



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 30, 2023

Case No. FL-2023-00013

Reed Rubinstein
America First Legal Foundation
611 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, #231
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Rubinstein:

As we noted in our letter dated May 31, 2023, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State ("Department") has identified an additional 53 responsive records subject to the FOIA. We have determined that 2 records may be released in full and 51 records may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemptions are marked on each record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing these records and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Kevin Bell, U.S. Department of Justice Trial Attorney, at kevin.k.bell@usdoj.gov and (202) 305-8613. Please refer to the case number, FL-2023-00013, and the civil action number, 22-cv-03386, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diamonece Hickson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Diamonece Hickson
Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
 - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
 - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
 - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
 - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
 - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
 - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- | | |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c) |
| CIA PERS/ORG | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g) |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004 |
| INA | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505 |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
 - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
 - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
 - (D) disclose confidential sources
 - (E) disclose investigation techniques
 - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

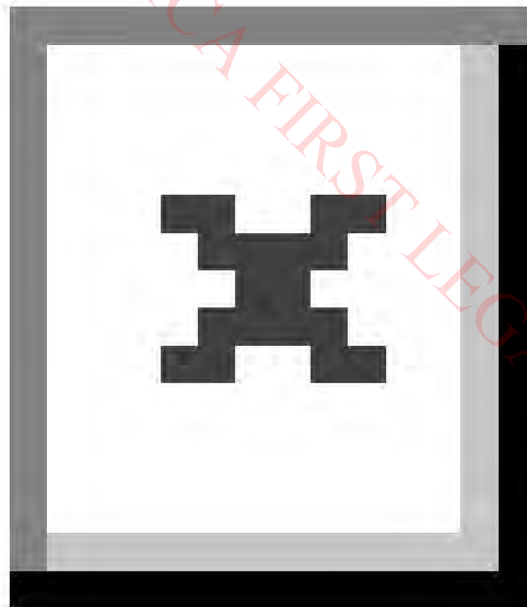
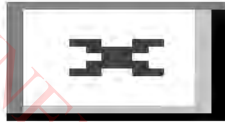
- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

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Sender: NYTimes.com <ordercs@nytimes.com>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

From: Peter Coy (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

<mediarequests@state.gov>;

To: <papressduty@state.gov>;

<press@usaid.gov>

Subject: Seeking interview with Larry Sacks of USAID in Bogota

Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2021 15:11:14 -0400

Hello,

I wrote to press@usaid.gov five days ago seeking an interview with Larry Sacks of USAID in Bogota for an article about the cadaster program in Colombia. I have not heard back from anyone. My deadline is approaching. Could someone please get back to me ASAP?

Thank you,

Peter Coy

--

Peter Coy

Opinion writer



620 Eighth Avenue

New York, NY 10018

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@nytimes.com

Twitter [@petercoy](https://twitter.com/petercoy)

Newsletter [back issues](#)

Sender: Peter Coy (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

<mediarequests@state.gov>;

Recipient: <papressduty@state.gov>;

<press@usaid.gov>

From: Tijana Cvjetićanin <(b)(6)@istinomjer.ba>

To: Jency Jacob <(b)(6)@boomlive.in>

Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Gulin <(b)(6)@teyit.org>;

Rajneil Kamath <(b)(6)@ncmn.in>;

Coreena Soares <(b)(6)@gmail.com>;

<(b)(6)@15min.lt>;

Inga Springe <(b)(6)@gmail.com>;

Thanos (Epachtitis) Sitistas <(b)(6)@ellinikahoaxes.gr>;

<(b)(6)@newsmobile.in>;

Ana Brakus <(b)(6)@gmail.com>;

Rabiu Alhassan <(b)(6)@ghanafact.com>;

Angie Holan <(b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Bwhitaker <(b)(6)@ap.org>;

CC: Jeanfreddy <(b)(6)@gmail.com>;

Maarten Schenk <(b)(6)@leadstories.com>;

Ellen Tordesillas <(b)(6)@verafiles.org>;

Pmfernandez <(b)(6)@chequeado.com>;

<(b)(6)@zastone.ba>;

MStewart <(b)(6)@usatoday.com>;

<(b)(6)@gmail.com>;

<(b)(6)@state.gov>;

<(b)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge>;

Enock NYARIKI <(b)(6)@pesacheck.org>;

Ferdi Ozsoy <(b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Alanna Dvorak <(b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Harrison Mantas <(b)(6)@poynter.org>

Subject: Re: Working group to address harassment against fact-checkers

Date: Tue, 6 Jul 2021 10:47:31 +0200

Yes, thank you Baybars!

On Tue, Jul 6, 2021 at 6:28 AM Jency Jacob <(b)(6)@boomlive.in> wrote:
Dear Baybars,

Glad to be a part and contribute in whichever way I can.

Cheers to all.

Regards

Jency

On Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 4:42 PM Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:
Dear friends & colleagues,

Hope you had a restful weekend.

I would like to thank you so much for your interest in this working group to help fact-checkers around the world to address harassment and threats for our work.

We have received a total of 23 submissions to join this working group. It's great to see such a high volume of interest!

I would like to suggest the below model to launch this working group.

Broader group for monitoring and evaluation

This broader group convenes on a quarterly basis to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of IFCN's actions to help fact-checkers around the world under stress and risks due to harassment and threats. It also provides feedback to IFCN on such activities and evaluates IFCN's performance in those areas by working with IFCN on publishing quarterly "Harassment against fact-checkers" reports for verified signatories and the public.

This group will be updated on a 2/3 basis in a calendar year.

Core group for consulting and planning (group of 11)

A smaller group acts as the core group for consulting and planning by convening on a monthly basis to discuss reported harassment cases and advising IFCN with action items. This group is provided with immediate updates on every harassment case reported by the fact-checking community and asked for their guidance and input.

This group will be updated on a 2/3 basis in a calendar year.

To move forward, I'm suggesting inviting the following names to the core group considering the diversity in geography and background.

Ana Brakus | Faktograf | Croatia
Angie Holan | Politifact | United States
Barbara Whitaker | Associated Press | United States
Ellen Tordesillas | Vera Files | Phillippines
Gülin Çavuş | Teyit | Turkey
Jency Jacob | Boom | India
Maarten Schenk | Lead Stories | Belgium / United States
Pablo M. Fernandez | Chequeado | Argentina
Rabiu Alhassan | GhanaFact | Ghana
Thanos Sitistas | Elinika Hoaxes | Greece
Tijana Cvjetićanin | Raskrinkavanje | Bosnia-Herzegovina

Action items for next steps

I would like you to let me know if you approve the suggested core group by submitting this form no later than this Friday, 9th of July.

Once we have the core group formed, I'll send further information on regular calls (quarterly for the broader group and monthly for the core group) as well as communication methods to foster rapid and effective dialogue.

Please kindly note that this proposed model is not to be set in stone and will require further consultation and discussion to be a better asset for the fact-checking community. Your inputs and feedback are highly needed and appreciated! There will be more opportunities to reflect on this and improve the model on the go as we tackle future challenges and identify room for improvement!

Thank you so much!

Best-

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

Sender: Tijana Cvjetičanin (b)(6)@istinomjer.ba>

Jency Jacob (b)(6)@boomlive.in>;
Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Gulin (b)(6)@teyit.org>;
Rajneil Kamath (b)(6)@ncmn.in>;
Coreena Suares (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
(b)(6)@15min.lt>;
Inga Springe (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
Thanos (Epachtitis) Sitistas (b)(6)@ellinikahoaxes.gr>;
(b)(6)@newsmobile.in>;
Ana Brakus (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
Rabiu Alhassan (b)(6)@ghanafact.com>;
Angie Holan (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Bwhitaker (b)(6)@ap.org>;
Recipient: Jeanfreddy (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
Maarten Schenk (b)(6)@leadstories.com>;
Ellen Tordesillas (b)(6)@verafiles.org>;
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MStewart (b)(6)@usatoday.com>;
(b)(6)@gmail.com>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge>;
Enock NYARIKI (b)(6)@pesacheck.org>;
Ferdie Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Harrison Mantas (b)(6)@poynter.org>

From: "Whitaker, Barbara" <(b)(6)@ap.org>
To: Ana Brakus <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
Baybars Orsek <(h)(6)@poynter.org>
Gulin <(b)(6)@teyit.org>;
Rajneil Kamath <(b)(6)@ncmn.in>;
Coreena Soares <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
<(h)(6)@15min.lt> <(h)(6)@15min.lt>;
Inga Springe <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
Jency <(h)(6)@boomlive.in>;
Thanos (Epachtitis) Sitistas <(b)(6)@ellinikahoaxes.gr>;
<(h)(6)@newsmobile.in> <(h)(6)@newsmobile.in>;
Rabiu Alhassan <(h)(6)@ghanafact.com>;
Angie Holan <(h)(6)@poynter.org>;
Jeanfreddy <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
CC: Maarten Schenk <(h)(6)@leadstories.com>;
Ellen Tordesillas <(h)(6)@verafiles.org>;
Pmfernandez <(h)(6)@chequeado.com>;
<(h)(6)@zastone.ba> <(h)(6)@zastone.ba>;
MStewart <(h)(6)@usatoday.com>;
<(h)(6)@gmail.com> <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
<(h)(6)@state.gov>;
<(h)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge> <(h)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge>;
Tijana Cvjetičanin <(h)(6)@istinomjer.ba>;
Enock NYARIKI <(b)(6)@pesacheck.org>;
Ferdı Ozsoy <(h)(6)@poynter.org>;
Alanna Dvorak <(h)(6)@poynter.org>;
Harrison Mantas <(h)(6)@poynter.org>
Subject: RE: Working group to address harassment against fact-checkers
Date: Mon, 5 Jul 2021 13:51:29 +0000

Good morning,
Thanks for organizing this, Baybars. I look forward to joining in.
Best,
Barb

From: Ana Brakus <(h)(6)@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 05, 2021 7:32 AM
To: Baybars Orsek <(h)(6)@poynter.org>
Cc: Gulin <(b)(6)@teyit.org>; Rajneil Kamath <(h)(6)@ncmn.in>; Coreena Soares <(h)(6)@gmail.com>; <(h)(6)@15min.lt>; Inga Springe <(h)(6)@gmail.com>; Jency <(b)(6)@boomlive.in>; Thanos (Epachtitis) Sitistas <(b)(6)@ellinikahoaxes.gr>; <(h)(6)@newsmobile.in>; Rabiu Alhassan <(h)(6)@ghanafact.com>; Angie Holan <(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Whitaker, Barbara <(h)(6)@ap.org>; Jeanfreddy <(b)(6)@gmail.com>; Maarten Schenk <(h)(6)@leadstories.com>; Ellen Tordesillas <(h)(6)@verafiles.org>; Pmfernandez <(b)(6)@chequeado.com>; <(b)(6)@zastone.ba>; MStewart <(h)(6)@usatoday.com>; <(b)(6)@gmail.com>; <(b)(6)@state.gov>; <(b)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge>; Tijana Cvjetičanin <(h)(6)@istinomjer.ba>; Enock NYARIKI <(b)(6)@pesacheck.org>; Ferdı Ozsoy <(h)(6)@poynter.org>; Alanna Dvorak

(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Harrison Mantas (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Subject: Re: Working group to address harassment against fact-checkers

[EXTERNAL]

Hi everyone,

Thank you, Baybars.

