

THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL,

*Recognizing* that the advance of social platforms along with well-founded online infrastructure has led to increment of world-wide connected users for sharing information and convenience to the current century,

*Aware of the fact* thatdevelopment of technologies and means of communication enabled rapid spread of propaganda in forms of misinformation and disinformation,

*Aware* that misleading information could possibly intention to disrupt peace in the society, or for personal interests and gains,

*Bearing in mind* that 67% of United States adults have encountered at least once misleading information on social media and that 86% of internet users are not aware that they have been duped by fake news,

*Keeping in mind that* across the 11 emerging economies (Venezuela, Jordan, Lebanon, Columbia, Vietnam, Philippines, South Africa, Mexico, Tunisia, Kenya, India) median 28% of adults surveyed stated that social media is very important in helping citizens aware of with political news and other developments emerging in the world,

*Deeply concerned* that the misusage of the implementations for the purpose of solving the issue could result in government abuse or the violation of ones right to express opinions,

*Taking note with appreciation* of past efforts to solve this issue, such as the establishment of United Nations Manual on the Prevention and the Control of Computer-Related Crime,

*Commending* the establishment of General Data Protection Regulation and National laws that aim to prevent misinformation and exploitation of Privacy,

*Bearing in mind* the hardship of not violating the Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), which could possibly go against solutions to this issue,

*Determined* to resolve this problem in a manner which would not violate Article 19 of the UDHR in a way which would break the peace of the society,

*Appreciating* the Code of Practice for Disinformation by the European Union which encourages online platforms, social media networks, and online advertising agencies to address the spread of disinformation,

*Further appreciating* the establishment of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in 2016, which is used to protect personal information of European citizens,

