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UNSC Counter-Terrorism Committee
Open Briefing on Countering Terrorist Narratives (UNSCR 2354, 2017)

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Good morning, thank you to the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee and CTED for the invitation to join you today. I am Naureen Chowdhury Fink, Executive Director of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism.

For those who don't know us - yet - GIFCT is a non-profit organization that brings together key stakeholders -- from industry, government, civil society, and academia -- to foster essential collaboration and information-sharing to counter terrorist and violent extremist activity online, delivering the multi-stakeholder setting to identify challenges and deliver solutions and guidance. In line with our mission, GIFCT's programs, technology, and efforts assist to PREVENT online exploitation through cross-platform tooling and knowledge sharing, RESPOND to offline incidents that have online aspects through our incident response framework, and to ADAPT to adversarial threats through our multi-stakeholder working groups and academic network.

GIFCT is made up of member tech companies, working with our own counterterrorism and technical experts to advance our evergreen mission to prevent terrorists and violent extremists from exploiting digital platforms.

multiple platforms and online services providers, feeding into one another, and leading to effects offline.

We have seen that the diversity and variety of violent extremist actors operating on the internet is matched by an equally diverse and varied set of platforms on which they attempt to operate. Terrorist and violent extremist actors are tremendously opportunistic in their efforts to recruit, radicalize, and plan operations; this necessitates constant monitoring, learning, and adaptation.

We see this in the current events they manipulate for their purposes, to the tools they use online to reach audiences, connect, and disseminate propaganda. In relation to racially and ethnically motivated extremist groups – what some call the "far right" or "extreme right" – for example experts have noted the increased use of gaming and gaming-adjacent platforms, and also the increasing prevalence of youths and minors active in this space. To respond to the evolving related risks, GIFCT is a founding member of the Extremism and Gaming Research Network - EGRN - and has also recently started convening a gaming community of practice group among our member companies

At GIFCT, we do the work to advance our mission clear-eyed of the risks of exploitation of digital platforms but equally motivated by the opportunities tech can deliver to prevent and counter terrorism and violent extremism online.

Following the March 2019 attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand, where the perpetrator sought to amplify the impacts of his gruesome acts by livestreaming the murders and creating content that can continue to inspire support and incite violence, the GIFCT Incident Response Framework was created. It offers a centralized communications system to share news and information about ongoing violent events that might result in the spread of violent content online produced as part of that offline event unfolding. It provides GIFCT members with timely information and opportunities for cross-platform exchanges in order to ensure readiness to address the possibility of harmful, perpetrator-produced content emanating from offline violence.

could produce and amplify terrorist and violent extremist narratives, and among the key concerns they identified were: the production of convincing but fake audio and content; deepfake audio recordings of celebrities; rapidly revising existing and popular songs and videos into versions containing hate-filled imagery and messaging that appear like the original content; eliminate current technological and linguistic barriers to translate content into multiple languages to reach broader audiences; outsourcing initial engagements of potential recruits and followers