Looking forward to it,

Ana

On Mon, Jul 5, 2021, 13:12 Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:

Dear friends & colleagues,

Hope you had a restful weekend.

I would like to thank you so much for your interest in this working group to help fact-checkers around the world to address harassment and threats for our work.

We have received a total of 23 submissions to join this working group. It's great to see such a high volume of interest!

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Gülin Çavuş | Teyit | Turkey
Jency Jacob | Boom | India
Maarten Schenk | Lead Stories | Belgium / United States
Pablo M. Fernandez | Chequeado | Argentina
Rabiu Alhassan | GhanaFact | Ghana
Thanos Sitistas | Elinika Hoaxes | Greece
Tijana Cvjetičanin | Raskrinkavanje | Bosnia-Herzegovina

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Thank you so much!

Best-

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

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Recipient: Ana Brakus <(b)(6)>@gmail.com>;

Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Gulin (b)(6)@teyit.org>;
Rajneil Kamath (b)(6)@ncmn.in>;
Coreena Soares (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
(b)(6)@15min.lt (b)(6)@15min.lt>;
Inga Springe (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
Jency (b)(6)@boomlive.in>;
Thanos (Epachtitis) Sitistas (b)(6)@ellinikahoaxes.gr>;
(b)(6)@newsmobile.in (b)(6)@newsmobile.in>;
Rabiu Alhassan (b)(6)@ghanafact.com>;
Angie Holan (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
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Maarten Schenk (b)(6)@leadstories.com>;
Ellen Tordesillas (b)(6)@verafiles.org>;
Pmfernandez (b)(6)@chequeado.com>;
(b)(6)@zastone.ba (b)(6)@zastone.ba>;
MStewart (b)(6)@usatoday.com>;
(b)(6)@gmail.com (b)(6)@gmail.com>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge (b)(6)@mdfgeorgia.ge>;
Tijana Cvjeticanin (b)(6)@istinomjer.ba>;
Enock NYARIKI (b)(6)@pesacheck.org>;
Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Harrison Mantas (b)(6)@poynter.org>

From: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: WashPost Invite: In-person entrepreneurship event with Isabella Casillas Guzman, Theresia Gouw and more, 9/13 [Response Requested]

Date: Thu, 8 Sep 2022 18:05:36 +0000

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Sender: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Thibault, Erica (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>;
Vonda Wolcott <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
Alan Davis <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis
Date: Tue, 2 Feb 2021 20:11:14 -0500

Dear all,

@(b)(6) - thanks a lot for those kind words! We are grateful for such an acknowledgment of our work as the fact-checking community, even though that's a very early stage in such an unparalleled process.

Hi Erica -

That would be great to be connected with them and hear more about them + explore a possible partnership for our Tunisian engagement.

Please kindly feel free to set up an introduction.

All the best-

Baybars

On Mon, Feb 1, 2021 at 9:48 AM (b)(6) wrote:

Good afternoon Erica,

I defer to Baybars from Poynter and Vonda from IWPR (who manages this sub-award for GEC). From the latest IWPR monthly report I received, Poynter is preparing to roll out its initial trainings in February in select countries, although it is unclear when Tunisia activities will occur. To note, Poynter's International Fact-Checking Network received a 2021 Nobel Peace Prize nomination. We are thrilled to support Baybars on such impactful work.

Kindly,

(b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

On January 29, 2021 at 02:24:51 EST, Thibault, Erica (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Hi Baybars and (b)(6)

Happy New Year. I'm checking in to see if you have any updates on the Poynter Tunisia project. I look forward to your feedback.

Erica Thibault

(b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)

I am currently teleworking

From: Thibault, Erica (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:27 PM

To: Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan

Davis <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy

<(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) <(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Hi Baybars

I hope that you are doing well. As Gabby noted, HAICA appears to be a great fit. Is there anything specific that you need from Embassy Tunis in order to move forward? If not, what is your current timeline and your planned next steps, knowing that COVID may require adjustments?

Best regards,

Erica Thibault

Counselor for Public Affairs

U.S. Embassy Tunis

(b)(6)@state.gov

(b)(6)

I am currently teleworking

From: Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 6:44 PM

To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis)

Cc: (b)(6) Vonda Wolcott; Alan Davis; (b)(6) Ferdi Ozsoy; Thibault, Erica (Tunis); Fanous, Mary K (Tunis)

Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Hi Gabrielle,

Thanks for sharing those with me.

Hope you have completed your transition smoothly.

Erica and Mary,

I'd be more than happy to jump on a call and discuss about this to know more about their fitness to our program.

Would that be possible to do it next week?

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Best-

Baybars

On Wed, Oct 7, 2020 at 1:26 PM Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:
Hi Baybars,

I am transitioning out of post, so I will leave my colleagues Erica and Mary to respond to this officially. I think the HAICA proposal looks promising and that it is worth serious consideration. (My only issue with the proposal is that they have the Covid timeline in Tunisia wrong.) It appears to dovetail with another project supported by the Embassy / GEC on Counter disinformation and propaganda on the Covid-19 pandemic in Tunisia. Our grantee is the Grande Ecole de la Communication (GEC) which is working with the Tunisian Ministry of Health.

Best regards,

Gabrielle

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2020 3:21 PM
To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>; Thibault, Erica (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Hello again,

Hope this finds you in a good health.

Just wanted to kindly remind my inquiry about your thoughts on HAICA from Tunisia as a potential local partner for our training engagement in the country.

I'm sharing two documents that I've received about the organization (via UNDP) and kindly asking your feedback on their status and eligibility to be a good partner for this project.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best-

Baybars

On Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 10:35 AM Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:
Hello everyone,

Just wanted to get a quick feedback on haica.tn and their collaborative initiative <https://tunisiachecknews.com/>

UNDP and Council of Europe seem to be supporting them

I'm aware that HAICA is a constitutional body set up after the revolution and is not a private organization, however, wondering if they are more independent than similar organizations around the world.

Thanks a lot!

Baybars

On Mon, Sep 21, 2020 at 12:42 PM Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:
Hi Gabby,

Hope you had a great weekend!

Just wanted to kindly check in since I have not received an invite yet.

I believe we are still confirmed for tomorrow 11am EDT.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best-

Baybars

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 9:25 AM Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Super!

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:22 PM

To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy

(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Thibault, Erica (LEO) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Hi Gabby,

Sure thing! Please kindly feel free to send an invite with your preferred method of communication.

Looking forward to it!

Best-

Baybars

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 9:16 AM Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Baybars,

That's great. Would it be possible to push the moving back to 11 am Tampa / 4 pm Tunis? That better suits a key person on our side. We can set the meeting up via Teams or Zoom. Let us know your preference and we'll send a link by Monday am our time.

Thanks again,

Gabby

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:07 PM

To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy

(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Thibault, Erica (LEO) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Yes, that works for me.

Looking forward to it!

Baybas

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 5:53 AM Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Hi Baybars,

Tuesday morning (Eastern time) works well for us too. Are you available around 10 am Tampa / 3 PM Tunis?

Thanks,

Gabby

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 5:35 PM
To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>; Thibault, Erica (LEO) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Hi Gabby,

Great to hear from you!

Next week would be very ideal for me!

I'm based in Florida, Eastern Time Zone

My Tuesday morning (EDT) seems flexible. I hope that would work for you given the time difference and your schedule.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best-

Baybars

On Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 12:31 PM Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Dear Baybars,

It is a pleasure to meet you. Perhaps we can meet next week over Zoom. Please let me know where you are based so that we can work out a date and time. I would like to include out incoming PAO, Erica Thibault, and our new press officer, Mary Fanous in the call.

Best regards,

Gabby

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2020 3:52 PM
To: Price, Gabrielle M (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>; Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Subject: Fwd: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

Dear Gabby Price and all,

Hope this email finds you well.

Thanks a lot for this introduction, (b)(6)! Happy to be connected.

Gaby, we are lacking a trainee organization in Tunisia to kick off the trainings. Dogruluk Payi from Turkey will be our regional partner in those trainings, therefore will be providing guidance and support throughout the implementation of the engagement.

We like to hear your thoughts and guidance on identifying a Tunisian newsroom and/or non-profit organization to engage with and train them to be eligible for the International Fact-Checking Network's Code of Principles.

I'll be more than happy to connect with the colleagues at the embassy to seek help in our search for a partner in the country.

Available for a call at your convenience.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best-

Baybars

----- Forwarded message -----

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Date: Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 5:35 PM

Subject: Update on Poynter and Tunisia -- Connecting with U.S. Embassy Tunis

To: (b)(6)@poynter.org <(b)(6)@poynter.org>

Cc: Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>, Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>, (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Baybars,

I hope you are doing well! I'm touching base with you regarding the Tunisia portion of your IFCN program. I understand from your recent amendment that Poynter still seeks a local Tunisian organization with whom to partner.

May you provide our public affairs officer at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis with an update on where things stand regarding Tunisia **by open of business tomorrow (Thursday)**? Her name is Gabby Price and her email is (b)(6)@state.gov. She is already aware that you and IWPR will reach

out with an update and to begin coordinating on potential local implementers. The embassy likely can assist you in your search.

