

**International Partnership for Information and Democracy.
Third Summit for Information and Democracy (Paris, Nov. 10th 2023).**

FINAL STATEMENT

We, the States taking part in the International Partnership for Information and Democracy;

Recalling the right to freedom of opinion and expression that includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers;

Recognizing the rapid evolution of the global information and communication space, including the development of internet and acknowledging that the global information and communication space is a shared public good of significant democratic values that requires special protection to ensure it remain global, open and accessible to all, and that the actions of public authorities or private actors should not unduly restrict this space directly or indirectly;

Considering that the right to freedom of opinion and expression is essential for the enjoyment of other human rights and fundamental freedoms and that access to reliable information is crucial to the exercise of freedom of opinion;

Recalling that information can be regarded as reliable insofar as its collection, processing and dissemination are free, independent, diverse and based on cross-checking of various sources, in a pluralistic media landscape where the facts can give rise to a diversity of interpretation and viewpoints;

Recognizing also the importance of public trust in and the credibility of journalism, and the challenges it faces in maintaining journalistic professionalism in an environment where targeted disinformation and smear campaigns to discredit the work of journalists are increasing;

Welcoming the work done by the Forum on Information and Democracy in its reports “How to end infodemics”, “A New Deal for Journalism”, “Accountability regimes for social networks and users” and “Pluralism of News and Information in Curation and Indexing Algorithms”, in particular with the formulation of non-binding recommendations for all stakeholders, States, private digital players and the media;

We will strive to:

Strengthen international cooperation through the Partnership for Information and Democracy and the capacity of all signatory States to put in place democratic guarantees in the information space;

Work with the Forum on Information and Democracy, a civil society body, to develop and implement public policies and regulatory frameworks in line with the Partnership's principles;

Take into account the work of the Observatory on Information and Democracy in the development of our public policies;

Harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and overcome digital divides;

Work with digital platforms to ensure that they assess the impact of their technologies on human rights, safeguard the information ecosystem and promote the conditions for the dissemination of reliable information, in particular by being transparent about the operation of their algorithms and the implementation of their moderation policies;

Promote research and sharing of best practices on ensuring transparency, oversight and accountability in relation to the uses of artificial intelligence systems in order to prevent the spread of disinformation and hate speech;

Develop new concrete partnerships to support quality information, by supporting the ecosystems involved on the issue of democratic governance: civil society organizations, public interest media, etc.;

Follow closely the debates on information integrity in the United Nations and other international and regional multilateral fora;

Support the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to develop a Code of Conduct for information integrity on digital platforms and a Global Digital Compact, taking into account the principles of the Partnership for Information and Democracy.