**Christchurch Call Advisory Network (CCAN) position statement| Christchurch Call Summit, 2022**

12 September 2022

*He aha te mea nui o te ao? He tangata he tangata he tangata!*
*What is the most important thing in the world? It is people, it is people, it is people!*

The Christchurch Call Advisory Network (CCAN) consists of not-for-profit organizations and individuals from civil society, academia, and the technical community convened as part of the Christchurch Call. CCAN exists to provide expert advice on implementing the commitments in the Call in a manner consistent with international human rights law and a free, open, and secure internet.

We urge Governments and Online Service Providers to commit to:

1.  Center the voices of affected communities in all Call work through meaningful engagement and consultation, including assessments of issues and impacts and identification and evaluation of solutions. The Muslim community in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Black American community in Buffalo, NY and many others continue to grapple with the consequences of terrorist violence and their perspectives and experiences must inform the work of the Call.
2.  Recognise all forms of violence used in violent extremism and terrorism. That includes serial or systematic dehumanization of an out-group identified on the basis of a protected characteristic, as a form of psychological violence to suppress or silence communities.
3.  Uphold Internet governance principles when undertaking the Call commitments: the protection and extension/enjoyment of human rights and maintaining open, secure, free, interoperable and global Internet through multistakeholder mechanisms are a key part of the Call to Action.[1]
4.  Be accountable by reporting in writing and in detail, in a manner easily accessible to the public, on how they are undertaking each Call commitment. Such transparency is necessary in order to hold all members of the Call community who have the ability to regulate, set standards or otherwise impact the spread of terrorist and violent extremist content and behavior online accountable.
5.  Align online service providers' policies and governments' legislative efforts with the commitments of the Call, including the commitment to "[c]ounter the drivers of terrorism and violent extremism" and to enforce applicable laws "in a manner consistent with the rule of law and international human rights law, including freedom of expression."
6.  Engage with CCAN to receive advice as to how their commitments can be undertaken without hampering human rights and a free, open and secure Internet.

**The work of CCAN in 2021-2022:**

1.  Pilot project to evaluate how tech corporations and governments have upheld their commitments under the Call.
2.  A dehumanization project. CCAN reviewed corporate and state definitions of dehumanising speech and discourse provided by CC Members. The research group at CCAN has developed a

---

[1] There are an array of Internet governance principles laid out by CCAN members and others. We only mention a few as references and the references here do not mean CCAN endorsement: Global Network Initiative Principles, https://globalnetworkinitiative.org/gni-principles/, NetMundial Principles: https://netmundial.br/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/NETmundial-Multistakeholder-Document.pdf, and Internet Way of Networking, a set of principles the Internet Society has put forward: https://www.internetsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/IWN-IIAT-Defining-the-critical-properties-of-the-Internet.pdf

report providing  strategies for designing policy frameworks to address this harm, suggesting it is a form of psychological violence against group identities, an attribute of TVEC and driver of terrorism and violent extremism.

3. Advice and consultation on  the GIFCT Human Rights Impact Assessment, including final recommendations and extensive input into GIFCT workstreams, including the drafting of final outputs.

4. Advice and formal submissions on legislation in various jurisdictions and New Zealand's Crisis Response Protocol.

**CCAN commitments**

CCAN commits to balance a spectrum of civil society, internet governance, and human rights concerns, including the right to be free from deprivation of life and incitement to violence, as well as the right to free expression. CCAN also commits to diversifying its membership to include more members from underrepresented regions and communities.

Finally, we believe civil society should have a more pronounced role in policy development. Just as we advocate for online service providers to include civil society earlier in the design process, so too should governments in creating their policies. We urge the supporter companies and states to consult with CCAN to ensure that the Call values are incorporated and that the commitments enumerated in the Call to Action are undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the rule of law and international human rights law, and in a way that meets the needs of people and communities most impacted by TVEC.

Best regards,

Christchurch Call Advisory Network