Please cc myself, Vonda, Alan, and (b)(6)@state.gov from our Near Eastern Affairs Bureau on your email. I ask with urgency because Gabby is leaving her position within the next several days. She would like to brief her successor on all pending projects to avoid any disconnect or confusion that the transition may cause. It would also be useful for you to mention that you've identified Doğruluk Payı -- the Turkish fact-checking organization -- as the one who will be connected with the Tunisian organization TBD.

Thank you again, and I do hope you and your family are remaining healthy these days.

Kindly,

(b)(6)

Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State

(b)(6)@state.gov

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

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Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

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Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

Sender: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

Thibault, Erica (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>;

Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

Recipient: Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

Ferdî Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Fanous, Mary K (Tunis) (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

To: Nakashima, Ellen (b)(6)@washpost.com>

CC: GEC-Press <GEC-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Ukraine's information campaign - request to speak with Daniel Kimmage

Date: Wed, 16 Mar 2022 13:24:05 +0000

Hello Ellen,

We were happy to help with your article by arranging for you to speak with Daniel Kimmage.

We are glad that it worked out.

Please feel free to contact us again in the future with any other press inquiries.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Officer

Global Engagement Center

U.S. Department of State

All Native Group Contractor

(b)(6)

x

From: Nakashima, Ellen (b)(6)@washpost.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 4:05 PM

To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Subject: Ukraine's information campaign - request to speak with Daniel Kimmage

Hello,

I'm a national security reporter with The Washington Post and have covered information operations, cyber and intelligence issues.

We're working on a story with a quick turnaround (needs to be edited by tomorrow afternoon) that assesses the strengths and potential pitfalls of Ukraine's remarkable information campaign during its war with Russia.

I understand that Daniel Kimmage is researching a related topic at NDU –on Russian and Soviet disinformation, and he's a noted expert on the subject.

Could you arrange for me to speak with him –even on background—so that our readers may have the benefits of his insights –even if not attributed to him by name?

We would be ever so grateful.

Thank you,
Ellen Nakashima

(b)(6)

Sender: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Recipient: Nakashima, Ellen <(b)(6)@washpost.com>;
GEC-Press <GEC-Press@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: "Nakashima, Ellen" (b)(6)@washpost.com>

Joseph Michael Kelly (h)(6)@umd.edu>;

(b)(6)

To:

(h)(6)

Damon A Stevens (h)(6)@nctc.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov (h)(6)@state.gov>;

Gordon Crovitz (h)(6)@newsguardtech.com>

Michael Williams (h)(6)@gmail.com>;

CC:

Angie Mallory (h)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>;

Austin Branch (h)(6)@umd.edu>;

Barton Brown (h)(6)@lexsg.com>

Subject: RE: Thank you to Panel 1!!

Date: Sat, 17 Apr 2021 17:52:30 +0000

Thanks very much for the feedback, Joe. I appreciated the opportunity to take part -and I greatly enjoyed the discussion.

I look forward to continuing the dialogue and engagement. The more we air these issues the more progress we can make.

All bests,
Ellen

From: Joseph Michael Kelly (b)(6)@umd.edu>

Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 11:01 AM

To: (h)(6)

Damon A Stevens (b)(6)@nctc.gov>; (h)(6)@state.gov; Nakashima, Ellen

(h)(6)@washpost.com>; Gordon Crovitz (h)(6)@newsguardtech.com>

Cc: Michael Williams (h)(6)@gmail.com>; Angie Mallory (h)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>; Austin

Branch (h)(6)@umd.edu>; Barton Brown (b)(6)@lexsg.com>

Subject: Thank you to Panel 1!!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Speakers,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your participation on Tuesday. As you probably saw, yours was the most popular panel drawing over half the keynote audience.

By all accounts, your discussion was truly groundbreaking. Many of the comments I heard in the days afterward focused on the need for appropriate coordination and collaboration across the US government but also between government and the media as well as wider industry. Collectively, you planted the seed for a new way to think about the challenges of disinformation and malign foreign influence.

In the next week or so, we will be posting the keynote address and all the panel recordings to the IPA website behind a password protected link available only to registered attendees. You should all get a copy of that link when we send it out.

Thank you again for your support of the Phoenix Challenge conference and the wider IO community. I look forward to the chance to work with each of you again in the future.

V/R,

Joe

--

Joe Kelly

Professor of the Practice

Applied Research Lab for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS)

University of Maryland

Mobile: (b)(6)

Sender: "Nakashima, Ellen" (b)(6)@washpost.com>

Joseph Michael Kelly (b)(6)@umd.edu>;

(b)(6)

Damon A Stevens (b)(6)@nctc.gov>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov>;

Gordon Crovitz (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com>;

Michael Williams (b)(6)@gmail.com>;

Angie Mallory (b)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>;

Austin Branch (b)(6)@umd.edu>;

Barton Brown (b)(6)@lexsg.com>

From: "Rizzo, Dave" (b)(6)@ap.org>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>;
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji
Date: Wed, 20 Apr 2022 21:49:21 +0000

Hi, (b)(6)

Our intention was to add outlet(s) only on a six-month extension to the current term end date. The waived fee was also predicated on six-months, I didn't spell out either point clearly.

The only media outlet on your list that gave us pause was the Vientiane Times, a recent past customer of the AP. My apologies but I will need to assess a small fee to add VT now and run through the 3-month extension period ending in October. (b)(4)

(b)(4)

My apologies again for lack of clear communication, I hope this adjustment keeps us on track. Please let me know if you would like to schedule a call to discuss.

Thank you.

Dave

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 2:37 PM
To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

[EXTERNAL]

Dave,

What spectacular news! You just made my day. We'd like to prioritize the Vientiane Times in that case.

To clarify, we would extend the current arrangement for 3 months (July-October) and add the VT for 6 months. Would it be possible to start the VT access earlier than July? So that their access would sunset in October around the same time as the rest?

Best,

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Campaign Coordinator

EAP/PD

In office today: (b)(6)

Tuvli, LLC Contractor

From: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 12:29 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Hi, (b)(6)

We would waive an additional fee for adding one outlet.

Dave

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 12:11 PM

To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Importance: High

[EXTERNAL]

Dave,

Many thanks for this. Understood about the 90 day limitations for new outlets. In the past day it's become increasingly clear that we won't be able to fund all the Laos/Timor outlets I sent over, at least not immediately. What would the cost be to add one outlet for six months?

Thank you, and sorry for the changes...the situation is fluid, as they say.

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Campaign Coordinator

EAP/PD

In office today: (b)(6)

Tuvli, LLC Contractor

From: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:04 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Hi, (b)(6)

Synching up schedules with my international colleagues and managing the assortment of US and International sales and user databases has proven to be a challenge, one I am sure you can understand.

Attaching two documents, excel sheet with existing customers/outlets and the associated users, and a PDF with an updated proposal.

Proposal Points:

- Will add the 10 outlets (Laos & Timor) on 6-month term extension
- Not set up administratively to add new outlets on 3-month term extension
- Group price provided for up to 24 AP Approved outlets, rather than per user fee
- Three options on the APR20 Updated Proposal.
 1. 3-month extension as-is
 2. 6-month extension as-is
 3. 6-month extension with requested adds from Laos and Timor

Thank you, please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dave

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 2:42 PM

To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Importance: High

[EXTERNAL]

Good afternoon Dave,

Bumping this back to the top of inboxes. Do you have word on whether we could add outlets for periods of less than a year, and how much it would cost to do so? Ideally we would like a 3 month and six month option. We have the funding available to extend the PIC portion, it's just a question of whether we can add any of the below outlets in Laos or Timor. Do you have preexisting relationships with any of the below?

In addition, I was wondering if your colleagues were able to gather any of the back end usage information for the existing grant. Our records indicate the following outlets have access, does that square with your records?

- Fiji (Fiji Broadcast Corporation, Fiji Times)
- Tonga (Tonga Broadcasting Commission, Taimi o Tonga newspaper)
- Kiribati (Broadcasting and Publications Authority)
- Tuvalu (Tuvalu Broadcasting Service)
- Nauru (Nauru Media)
- French Polynesia (La Dépêche, Tahiti Infos, Polynésie la 1ère, Tahiti Nui Television, and Tahiti Pacifique)
- Palau (Island Times)
- Federated States of Micronesia (Kaselehie Press)
- Marshall Islands (Marshall Island Journal)
- Vanuatu (Vanuatu Daily Post)
- Cook Islands (Cook Islands Media)
- PNG (Post Courier, FM100, Capital 107FM, The National)

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Public Diplomacy Campaign Coordinator

Bureau of East Asian & Pacific Affairs

Office of Public Diplomacy

Tuvli, LLC Contractor

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 12:58 PM

To: 'Rizzo, Dave' (b)(6)@ap.org>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; 'Mileto, Rosemarie' (b)(6)@ap.org>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Hi Dave,

I hope you had a lovely weekend!

We heard back from our colleagues in Laos and East Timor. The desired outlets are as follows.

Laos:

1. Vientiane Times
2. Lao Youth Radio
3. Laotian Times

4. Muan.la
5. Lao X

Timor

- GMNTV group
- Timor Post
- Independent
- Dili Post
- Hatutan.com

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Public Diplomacy Campaign Coordinator
Bureau of East Asian & Pacific Affairs
Office of Public Diplomacy
Tuvli, LLC Contractor

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 1:14 PM

To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Dave,

I'll work on getting you those outlet names as soon as I can, since my colleagues in the field are asleep at present. I think adjusting the timing would be helpful!

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Campaign Coordinator
EAP/PD

In office today: (b)(6)

Tuvli, LLC Contractor

From: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 11:01 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>
Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Hi, (b)(6)

I appreciate the dilemma and the solution could be adjusting our policy for new additions on less than one-year subscriptions. That decision would be made by my senior management. I would be happy to ask for special consideration to add the six outlets on shorter term and adjust pricing. Does that solve the problem?

To prepare for that discussion I would like to know the names and location of the six outlets, to make sure its not disruptive to AP's commercial business.

Thank you, happy to help.