1. Urges member states to enhance the education of students in all stages of school regarding the issue of misinformation on social media platforms through such ways but not limited to:
	1. Arranging regional offline campaigns and activities which students have easy access to such as:
		1. Entertaining activities that demonstrate the prevalence of misleading information in social media platforms and inform negative impacts of misinformation,
		2. Presentations which could briefly tell students on these issues and interest them,
	2. Addressing the topics of online privacy and misinformation in educational curricula of public schools based on age groups:
		1. For primary and secondary school: focusing on methods to protect privacy in social media platforms and educating “How to practice discernment,” and ensuring that students can differentiate between misleading and reliable information,
		2. For college level education: include curriculum, no matter of major, on the significant of using accurate information in crafting any work as college level work could be used as sources for others and influence the academic society in a greater degree;
2. Requests all member states to actively raise awareness in both issues on ways to spot fake news and protect private information on media with the assistance of relevant experts through ways such as but not limited to:
	1. Post on these issues on official government accounts, such as government websites, social media accounts, podcast accounts,
	2. Informing citizens in Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs), whom do not have access to advanced technology, through mediums such as:
		1. Posters,
		2. Billboards,
		3. News articles,
		4. Banners,
	3. Informing citizens in More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs), whom uses technology more often, through mediums such as:
		1. YouTube,
		2. Podcast,
		3. Instagram,
		4. Twitter,
	4. Cooperating with relevant non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in informing the general public of these issues:
		1. Holding campaigns such as “#KeepItReal” which was held by the NGO “Article 19” to combat disinformation,
		2. Creating projects which aim to target misinformation and disinformation in both LEDCs and MEDCs;
3. Encourages member nations to provide ways of prevention of malwares such as ransomware, fileless malware, and spyware, which damages private information of individuals, with well-founded Internet protection infrastructure in ways such as but not limited to:
	1. Constant inspection of the website and advertisement banner in social media possessing potential source of malware by cooperating with anti-ransomware companies, such as Malwarebytes, and experts,
	2. Establishment of a cyber terror response agency,
	3. Promotions of procedures of removal and prevention of ransomware for individuals after ransomware detection,
	4. Expansion of malware detecting software among public through such ways but not limited to:
		1. Recommendation notice for individuals when purchasing Internet of things,
		2. Requirement of its entailment in production of Internet of things,
		3. Distribution from government to individuals in national and local levels;
4. Encourages all countries to actively support and promote the creation and spread of reliable sources through ways such as but not limited to:
	1. Establishing publicly accessible Internet-based database management system for archives to publish and promote public records that has been filed or recorded by public agencies, such as but not limited:
		1. Online parliament library holding records of actions that had been taken by the nation’s parliament,
		2. Online judicial precedent reading service,
		3. Online official statement reading service from executive branch,
	2. Establishing a non-profit journalism (NPJ) in each country supported by UN funds in order to create journalism that aims for the spread of correct news,
	3. Creating a NGO, supported by the UN, which will regularly browse the internet and report fake news, once they are found,
	4. Further educate journalists on ethics and values in writing journals to emphasize on the importance of the spread of correct news, in journalism related majors in undergraduate and post graduate schools;
5. Strongly urges the member nations, especially that possess high inspection on works published by journalists, to limit or reduce interference on journalism through media to provide freedom of speech on journalism without any fear of censorship, legal sanction, or retaliation and prevent government abuse to provide rights of people to know or decide the correct information through ways such as but not limited to:
	1. Allowing and supporting Transparency International, an NGO which investigates collusions, to investigate all firms and the government itself,
	2. Encouraging and urging countries which had not yet signed the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) to sign,
	3. Urging countries which had signed already to follow the UNCAC in ways such as but not limited to:
		1. Enforcing regulations and investigating further during the times of Presidential elections and other politically important occasions,
		2. Regularly abruptly investigating and supervising firms,
		3. Encourage the action of reporting collusions of misinformation and mis usage of personal information by setting accolades,
		4. Creating an NGO which would help ensure the rights of the people who is facing retaliation for speaking up against unjustness,
		5. Limiting the access of governments to citizen’s browsing history, direct screen monitoring without a reasonable reason;
6. Encourages all member nations to support and enhance the protection of privacy with technologies in such ways but not limited to:
	1. Strengthening the ability of programs to detect the leakage of personal information in their post, which could show if personal information were uploaded on a different online site by a person who is not the individual,
	2. Restructuring the articles of rights of the company and user on their personal information in the social media in order to increase the number of users assured with their rights, through ways such as but not limited to:
		1. Illustration of main article in order of importance and urgency,
		2. Preliminary notice for further reading of full articles or rights,
	3. Cooperating with experts in order to ensure privacy with technology:
		1. Working with white hackers to investigate different ways of exploitations of privacy on social media and internet,
		2. Working with professionals of the field of internet in order to find ways which citizens could use to avoid exploitation of privacy,
	4. Cooperating with organizations which take actions against exploitation of privacy, such as Privacy International, in order to promote right to privacy, through such ways but not limited to:
		1. Taking legal action against governments and companies which misuse private information of individuals,
		2. Initiating research projects to ensure privacy on the internet,
	5. Enforcing websites and social media platforms to follow GDPR in such ways but not limited to:
		1. Providing users choice of accepting or denying cookie collection done by websites and social media platforms,
		2. Preventing websites and social platforms to block any basic function of the service by cookie consent banners or windows;
7. Encourages all nations to develop a National policy on data protection and misinformation in order to follow article 12 on Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy,” and regulations should be enforced through ways such as but not limited to:
	1. Encouraging firms that collecting private information to sign a contract which will be made based on General Data Regulation Laws, used prevalently in Europe, in ways such as incentivizing firms by granting a certificate which could improve the firms’ reputation and image,
	2. Legislating new laws or strengthening the existing laws on preventing the personal data exploitation and misinformation such as but not limited to:
		1. Punishment for those who exploit privacy, or exchange privacy for personal interests with fines or imprisonment,
		2. Punishment for spreading misinformation on authorial organizations with fines or imprisonment,
		3. Punishment for publishing disinformation with harsher fines or imprisonment,
		4. Compensation for victims mentally and monetarily.