



United Nations
Office on Genocide Prevention
and the Responsibility to Protect



The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations
New York

High-Level Event
International Day for Countering Hate Speech
Hate Speech and Artificial Intelligence nexus: Building coalitions to reclaim inclusive and safe spaces free of hatred

High-Level Event
18 June, 10 AM – 6PM
Conference Room 11
UNHQ

BACKGROUND

On 21 July 2021, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/75/309 on “Promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue and tolerance in countering hate speech.” This resolution, that was presented to Member States by the Kingdom of Morocco, and which builds up on the first-ever resolution on hate speech A/RES/73/328, marked an important milestone in advancing global efforts to address and counter hate speech in all its forms and manifestations, including in the digital context. The resolution proclaims 18 June as the “International Day for Countering Hate Speech” to be observed annually. The first such International Day was marked in 2022.

In follow up to resolution A/RES/73/328, at the initiative of the Kingdom of Morocco, the General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/77/318 in 2023 which acknowledges the negative impact of hate speech on human rights, peace and inclusion. The resolution further calls on all key actors and relevant stakeholders, particularly Member States, to increase their efforts to counter discrimination and hate speech. Within the UN system, tackling hate speech remains a key priority through the implementation of the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech¹.

The UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech underscores the importance of partnerships in the fight against hate speech. Indeed, as hate speech affects the whole society, a whole-of-society approach is necessary to address this phenomenon. Tech and social media companies and their use of AI play an essential role therein.

We know, indeed, that AI tools offer myriads of potential opportunities to make positive differences in situations of conflict and insecurity, including in support of early warning and prevention, and to help accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. However, if developed and used without sufficient safeguards and in line with international human

¹ For more information on the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Countering and Addressing Hate Speech: <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/hate-speech-strategy.shtml>

rights standards, AI-related technologies carry profound risks of deepening the existing inequalities, discrimination, or misuse for surveillance purposes².

Recognizing these immense potentials and risks, Member States have declared in the recently launched [Global Digital Compact](#) the need to prioritize AI governance and related regulations globally. They have also recommitted to counter hate speech online, including when related to misuse and abuse of AI, and invited international and regional organization, the private sector, academia, the technical community and civil society groups to endorse the Compact and take part in its implementation and follow up”.

There are plenty of grassroots organizations focusing on the importance of building coalitions to counter all forms of hate, intolerance, and discrimination, and the tools used to perpetuate them. Some also use creative approaches and methodologies to tirelessly address and counter hate speech globally. It is essential to support these organizations as the first respondents in situations of crisis globally.

The convening of this timely Event would also serve as a solid platform to demonstrate the United Nations’ resolved commitment to combat and counter the scourge of hate speech as rightly proved with the recent historic appointment of Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), as the United Nations Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia, as well as the landmark launch at the beginning of this year of the United Nations Action Plan to Enhance Monitoring and Response to Antisemitism.

OBJECTIVE

This year will mark the 4th International Day for Countering Hate Speech. To mark it, the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco, jointly with the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, the Human Rights Center of the University of Essex and the Garden of the Righteous Worldwide, is organizing a High-Level Event.

The event will figure experts and practitioners in the field of coalition-building on countering hate speech who will present lessons learned and best practices. It will include speakers from the United Nations, tech and social media companies, community-based organizations and academia

The one-day High-Level Event will aim to:

- ✓ Commemorate the 4th Anniversary of the International Day on Countering Hate Speech, bringing attention to the intersection of hate speech and AI.
- ✓ Highlight the importance of coalition building in the field of countering and addressing hate speech.
- ✓ Present good practices and lessons learned from tech and social media companies, academia and community-based organizations.
- ✓ Identify next steps in coalition building to address and counter hate speech in line with international human rights law.

AGENDA

Opening Segment

2 Panel Discussions

Statements from the floor by Member States

Closing Remarks

² <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un-global-principles-for-information-integrity-en.pdf>