Sincerely,

Dave

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 10:39 AM
To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>
Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji
Importance: High

[EXTERNAL]

Hi Dave,

Thanks for this information again. We are currently in active discussions about how we should best approach an extension. As it stands, pending availability of funds, we are interested in potentially extending the existing mechanism for 13 outlets for a 90 day period. We are also investigating whether there would be funds available to add 4-6 additional outlets. However, funding some outlets for a year and some for 90 days would put two buckets of outlets on two different grant/funding cycles. If we can pull the funding together, we would want to have all the outlets on the same billing cycle. Do you have a suggestion on how we could get the existing and potential new outlets on the same cycle? Again, we haven't reached a decision yet and all this is pending availability of funds, but the information would be helpful to inform our discussions.

Thank you!

(b)(6)

She/her/hers

Campaign Coordinator

EAP/PD

In office today: (b)(6)

Tuvli, LLC Contractor

From: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>

Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 4:58 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>

Subject: RE: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji

Hi, (b)(6)

My apologies had hoped to get this out to you earlier today. Attached are the proposal rates you requested for a short-term extension of AP Service.

Separately, I have made an internal request for AP Newsroom user data for the 13 participating outlets and will share that when available. AP doesn't collect any market information, can only provide the user logs from our platform.

As for the fees associated with adding outlets, we would only provide quotes per outlet on an annualized basis, not for shorter term. Keeping in mind that AP would have the right of refusal if an outlet is an existing direct customer or customer of an AP partner, a good estimate for adding outlets would be (b)(4) per year, per outlet.

I hope this helpful, if I missed anything or if you have questions, please let me know.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Dave Rizzo

Director of Government Contracting

The Associated Press

1100 13th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20005

(b)(6)

ap.org



From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 12:39 PM
To: Rizzo, Dave (b)(6)@ap.org>; (b)(6)@ap.org
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: State Department AP Grant in Suva, Fiji
Importance: High

[EXTERNAL]

Good afternoon Mr. Rizzo and Mr. Mendelsohn,

I am reaching out on behalf of my colleagues at the U.S. Embassy in Suva, Fiji because the Department of State is interested in amending the attached grant where AP provides content to 13 Pacific Island outlets. Embassy Suva would like a cost estimate to extend the grant by three or six months, as well as a per-outlet cost to add on new outlets in Southeast Asia.

Can you assist with this request? I'm sure you had some staff turnover in the past two years, so if you are no longer the correct points of contact, I would appreciate being passed to the right inbox.

We are on a tight schedule with this request, so would appreciate your soonest response.

Thank you!

(b)(6)

She/her/hers
Public Diplomacy Campaign Coordinator
Bureau of East Asian & Pacific Affairs
Office of Public Diplomacy
U.S. Department of State
Tuvli, LLC Contractor

(b)(6)

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that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

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Sender: "Rizzo, Dave" <(b)(6)@ap.org>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

Mileto, Rosemarie (b)(6)@ap.org>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Advancing the Power of Facts

TT 0000 00010

From: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>
To: Peter Coy (b)(6)@nytimes.com>
CC: press <press@usaid.gov>
Subject: Re: Seeking interview with Larry Sacks of USAID in Bogota
Date: Mon, 18 Oct 2021 15:23:58 -0400

Hello Peter,

We do not have a record of your initial email, nonetheless, can you please advise provide us with a few questions on your op-ed? As we check on Larry Sacks' availability, what kind of information are you looking for in regards to the program?

Thank you,

(b)(6) (teleworking)
Press Office
U.S. Agency for International Development

On Mon, Oct 18, 2021 at 3:11 PM 'Peter Coy' via USAID Press <press@usaid.gov> wrote:
Hello,

I wrote to press@usaid.gov five days ago seeking an interview with Larry Sacks of USAID in Bogota for an article about the cadaster program in Colombia. I have not heard back from anyone. My deadline is approaching. Could someone please get back to me ASAP?

Thank you,

Peter Coy

--

Peter Coy
Opinion writer



620 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10018

(b)(6)
(b)(6)@nytimes.com
Twitter [@petercoy](https://twitter.com/petercoy)
[Newsletter back issues](#)

Sender: (b)(6)@usaid.gov>

FL-2023-00013

A-00000599076

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

Recipient: Peter Coy (b)(6)@nytimes.com>;
press <press@usaid.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>
To: Shesgreen, Deirdre (b)(6)@usatoday.com>
Subject: Re: Russian disinformation/vaccines
Date: Mon, 8 Mar 2021 21:10:32 +0000

Hi Deirdre,

Thanks for your message. Please see the following, attributable On Background to a State Department Spokesperson:

- The Department of State can confirm that the Global Engagement Center (GEC) has identified four Russian platforms that are directed by Russian intelligence services and spread disinformation. These four platforms are: **News Front**, which is guided and tasked by the Federal Security Service; **New Eastern Outlook and Oriental Review**, directed and controlled by the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service; and **Rebel Inside**, controlled by the Main Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. These sites all vary in their reach, tone, and audience – but they all are spreading Russian propaganda and disinformation. The State Department's finding of a link between these sites and Russian Intelligence is a result of a joint interagency conclusion.
- Three of these outlets (News Front, New Eastern Outlook and Oriental Review) spread many types of disinformation, including about both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, as well as international organizations, military conflicts, protests, and any divisive issue that they can exploit. Rebel Inside has been largely dormant for the past year.
- The Department will continue to expose Russia's nefarious activities online.
- We will also continue to work closely with our allies and partners to provide a global response to countering disinformation.

Very best,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Officer
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
Accenture Federal Services Contractor
Cell: (b)(6)

✕

From: Shesgreen, Deirdre (b)(6)@usatoday.com>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 4:16 PM
To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>
Subject: Russian disinformation/vaccines

Hi,

I'm a reporter with USA TODAY, and I'm hoping to confirm the Wall Street Journal's reporting on Russia's efforts to undermine confidence in the COVID vaccines. Would someone be available to call me today on this? I can be reached at (b)(6)

Thanks,
Deirdre

Deirdre Shesgreen
Foreign Affairs Reporter
USA TODAY

Cell/Signal/WhatsApp: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@usatoday.com

@dshesgreen



Sender: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Recipient: Shesgreen, Deirdre (b)(6)@usatoday.com>

From: "Ice, John T" (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: Lee, Matthew (b)(6)@ap.org>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Response to Taken Questions
Date: Wed, 4 Nov 2020 22:14:47 +0000

Hi Matt,

Off the record, realizing there is a lot going on, we wanted to touch base on this. Are you still looking to put something together? If not, let us know and we will begin to look at other options.

Best,

J.T.

From: Ice, John T (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 2, 2020 11:34 AM
To: Lee, Matthew (b)(6)@ap.org>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Response to Taken Questions

Hi Matt,

I hope that you are at least somewhat recovered from the trip. Bumping this up to the top of your email queue.

Best,

J.T.

From: Ice, John T (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2020 3:35 PM
To: Lee, Matthew (b)(6)@ap.org>
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Response to Taken Questions

Hi Matt,

Following up on the conversation last week, below are GEC's responses to the two taken questions.

These responses are provided on deep background.

Q1. How are people getting to these sites? Google? Etc

The majority of users accessing these four sites go to the site directly. For greater context, we have outlined the traffic for each of the four sites below. This data captures traffic for the full month of September from SimilarWeb, a publicly available tool.

Definitions:

Direct traffic occurs when a visitor arrives directly on a website by typing in the website's URL, without having clicked on a link on another site or using a search engine.

Referral traffic describes the people who come to a domain from other sites, without using a search engine.

Search traffic refers to the visitors who arrive at a website by clicking search results leading to that particular website (mostly after searching keywords or phrases).

Social traffic is traffic from social media outlets.

- **NEO:** 79% direct traffic; 8.5% referral traffic (mostly from other alternative media); 7.7% traffic from search; 3.7% social traffic (43.6% from Facebook)
- **Oriental Review:** 55.5% direct traffic; 13.3% referral traffic (83% from news aggregator Inoreader); 21.4% from search traffic; 9.7% social traffic (56% from Twitter)
- **News Front:** 63.9% direct traffic; 13.5% referral traffic (33% from Russian search engine Yandex; other traffic from news aggregators and websites); 5.9% from search traffic; 9.8% social traffic (56.8% VKontakte)
- **Rebel Inside:** Not available on SimilarWeb.

Q2. Are we seeing lots of Spanish speaking audiences targeted from these sites?

News Front is the only one of the four entities we outlined that directly targets Spanish speaking audiences. News Front has a dedicated Spanish-language proxy site and claims that the site's editorial branch is based in Spain. In addition, we see that News Front targets Spanish speaking audiences on the Russian social media platform VKontakte. The page self identifies as being located in Madrid, Spain and has 1,633 followers. News Front's Spanish-language no longer has any pages on Twitter, Facebook and YouTube because they all have been suspended by the platforms.

Happy to discuss any proposal to move something to "on background."

Finally, could you give some idea about when you are looking to publish?

Best,

J.T.

John T. Ice

Deputy Spokesperson

United States Department of State

Office: (b)(6) | Cell: +(b)(6)

✉: (b)(6)@state.gov

Sender: "Ice, John T" (b)(6)@state.gov>

Lee, Matthew (b)(6)@ap.org>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Reconnecting: State/Poynter
Date: Fri, 8 Jul 2022 13:08:35 -0400

Perfect, look forward to speaking with you guys then.

On Fri, Jul 8, 2022 at 10:54 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Alanna - looks like 2PM will work for all of us next Friday. I'll send around a calendar invite with dial-in information that we can use.
Looking forward to it,

(b)(6)
From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, July 6, 2022 4:16 PM
To: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Reconnecting: State/Poynter

Alanna - great to reconnect with you. Let me convene with (b)(6) and we will iron out some times for later this month. It'll be a pleasure to brainstorm with you.

Best,

(b)(6)
From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 10:29 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Reconnecting: State/Poynter

Hi (b)(6)

After a whirlwind two weeks that included our GlobalFact 9 Conference, in which we welcomed 500 fact-checkers, and some personal time trekking around Scandinavia, I am back in the office and getting caught up.

I would love to touch base with both of you. To save from the usual going back and forth on our availability, I can just throw my Calendly out here, which has my schedule. Looking forward to speaking with you all!

Best,
Alanna

On Fri, Jun 17, 2022 at 9:27 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Hi Alanna,

Thank you for an excellent panel presentation at yesterday's IAF event! Just sending a quick note so that you have my contact information again. It would be great to set up something later in July between myself and (b)(6) (from State's Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Office of Press and Public Diplomacy) to get a better sense of your footprint in the MENA region.

