

Conference: Herd Immunity Against Hate and Lies

Details for panel discussion: Social media monitoring: for advocacy, counterspeech initiatives, or content removal?

Violence attributed to online hate speech has increased worldwide. Societies confronting the trend must deal with questions of free speech and censorship on widely used tech platforms. More recently, there has been heightened realization of the role that social media plays in the speed and scale at which harmful content can spread. To prevent and counter the spread of illegal hate speech online, the Commission agreed with social media platforms “Code of conduct on countering illegal hate speech online”.

The implementation of the Code of Conduct is evaluated through a regular monitoring exercise set up in collaboration with a network of organisations located in the different EU countries. In addition, there are other initiatives that focus on social media monitoring around hate speech, some put emphasis on content removal, some use monitoring results for their advocacy efforts or counterspeech initiatives.

In this workshop we will discuss the role and efficiency of social media monitoring in tackling online hate and creating the internet for everyone. Does monitoring and reporting contribute to safer online space or are there better ways to make social media platforms to be both more transparent and accountable for their decisions?



Moderator

Ionut Codreanu has a BA in Journalism and has been working within the ActiveWatch Media Research Program since 2004. Ionut spent the last decade mapping and documenting online hate speech both in national and European projects.

To increase his immunity against hate speech on social media, Ionut is posting mostly about cooking and about his dog. So far he survived.



Speaker

Kaspars Zalitis is one of the most well-known human rights advocates in Latvia. Currently, he is the Coordinator of the Latvian Diversity Charter and one of the leading D&I consultants in Latvia. Kaspars is also a leader of the advocacy group Dzīvesbiedri which is working towards adopting the overarching partnership regulation in Latvia. Kaspars is a Co-Chair of the Baltic Pride in Riga and the Board member of the Association of LGBT and their friends MOZAIKA working with advocacy, hate crimes, hate speech, and supporting victims well as strategic communication. Kaspars is working with strategic communications and D&I both in Latvia and internationally. Kaspars is the winner of the Peter Greste Baltic Freedom of Speech Award 2019/2020.



Speaker

Uljana Ponomarjova has a BA from TalTech in law and is currently obtaining a Masters's degree in Tallinn University. Uljana works at the Estonian Human Rights Centre as a lawyer. Additionally, Uljana coordinates the Equal Treatment Network. Uljana also participated in the "Speak out" project, which addressed the issues of hate speech and hate crime against the LGBTQI community.