Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Vienna, 28 October 2021

To: All Delegations/Permanent Missions to the OSCE
All Partners for Co-operation
OSCE Secretariat
OSCE Institutions
OSCE Field Operations

SAVE THE DATE – 7 DECEMBER 2021

Excellencies, Delegates, Colleagues,

I would like to bring to your attention the fourth in a series of expert roundtables **on disinformation and freedom of the media** that the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media organizes on **7 December 2021**, 13:30-16:30 pm (CEST). (The first two were held in May and June, see Expert roundtables on Disinformation | OSCE, the third one will take place on 2 November 2021). The event takes place online via Zoom.

The topic of this roundtable will be **"Deepfake news: Artificial intelligence and Disinformation as a multilateral policy challenge"**.

Lies, fabrications, and manipulation are not new phenomena; what is new is the ways in which digital technologies have expedited their scale and impact. This roundtable aims to look at the role that Artificial Intelligence (AI) plays in the spread of disinformation.

Technologies like AI and particularly machine learning clearly present both benefits and risks. They enable malicious actors to generate and amplify disinformation at scale. Yet, they can also be potential tools to combat it, offering methods to analyze and detect falsities as well as for fact-checking, contextualizing and disseminating accurate information.

In today's digital ecosystem, the right to seek, receive and impart information is interposed by large online platforms that act as gatekeepers, who rely heavily on AI to shape and arbitrate our online information spaces. AI tools are deployed by such platforms to help them demote and remove potentially harmful falsities, to address disinformation and misinformation online. Yet, the very same platforms also use AI to enhance user engagement. These technologies then may also tend to amplify controversial, sensational and deceptive content.

In this context, this roundtable will also discuss the broader sociotechnical context of online disinformation, and safeguards needed for freedom of expression and media pluralism. It will attempt to determine good practices and provide recommendations from the RFoM.

Russian/English translation will be available, but only to the registered participants by connecting to the event via the Zoom platform. Otherwise, the roundtable will be streamed live for those unable to register.

Participants are requested to register for the event by sending an email to Ms. Julia Haas julia.haas@osce.org by 3 December 2021. If you have any questions or need additional information on the event, please direct them to Andrey Rikhter at andrey.rikhter@osce.org, Deniz Wagner at deniz.wagner@osce.org or Julia Haas.

I very much hope that you or your representatives and experts will be able to join us at the event.

Yours sincerely,

Jürgen Heissel
Director/FOM