Separately, I also recommended to (b)(6) that he encourage the U.S. Embassy in Tunis to apply against the internal small grant funding opportunity that I spoke about yesterday. You mentioned that post did not have funding to continue supporting local Tunisian partners - this is at least a potential option for them. That application window closes next Friday at midnight - no action needed from your side since post will need to be the one to submit the proposal.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Foreign Affairs Officer
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
(b)(6)@state.gov

--

Alanna Dvorak
International Training Manager/IFCN
The Poynter Institute
ph: (b)(6)
(b)(6)@poynter.org
www.poynter.org

--

Alanna Dvorak
International Training Manager/IFCN
The Poynter Institute
ph: (b)(6)
(b)(6)@poynter.org
www.poynter.org

Sender: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: "Kroeker, Scott" (b)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov' (h)(6)@state.gov>
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
CC: 'Vonda Wolcott' (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
'Alan Davis' (h)(6)@iwpr.net>;
'Joshua Peller' (b)(6)@nytimes.com>
Subject: RE: Opportunity for Marshall Islands Journal to join the New York Times Content Project
Date: Tue, 15 Dec 2020 19:27:00 +0000

Please excuse the incorrectly copied Subject line which should read "Opportunity for Cook Islands News & TV Niue to join the New York Times Content Project"

Scott Kroeker | Senior Program Officer, Professional Development Program, East-West Center | (b)(6)

From: Kroeker, Scott
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:24 AM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov' (h)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (h)(6)@state.gov>; Vonda Wolcott (h)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (h)(6)@iwpr.net>; Joshua Peller (h)(6)@nytimes.com>
Subject: Opportunity for Marshall Islands Journal to join the New York Times Content Project

Aloha Ms. (b)(6)

I hope you are keeping healthy and enjoying this holiday season. I am writing to you as the East-West Center is administering a project for the Department of State which provides licensing agreement to use *New York Times* content in select Pacific Islands newsrooms. The funds are drawn from the GEC Information Access Fund which we are accessing through a sub-award with the Institute for War and Peace Reporting. We would like to make this opportunity available to the both the *Cook Islands News* and *Television Niue* if you think that these outlets would be open to the opportunity and a worthy recipients of the license. The year-long license (valued at (b)(4)) would allow those media outlets to republish *New York Times* content (in both English and Mandarin languages) in their hardcopy and online presence (if any).

If you think that Cook Islands News & TV Niue would be appropriate would you be willing to make the first approach to introduce their executives to the idea? (b)(6) our GEC contact at INDOPACOM, prefers that approach instead of the EWC directly reaching out, if you are willing. Myself and our contact at the *New York Times* will follow-up your initial query with practical details.

At the end of this email I've included some boilerplate language used by other embassies to contact media outlets. Feel free to use verbatim or customize to your circumstances.

Thanks very much for your help. Stay safe and happy holidays.

Best regards,

Scott Kroeker

My name is XXXXX and I work with the US Embassy in XXXX it's my pleasure to E-meet you.

I'd like to bring your attention to an opportunity to access content for your publication, the XXXXX.

The U.S. Embassy is offering your news outlet the opportunity to be part of our New York Times English & Mandarin content project. We know that many small and medium size news outlets would like to use content from larger outlets, and, that content in Mandarin for occasional Mandarin language supplements is also helpful.

We are pleased to announce a new project for select news outlets in the Pacific:

- 1) free usage license for New York Times English and Mandarin content for at least one year,
- 2) custom training from the New York Times on their website (so you can most easily access the content you want, and on-going technical support),
- 3) quarterly webinars with prominent international journalists on relevant topics to the Pacific facilitated by the East-West Center, and
- 4) customized training organized by the East-West Center on specific topics you deem most important to your newsroom.

We hope you will join us in this project! If you are interested, we would like to connect you with Scott Kroeker from the East-West Center, who will be organizing logistics."

Scott Kroeker | Senior Program Officer, Professional Development Program (b)(6)

East-West Center

1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, HI 96848-1601, USA
EastWestCenter.org

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options.

Sender: "Kroeker, Scott" (h)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>

(h)(6)@state.gov' (h)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

Recipient: 'Vonda Wolcott' (h)(6)@iwpr.net>;

'Alan Davis' (h)(6)@iwpr.net>;

'Joshua Peller' (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

From: Julian Barnes [(b)(6)]@nytimes.com>

To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

CC: GEC-Press <GEC-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: NYT: Russian Disinfo

Date: Wed, 25 May 2022 17:06:40 -0400

Another government agency said the same. Off to the FBI

On Wed, May 25, 2022 at 4:57 PM GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov> wrote:

Hello Julian,

The website in question appears to be connected to a U.S. resident. As the GEC's mandate is limited to analyzing disinformation from foreign actors, we are unable to provide an assessment in this case.

Thank you and apologies for the delayed response,

[(b)(6)]

Public Affairs Officer

Global Engagement Center

U.S. Department of State

All Native Group Contractor

[(b)(6)]

X

From: Julian Barnes [(b)(6)]@nytimes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 5:07 PM

To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Subject: Re: NYT: Russian Disinfo

Thanks [(b)(6)] Looking forward to talking tomorrow

On Tue, May 24, 2022 at 5:07 PM GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov> wrote:

Hello Julian,

We are developing a response to your question and will be in touch tomorrow.

Thank you,

[(b)(6)]

From: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 5:13 PM

To: [(b)(6)]@nytimes.com [(b)(6)]@nytimes.com>

Cc: GEC-Press <GEC-Press@state.gov>

Subject: Re: NYT: Russian Disinfo

Good afternoon Julian,

Thank you for reaching out to us. We are currently reviewing your question and will circle back soon.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Officer
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
All Native Group Contractor

(b)(6)



From: Julian Barnes (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 2:22 PM

To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

Subject: Fwd: NYT: Russian Disinfo

Okay no more (b)(6) but hopefully GEC Press address still working!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Julian Barnes (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

Date: Mon, May 23, 2022 at 2:20 PM

Subject: Re: NYT: Russian Disinfo

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>

(b)(6)

Are you still doing press for the Global Engagement group? We are looking at a website called [russia insider](https://russia-insider.com/en). (<https://russia-insider.com/en>)

It may have been at one time US based, though we believe it is now Moscow based. It peddles information from a Russian point of view. But my question is, is it something more. Is this a site like InfoRos, Strategic Culture Foundation, Greyzone.ca that the US government believes is being fed disinformation/propaganda directly from Russian intelligence services? Any background information would be much appreciated.

Julian

Julian E. Barnes

Intelligence, National Security reporter

The New York Times

(b)(6) Mobile/WhatsApp/Signal

On Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 8:20 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Hi Julian,

We can provide the following on background. Please attribute this to a State Department spokesperson:

- Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic we've seen false narratives around the virus and pandemic response, including vaccines.
- For example, the State Department's Global Engagement Center has found that Russia and China have promoted their own vaccines through messaging that undermines Western-origin vaccine development programs.
- Such disinformation magnifies the risk of potential side effects associated with Western vaccines and misleads publics by falsely alleging that mRNA vaccines are untested and thus risky.
- The PRC has also suggested that the United States hoards COVID-19 treatments, and prevents other countries from acquiring vaccines, despite evidence to the contrary.
- The truth, however, is clear. We have provided the most funding to support COVAX of any country in the world – with an initial contribution of \$2 billion through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.
- Scientists and manufacturers all over the world are innovating and doing remarkable things to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The United States continues to focus on the facts and follow the lead of scientists that are working on robust and transparent clinical trials, regulatory processes, and high-quality manufacturing.
- No one should employ and spread disinformation around the pandemic or the safe and effective use of vaccines. Our only goal should be to end the pandemic.

Very best,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Officer
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
Accenture Federal Services Contractor
Cell: (b)(6)



From: Julian Barnes (b)(6)@nytimes.com>
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 4:31 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>
Subject: Re: NYT: Russian Disinfo

I am currently planning to write a story on Wednesday.

Julian E. Barnes
Intelligence, National Security reporter
The New York Times
(b)(6) Mobile/WhatsApp/Signal

On Mon, Aug 2, 2021 at 4:29 PM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:

Hi Julian,

Off the record - Sorry for the delay, what is your timeline?

Very best,

(b)(6)

Public Affairs Officer

Global Engagement Center

U.S. Department of State

Accenture Federal Services Contractor

Cell: (b)(6)



From: Julian Barnes (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 10:14 AM

To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: NYT: Russian Disinfo

(b)(6) GEC

I am working on a story looking at Russia's most recent disinformation efforts around the western vaccines. We are trying to determine if there has been an uptick either coinciding with the various failures of the Sputnik vaccine or the intensification of the Delta outbreak. NSA has referred us to the GEC. I am hoping you all might have some new information to share.

I am at (b)(6) I am out of pocket 1130 to 1:30 but otherwise available today. But I my deadline is early next week not today.

Julian

Julian E. Barnes

Intelligence, National Security reporter

The New York Times

(b)(6) Mobile/WhatsApp/Signal

--

(b)(6) mobile/signal/WhatsApp

--

(b)(6) mobile/signal/WhatsApp

Sender: Julian Barnes (b)(6)@nytimes.com>

Recipient: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>;
GEC-Press <GEC-Press@state.gov>

From: "Kroeker, Scott" (b)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>
To: (h)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
'Joshua Peller' (h)(6)@nytimes.com>;
Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
CC: Alan Davis (h)(6)@iwpr.net>;
(h)(6)@state.gov>;
(h)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: RE: Media outlets for New York Times Project
Date: Thu, 12 Nov 2020 22:11:00 +0000

Thanks (b)(6) and (b)(6) Good luck.
Scott

Scott Kroeker | Senior Program Officer, Professional Development Program, East-West Center |
(h)(6)

From: (h)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 11:05 AM
To: (h)(6)@state.gov>; Kroeker, Scott
(h)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>
Cc: 'Joshua Peller' (h)(6)@nytimes.com>; Vonda Wolcott (h)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis
(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (h)(6)@state.gov>; (h)(6) (Port Moresby)
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Media outlets for New York Times Project

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Use Caution with Links and Attachments.

