**SUMMIT FOR DEMOCRACY’S COHORT ON INFORMATION INTEGRITY**

**Concept Note**

Summit for Democracy’s Cohort on information integrity is co-lead by Canada, Latvia and the Alliance for Securing Democracy. It held its initial meeting online on 13 July, 2022.

**Objective**

The cohort aims to discuss, collect and promote best practices on strengthening a healthy information space and information integrity and reinforcing democracy.

**Suggested outcomes**

The co-leads propose the participating countries and organizations to collaborate on developing a **Best Practices Toolkit** - a short document collecting best practices and best ideas on how to address disinformation in a democratic way. It aims to be practical, solution-focused and actionable. The work of the cohort would focus on identifying and collecting best practices with possible case studies and concrete examples of successful implementation. It would also provide a platform for discussion among experts on difficult questions and issues with the aim to identify possible answers and solutions to these issues. The document would mainly be addressed to policy-makers, however also giving indications to a broader group of stakeholders.

The cohort brings together experts from governments and civil society organizations working in the area of countering disinformation. It also aims to foster synergies with other fora and groupings already working on these issues, enabling them to showcase their work as well as fostering discussion and mutual learning. The cohort will aim to align its work with that of other relevant Summit cohorts, including the cohort on media freedom.

The cohort aims to deliver its outcomes by March 2023 to be presented at the Summit for Democracy. However, provided that partners show interest, the co-leads would like to propose to consider continuing the work of the cohort after March 2023 by establishing a **Community of Practice**.

**Suggested work agenda**

The co-leads propose to hold six meetings (five online and one in-person) to work on bringing conclusions for the Best Practices Toolkit. The next meeting will take place online on 8 September. In the week commencing 17 October, the cohort plans to hold an in-person meeting in Rome, Italy on the margins of the Freedom Online Coalition meeting. After that, the cohort meetings are planned to take place online in November, December, January and February.

The work of the cohort will be structured around up to five **priority issues**. The co-leads invite interested members of the cohort to take on a leadership role for these priority issues. This role would entail leading the work of the particular issue-based subgroup with the support of the co-leads. This would also include the possibility for inviting external experts or representatives from different fora or groupings who work on this issue to join the discussion and give their perspective on the particular issue to feed into the final conclusions. The way how to organize the work of the issue-based subgroups (for example, by hosting workshops etc.) in order to achieve the overall Cohort’s outcomes could be decided by their leads with the support of the Cohort’s co-leads.

**Contact information**

For further information please contact: Canada (Ms Anahid Najafizadeh, email: [Anahid.Najafizadeh@international.gc.ca](mailto:Anahid.Najafizadeh@international.gc.ca)), Latvia (Ms Laura Kazaine, email: [Laura.Kazaine@mfa.gov.lv](mailto:Laura.Kazaine@mfa.gov.lv)), Alliance for Securing Democracy (Ms Krysia Sikora, email: [KSikora@securingdemocracy.org](mailto:KSikora@securingdemocracy.org)).