Noted (b)(6)

I will reach out and get back to Scott as soon as I can.

Thank you,

(b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 12, 2020 3:08:50 AM
To: Kroeker, Scott (h)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>; (h)(6) (Port Moresby)
(h)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: 'Joshua Peller' (h)(6)@nytimes.com>; Vonda Wolcott (h)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis
(h)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (h)(6) (Port Moresby)
(h)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Media outlets for New York Times Project

Scott:

Sorry this has been such a struggle.

(b)(6) Would you make another round of outreach to our contacts to see if can get some movement? Perhaps they think it's something they need to pay for? Please reiterate that this is a service we are providing at no cost to them.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: Kroeker, Scott (b)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2020 12:24 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Port Moresby)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: 'Joshua Peller' (b)(6)@nytimes.com>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis

(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Media outlets for New York Times Project

Aloha (b)(6)

I wanted to update you on our outreach efforts to media outlets in PNG, Solomons and Vanuatu since it's been a struggle to get people to respond to our offer of New York Times content licenses.

Of the 9 media outlets originally proposed for the project by your Embassy we have been able to bring on-board only 4. These are:

- The Bougainvillean
- EMTV
- Solomon Star
- Vanuatu Daily Post

At least we've gone one in each country. Of the other 5 here are the results of our outreach:

- PNG Loop – Referred us to their parent organization in Fiji who we hoped would sign on but they eventually declined the offer.
- Post Courier – Contact provided, (b)(6), responded that he was no longer in charge of full editorial duties and referred the offer to Managing Director, (b)(6) and acting Editor and General Manager (b)(6). Repeated outreach to both of them has produced no response at all.
- SIBC – Contact provided (b)(6) responded that he had forwarded the offer to the GM and that he didn't hear back. After repeated efforts, including using personal contacts to find out the correct email address for the GM (b)(6) (all website emails bounce back) we have received no response.

- FM100 & The National – No response at all. I activated East-West Center media alum (b)(6) (b)(6) from the PNG Media Council--she used to run the newsroom at FM100 and is still very well connected--who tried to get them to respond to no avail.

A similar thing happened with outlets in Fiji and Post was able to identify a couple of other outlets that were ready and willing to take this on board. Since we still have funding for 4 licenses and our funder the GEC is potentially open to alternatives IF the preferred outlets just don't come on-board do you have any suggestions for different outlets in your 3 countries? How about the Island Sun in Solomons which is run by an EWC media alum Priestly Habru. Or would you prefer to take another stab at squeezing answers out of the original outlet? Let me know.

Thanks
Scott

Scott Kroeker | Senior Program Officer, Professional Development Program | (b)(6)

East-West Center

1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, HI 96848-1601, USA
EastWestCenter.org

The East-West Center promotes better relations and understanding among the people and nations of the United States, Asia, and the Pacific through cooperative study, research, and dialogue. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1960, the Center serves as a resource for information and analysis on critical issues of common concern, bringing people together to exchange views, build expertise, and develop policy options.

Sender: "Kroeker, Scott" (b)(6)@EastWestCenter.org>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

'Joshua Peller' (b)(6)@nytimes.com>;

Recipient: Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

To: Vonda Wolcott (h)(6)@iwpr.net>;
Ferdie Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Maria Adelma Montejó (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
CC: Baybars Orsek (h)(6)@poynter.org>;
Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Subject: Re: M&E for Balkans and Pacific Islands

Date: Mon, 8 Mar 2021 15:44:31 +0000

Thanks, Vonda. Feel free to reach out if there's anything I can do to support.

Best,

(b)(6)

M&E Specialist
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
Contractor - Alutiiq Information Management, LLC

(b)(6)@state.gov

x]

From: Vonda Wolcott (h)(6)@iwpr.net>

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 10:34 AM

To: Ferdie Ozsoy (h)(6)@poynter.org>

Cc: Maria Adelma Montejó (h)(6)@iwpr.net>; (h)(6)@state.gov>; Baybars
Orsek (h)(6)@poynter.org>; Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Subject: Re: M&E for Balkans and Pacific Islands

Hi (b)(6) We'll follow up with Poynter on this, and loop you back in when needed.

Thanks!

On Mon, Mar 8, 2021 at 10:21 AM Ferdie Ozsoy (h)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:

Hi Maria,

Thank you for reaching out. @Alanna Dvorak and I have started to work on it and we wanted to complete as much of it as we can before actually asking for clarifications on certain sections of the M&E. We are going to sit down today to take a final look.

We were wondering if it would be easier to just set up a call and ask those questions or emailing the questions would be a better way to answer them? What is your experience approaching this?

If a call is a way to go then can we set up something this week?

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Ferdie

On Mon, Mar 8, 2021 at 12:15 AM Maria Adelma Montejó (b)(6)@iwpr.net> wrote:

Hi Ferdie,

I would like to follow up if you have submitted the M&E Work Books (Balkans and Pacific Islands) to the GEC. If yes, may I have a copy? If not yet, the IWPR is available if you need support.

Thank you.

Madel

On Thu, Feb 11, 2021 at 2:58 AM Ferdi Ozsoy <(b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:

Hi (b)(6)

We will take look at this before our meeting. Thank you for sharing this with us.

Looking forward to our meeting on Tuesday.

Best,

Ferdi

On Wed, Feb 10, 2021 at 11:35 AM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:

Hi all,

The workbook template we will review is attached. I recommend the 'Intro' tab as pre-reading before our meeting.

I look forward to talking with you all.

Best,

(b)(6)

M&E Specialist

Global Engagement Center

U.S. Department of State

Contractor - Alutiiq Information Management, LLC

(b)(6)@state.gov



From: Ferdi Ozsoy <(b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 4:39 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: Vonda Wolcott <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Alanna Dvorak

<(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Maria Adelma Montejó <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>

Subject: Re: M&E for Balkans and Pacific Islands

I didn't realize, it was Presidents Day. We are free on Tuesday as well.

We will wait for the calendar invite from your end then.

Have a great three day weekend.

Best,

Ferdi

On Tue, Feb 9, 2021 at 4:35 PM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:
Thank you, Ferdi. We actually are not working Monday because it is a federal holiday, but I am free all day Tuesday. Will that work for you?

I will send the M&E Workbook/Performance Monitoring Plan shortly.

Best,

(b)(6)
M&E Specialist
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
Contractor - Alutiiq Information Management, LLC
(b)(6)@state.gov



From: Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 4:04 PM
To: (h)(6)@state.gov
Cc: Vonda Wolcott <(b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Baybars Orsek (h)(6)@poynter.org; Alanna Dvorak (h)(6)@poynter.org; Maria Adelma Montejo (h)(6)@iwpr.net
Subject: Re: M&E for Balkans and Pacific Islands

Dear (b)(6)

Thank you for reaching out regarding M&E for the Balkans and Pacific Islands. Sorry for the late reply. We were just waiting for some internal updates regarding a meeting with our National Board of Advisors. My colleagues and I were tasked in running a few of the meetings that are set through this Thursday and Friday.

We were wondering if we can set a date early next week. We can for sure move things around for Monday need be.

As for activities for the two regions :

We have made some headway with the Pacific Island Grant. We have identified the local partner that will be partnering up with and they are currently underway preparing the localized materials for the training sessions.

As for the Balkans, we are still at the very beginning. We have identified potential partners and have had our introduction meetings and will more to work off of at the end of this month.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for all the support.

Best,
Ferdi

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 2:28 PM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
Hi! Thank you for reaching out!

Would next Friday work? I'm free anytime after 11am except 3-4pm EST.

Before we meet, can you tell me where your projects are at and what M&E work you've done so far? Also, are you just looking for a walk through of the M&E Workbook/Performance Monitoring Plan? Is there anything else you'd like to accomplish during our call?

Thanks!

(b)(6)
M&E Specialist
Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
Contractor - Alutiiq Information Management, LLC
(b)(6)@state.gov



From: Ferdi Ozsoy (h)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 10:51 AM
To: Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>
Cc: Baybars Orsek (h)(6)@poynter.org>; Alanna Dvorak (h)(6)@poynter.org>; (h)(6)@state.gov>; Maria Adelma Montejo (h)(6)@iwpr.net>
Subject: Re: M&E for Balkans and Pacific Islands

Hi All,

Vonda, thank you for the introductions.

(b)(6) When would be the best time and date for us to set up a call to go over the documents?

The only day that would not work for us is Monday, we will be filming that day for the projects.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Ferdi

On Thu, Feb 4, 2021 at 4:47 PM Vonda Wolcott <(b)(6)@iwpr.net> wrote:

Hi everyone.

Per our discussion, I wanted to put Poynter folks in touch with (b)(6) the M&E expert from GEC. (b)(6) has kindly offered to walk you through the GEC's new M&E workbook.

This Workbook uses the M&E from your GEC-approved proposals, which I've attached for everyone's convenience.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

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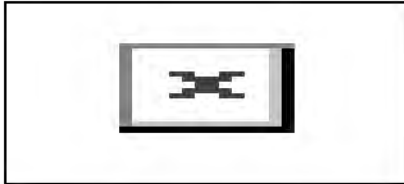
Vonda Wolcott
Sr. Program Manager
Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR)
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 329
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: (b)(6)

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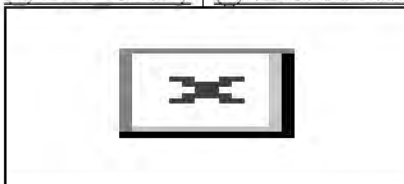
Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy
Program Manager | *International Fact-Checking Network*
@ferdi_ozsoy | @factchecknet



--

Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy**Program Manager** | *International Fact-Checking Network*[@ferdi_ozsoy](#) | [@factchecknet](#)

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Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy**Program Manager** | *International Fact-Checking Network*[@ferdi_ozsoy](#) | [@factchecknet](#)~~SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED~~

--

Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy**Program Manager** | *International Fact-Checking Network*[@ferdi_ozsoy](#) | [@factchecknet](#)

--

Maria Adelma Montejo

Monitoring & Evaluation Assistant
Institute for War and Peace Reporting
Email: [\(b\)\(6\)@iwpr.net](mailto:(b)(6)@iwpr.net)
Tel: (b)(6)

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--

Ferdi Ferhat Özsoy
Program Manager | *International Fact-Checking Network*
@ferdi_ozsoy | @factchecknet



--

Vonda Wolcott
Sr. Program Manager
Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR)
1156 15th Street, NW
Suite 329
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: (b)(6)

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Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Recipient: Maria Adelma Montejo (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

CC: (b)(6)@poynter.org (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Invitation: Discussion on FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

Date: Wed, 4 Nov 2020 15:56:06 -0500

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for the reminder!

Yes! Please kindly send the invitation and the agenda.

All the best

Baybars

On Wed, Nov 4, 2020 at 3:31 PM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Baybars and Ferdi,

I wanted to reach out directly to see if you'll be able to join us tomorrow afternoon 14:00 (DC time) to discuss your work within the broader context of the GEC's efforts in Europe. Please let me know if you'll join and I'll send the calendar invitation and agenda.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 3:37 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>; Tom Baker (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; (b)(6)@cepa.org (b)(6)@cepa.org>;

(b)(6)@cepa.org (b)(6)@cepa.org>; (b)(6)@freedomhouse.org

(b)(6)@FreedomHouse.org>; (b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz (b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz>; Baybars Orsek

(b)(6)@poynter.org>; (b)(6)@poynter.org (b)(6)@poynter.org>; (b)(6)@ceip.org

(b)(6)@ceip.org>; (b)(6)@ceip.org (b)(6)@ceip.org>; (b)(6)@aspi.org.au

(b)(6)@aspi.org.au>; (b)(6)@aspi.org.au (b)(6)@aspi.org.au>;

(b)(6)@aspi.org.au (b)(6)@aspi.org.au>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Invitation: Discussion on FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

Hello, all.

I apologize for the inconvenience, but we are rescheduling this meeting for later in the day November 5 to better accommodate our colleagues in Australia. The new time will be 14:00 EST. We still haven't heard from a few of you about your availability, so please do confirm whether you will be able to join us.

Best regards,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2020 11:51 AM**To:** Tom Baker (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Vonda Wolcott (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;

(b)(6)@cepa.org (b)(6)@cepa.org>; (b)(6)@cepa.org

(b)(6)@cepa.org>; (b)(6)@freedomhouse.org (b)(6)@freedomhouse.org>;

(b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz (b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz>; Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

(b)(6)@poynter.org (b)(6)@poynter.org>; (b)(6)@ceip.org (b)(6)@ceip.org>;

(b)(6)@ceip.org (b)(6)@ceip.org>; (b)(6)@aspi.org.au (b)(6)@aspi.org.au>;

(b)(6)@aspi.org.au (b)(6)@aspi.org.au>; (b)(6)@aspi.org.au (b)(6)@aspi.org.au>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Invitation: Discussion on FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

Good afternoon,

With a new fiscal year and a full slate of programs in execution globally, the GEC China team invites you to join a discussion as we look ahead to our efforts in Europe in FY21.

We hope this discussion can be candid, informal, and focused on how we can bring our unique capabilities to bear to support our efforts to counter PRC malign influence in Europe. We look forward to hearing your thoughts on where we've made progress, where gaps remains, and things we should keep in mind as put together our programmatic strategy for FY21.

Please confirm participation in a virtual discussion via Microsoft Teams on November 5 at 8:00 EST / 13:00 CET / 22:00 AET to accommodate your participation from Washington, Europe and Canberra.

Best,

(b)(6)

Director, China

Global Engagement Center

US Department of State

--

Baybars Örsek**Director** | International Fact-Checking Network@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet**Sender:** Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@poynter.org (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>

To: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Fact Checking in Cairo

Date: Sun, 18 Sep 2022 07:18:38 +0000

Yes, thank you so much! Extremely helpful chat and we'll be in touch!

(b)(6)

From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Wednesday, September 14, 2022 11:19 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Fact Checking in Cairo

Hi (b)(6)

It was great speaking with you all yesterday.

Here are the links we had discussed:

- Fatabyyano: The Jordanian fact-checking outlet
- ARIJ: Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism and their annual conference
- MediaWise: Poynter's media literacy program

Looking forward to continuing our discussions and hopefully getting some programming started in Egypt and the region more broadly.

Best,

Alanna

On Thu, Sep 1, 2022 at 2:05 AM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:
No problem!

From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Thursday, September 1, 2022 12:26 AM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Fact Checking in Cairo

Tuesday the 13th at 9 a.m. is fine with me, as long as we are able to keep it to an hour (which I'm sure we can). (b)(6)

Best,

Alanna

On Wed, Aug 31, 2022 at 2:02 AM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:
Ah, you're right, apologies. I'll be out of town the latter half of next week, so would 9 am EST on Tuesday the 13th work?

Thanks!

From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2022 5:31 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Fact Checking in Cairo

I just realized that is a US federal holiday, so reflectively, probably not great for anyone. Maybe Tuesday?

On Tue, Aug 30, 2022 at 11:30 AM Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org wrote:
Good on my end!

On Tue, Aug 30, 2022 at 3:36 AM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:
Thanks, Alanna! I've also been traveling, sorry for delayed response. How about Monday September 5th at 9 am EST? Would that work for everyone for a quick call?

From: Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 23, 2022 9:34 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Fact Checking in Cairo

Hello!

Sorry for the delay in response; I was traveling in India for work (and then pleasure) and my email got backed up.

I would love to connect with you; North Africa is an area that doesn't have a ton of fact-checkers. We've done some training in Libya and Tunisia and would love to continue to expand.

My Calendly provides my availability. Hopefully there is a time that overlaps, given the time difference.

Looking forward to meeting with you.

Best,

Alanna

On Sun, Aug 14, 2022 at 9:23 AM (b)(6)@state.gov wrote:
Alaana,

Greetings from Cairo! I work for the Embassy here, focusing on Chinese activities in the Middle East.

As part of my work, I'm partnering with our Public Affairs Section to look at opportunities to counter Russian and Chinese disinformation in the Egyptian media. We have recently been talking about the potential to fund a grant to teach fact-checking to several news outlets here. Journalists have requested this type of training, and how they can learn about tools and online functions to help them fact-check their work.

My colleagues in Washington mentioned that you recently helped with a proposal to do similar work in Tunisia. I was wondering if you might be interested in talking with us about this for Egypt, or if your organization would not be able to work on this type of proposal for Egypt, if you have ideas of others who might be available.

Thank you so much for your time,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Regional China Officer – Egypt, Iraq, Levant
U.S. Embassy Cairo

Office: (b)(6)

Mobile:

(Please note Cairo's workweek is Sunday-Thursday)

--

Alanna Dvorak

International Training Manager/IFCN

The Poynter Institute

ph: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@poynter.org

www.poynter.org

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Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Alanna Dvorak (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Ferd Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Concerns about Thailand Grant
Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2021 12:55:46 +0000

Baybars,

Thanks for this update.

Just for your awareness, (b)(6) has transferred to the NSC to work on disinformation and resiliency, and (b)(6) (cced) is leading our team moving forward.

I cover the Mekong / Southeast Asia portfolio for our team, and look forward to hearing more from you on this project in the weeks ahead.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

China Division | Global Engagement Center
U.S. Department of State
e-mail: (b)(6)@state.gov

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 10:19 PM
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Cc: Ferd Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Concerns about Thailand Grant

Hi (b)(6)

Hope this email finds you well.

Just wanted to provide you with a quick update on our plans in Thailand.

The embassy is connecting us with CoFact, a new fact-checking initiative in Thailand, inspired by Taiwanese CoFacts.

It's a great match since we know CoFacts of Taiwan very well, including spending time with its founder Lee Bi-Ling, aka Billion, at Poynter for a few weeks during her National Committee on U.S.-China Relations - Professional Fellows Program visit to the United States.

I also had a chance to meet with her team members in Taiwan during a workshop in late 2019 (pre-COVID world!) and really impressed by their efforts.

Our plan with CoFact (Thailand) is to do a public-facing event on the International Fact-Checking Day on April 2nd and provide our 8 hours long self-directed and self-paced training afterward. Our training material will be sent to Thai translators after we have our first meeting with CoFact next week (she is on a leave this week) and confirm the scope of the training based on their team's background and experience.

The goal is to complete the localization and translation of the training material by the end of this month and release the material to them so their team can complete them in 2-3 weeks. Once the self-directed course will be completed by them, we will organize one or two live webinars with them to provide more guidance and tips to apply to IFCN's Code of Principles.

I'll share more in the next few weeks as the program moves forward.

All the best-

Baybars

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 12:52 PM Baybars Orsek <(b)(6)@poynter.org> wrote:

Absolutely!

Actually, he must have received that update yesterday but I can see that the communication takes longer given the time difference between us and him in Bangkok.

We will share our updates with him and his team with you.

Have a great weekend!

Baybars

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 12:45 PM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Baybars, Ferdi,

Thank you so much for the quick response.

Can you please share that update with (b)(6) in Bangkok and reassure him that you are confident things will be executed on time since he reached out with concerns?

Thank you!

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Sent: Friday, February 5, 2021 12:41 PM

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Cc: Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Re: Concerns about Thailand Grant

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks for checking in.

As of today, the DS1909 form has been sent to our VP of Finance and Business for her signature and will be sent back to the Embassy in Bangkok for execution.

That will officially extend the project to July 31st of this year.

The course material has been prepared and currently it's currently in the translation process.

The materials will be shared with the embassy for confirmation and they can be delivered as early as the first week of March.

Thank you for your understanding and happy to have a call to discuss if you have any questions.

Best-

Baybars

On Fri, Feb 5, 2021 at 12:34 PM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Ferdi, Baybars,

I want to reach out to see if we could resolve some concerns that have been raised over the Thailand project. I know you have been swamped but post is concerned it is falling behind

planned timelines and has voiced concern that it has been hard to keep thing moving. Would you have a moment to touch base so we can make sure things stay on track?

Best, (b)(6)

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network

@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network

@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network

@baybarsorsek / @factchecknet

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Ferdi Ozsoy (b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Re: Automatic Response Chat Applications
Date: Thu, 3 Jun 2021 09:59:20 -0400

Hi (b)(6)

Thanks a lot for reaching gout.

I'm more than happy to help and in fact, you can feel free to use this [link](#) here to set up a call that would work for you and your colleagues.

All the best-

Baybars

On Wed, Jun 2, 2021 at 2:09 PM (b)(6)@state.gov> wrote:

Dear Baybars, Cristina,

Hoping this finds you well. My name is (b)(6) and I work with the Global Engagement Center at the Department of State. Baybars, I believe we have been on a few calls with my colleague (b)(6) who has since headed over to the NSC. Cristina, I believe we have not yet met, but it is a pleasure to e-meet you -- I believe you may have worked with some of our posts in Brazil back in March/April.

If I may, earlier today I was on a call with some colleagues from our Western Hemisphere Affairs bureau (WHA) and they indicated they were interested in connecting with folks that have expertise in creating automatic-response chat functionalities. They are considering creating a similar automatic-response functionality and are looking for advice/expertise. As I recall, Poynter IFCN worked to help Whatsapp create a similar functionality -- please feel free to correct me if I have this wrong. If I do have this right though, would either of you be interested in being connected with them, or may I connect their team with someone on your staff who may be able to assist and share insights on this?

Please let me know if I can clarify anything on the above -- much thanks.

V/r,

(b)(6)

Program Analyst

GEC | DOS | Alutiiq Contractor

Cell: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network
[@baybarsorsek](#) / [@factchecknet](#)

Sender: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: (b)(6)

To: Gordon Crovitz <(h)(6)@newsguardtech.com>;
Nakashima, Ellen <(b)(6)@washpost.com>
Angie Mallory <(h)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>;
Austin Branch <(h)(6)@umd.edu>;
Barton Brown <(h)(6)@lexsg.com>;
(h)(6)@nctc.gov>;

CC: Joseph Michael Kelly <(h)(6)@umd.edu>;
Michael Williams <(h)(6)@gmail.com>;
Grynkeiwich, Alexis G Maj Gen USAF CENTCOM CCJ3 (USA)
(h)(6)
(b)(6)@state.gov <(b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Thank you to Panel 1!!

Date: Mon, 19 Apr 2021 13:09:42 +0000

Dear Friends,

At the risk of piling on, I would also like to extend my deepest thanks as well. I came away from the panel a bit smarter than I was going in and for that I am in your debt!

I look forward to future intersections.

All the best, (b)(6)

(h)(6)
Director, Strategic Multilayer Assessment
Joint Staff DDGO (J39)
Pentagon, Washington, DC (1D557)
Desk: (b)(6)
DSN: (b)(6)
Cell: 2 (b)(6)
SIPR: (b)(6)
JWICS: (b)(6)

"Shall we expect some transatlantic military giant, to step the Ocean, and crush us at a blow? Never! -- All the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, ...could not by force, take a drink from the Ohio, or make a track on the Blue Ridge, in a trial of a thousand years. At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reach us, it must spring up amongst us. It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freemen, we must live through all time, or die by suicide."

- Abraham Lincoln, age 28

From: Gordon Crovitz (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com>

Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 2:07 PM

To: Nakashima, Ellen (b)(6)@washpost.com>

Cc: Angie Mallory (b)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>; Austin Branch (b)(6)@umd.edu>; Barton Brown

(b)(6)@lexsg.com>; (b)(6); Joseph Michael Kelly

(b)(6)@umd.edu>; Michael Williams (b)(6)@gmail.com>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) Grynkeiwich, Alexis G Maj Gen USAF CENTCOM CCJ3 (USA)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: Thank you to Panel 1!!

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

All:

It was a pleasure being on the panel with you. I hope our paths will cross soon.

Joe, thanks for including me.

Regards,

Gordon

On Sat, Apr 17, 2021 at 1:52 PM Nakashima, Ellen

(b)(6)@washpost.com <Caution-mailto:(b)(6)@washpost.com > >

wrote:

Thanks very much for the feedback, Joe. I appreciated the opportunity to take part -and I greatly enjoyed the discussion.

I look forward to continuing the dialogue and engagement. The more we air these issues the more progress we can make.

All bests,

Ellen

From: Joseph Michael Kelly (b)(6)@umd.edu <Caution-mailto:(b)(6)@umd.edu > >

Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 11:01 AM

To: (b)(6) <Caution-

mailto:(b)(6) > <Caution-

mailto:(b)(6) >

(b)(6) >;

(b)(6)@state.gov <Caution-mailto:(b)(6)@state.gov > ; Nakashima, Ellen

(b)(6)@washpost.com < Caution-mailto:(b)(6)@washpost.com > >;
Gordon Crovitz (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com < Caution-
mailto:(b)(6)@newsguardtech.com > >
Cc: Michael Williams (b)(6)@gmail.com < Caution-
mailto:(b)(6)@gmail.com > >; Angie Mallory (b)(6)@arlis.umd.edu < Caution-
mailto:(b)(6)@arlis.umd.edu > >; Austin Branch (b)(6)@umd.edu < Caution-
mailto:(b)(6)@umd.edu > >; Barton Brown (b)(6)@lexsg.com < Caution-
mailto:(b)(6)@lexsg.com > >
Subject: Thank you to Panel 1!!

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Speakers,

I want to thank each and everyone of you for your participation on Tuesday. As you probably saw, yours was the most popular panel drawing over half the keynote audience.

By all accounts, your discussion was truly groundbreaking. Many of the comments I heard in the days afterward focused on the need for appropriate coordination and collaboration across the US government but also between government and the media as well as wider industry. Collectively, you planted the seed for a new way to think about the challenges of disinformation and malign foreign influence.

In the next week or so, we will be posting the keynote address and all the panel recordings to the IPA website behind a password protected link available only to registered attendees. You should all get a copy of that link when we send it out.

Thank you again for your support of the Phoenix Challenge conference and the wider IO community. I look forward to the chance to work with each of you again in the future.

V/R,

Joe

--

Joe Kelly

Professor of the Practice

Applied Research Lab for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS)

University of Maryland

Mobile: (b)(6)

--

Gordon Crovitz

Co-CEO

NewsGuard

25 West 52nd Street, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10019

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@newsguardtech.com <Caution-mailto:gordon.crovitz@newsguardtech.com>

Get NewsGuard <Caution-https://www.newsguardtech.com/get-newsguard/> for
your phone or desktop browser.

Sender: (b)(6)

Gordon Crovitz (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com>;

Nakashima, Ellen (b)(6)@washpost.com>;

Angie Mallory (b)(6)@arlis.umd.edu>;

Austin Branch (b)(6)@umd.edu>;

Barton Brown (b)(6)@lexsg.com>;

Recipient: (b)(6)

Joseph Michael Kelly (b)(6)@umd.edu>;

Michael Williams (b)(6)@gmail.com>;

Grynkewich, Alexis G Maj Gen USAF CENTCOM CCJ3 (USA)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov>

From: "Atwood, Kylie" (b)(6)@cnn.com>

NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>;
To: GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>;
Price, Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov>;
Patel, Vedant (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Q on Startlink hardware transfer from GEC

Date: Fri, 30 Sep 2022 16:39:50 +0000

Hi –

Two members of congress are urging the State Department to help “facilitate the transfer” of Starlink satellite internet terminals to Iran in order to get internet up and running in the country amid widespread protests and internet shutdowns by the Iranian government.

“We believe the Global Engagement Center within the Department of State can help facilitate the transfer of their terminals to non-governmental organization partners to ensure the Iranian people have the freedom to communicate with each other and share their concerns to the world,” wrote Republican Reps Michael Waltz and Maria Salazar in a joint letter to Secretary of State Tony Blinken this week.

Does State have a response to the letter? Is it possible for the GEC to do this?

Thanks!

Sender: "Atwood, Kylie" (b)(6)@cnn.com>

Recipient: NEA-Press <NEA-Press@state.gov>;
GEC Press <GECPress@state.gov>;
Price, Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov>;
Patel, Vedant <(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: "Greene, Nyja" (b)(6)@warnermedia.com>
To: mediarequests@state.gov <mediarequests@state.gov>
CC: Johnson, Christie (b)(6)@cnn.com>;
Carter, Catherine (b)(6)@cnn.com>
Subject: Please Read- Interview Request for Ambassador Philip T. Reeker on Thursday, October 28th during our 9:00am ET or 10:00am ET hour- Contact: Nyja Greene, cell: (b)(6)
Date: Wed, 27 Oct 2021 18:57:15 +0000

Dear U.S. Department of State,

Good afternoon. I'm reaching out to you from CNN Newsroom to find out if Ambassador Philip T. Reeker can join us on Thursday, October 28th for a live 5-7 minute interview on President Biden's upcoming foreign trip to Europe/Importance of it? Jim Sciutto will be anchoring tomorrow morning from Rome. We can do this interview from a satellite studio, or virtually via Cisco Web Ex or via Skype.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. I look forward to hearing back from you soonest. I have looped my colleagues Christie Johnson and Catherine Carter in. (Please reply all)

Sincerely, Nyja Greene, CNN Editorial Producer, Cell: (b)(6)

Sender: "Greene, Nyja" (b)(6)@warnermedia.com>
mediarequests@state.gov <mediarequests@state.gov>;
Recipient: Johnson, Christie (b)(6)@cnn.com>;
Carter, Catherine (b)(6)@cnn.com>

From: (b)(6)
(b)(6)
(b)(6)@lexsg.com (b)(6)@lexsg.com>;
Patrick Keane (b)(6)@convenelab.com>;
(b)(6)@hotmail.com (b)(6)@hotmail.com>;
(b)(6)@webheadtech.com (b)(6)@webheadtech.com>;
(b)(6)
(b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov>;
To: (b)(6)@washpost.com (b)(6)@washpost.com>;
(b)(6)@newsguardtech.com (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com>;
(b)(6)

Subject: Phoenix Challenge 2021 Panel 1: Information Effects in Strategic Competition

Date: Mon, 12 Apr 2021 04:10:11 +0000

Welcome to Phoenix Challenge 2021 and Panel 1: Information Effects in Strategic Competition

Please use the link in THIS invite to join the session.

Please join promptly at 1015 EDT after we end the Keynote Session (then take your break).

We will begin promptly at 1030 EDT.

This panel will be rebroadcast during the week of April 19th. The Information Professionals Association will be sending you an email with details.

Please do NOT reply to this email as I do not have access to it at this time. To reach me, please email: angiemal@umd.edu

V/R,

(b)(6), PhD

UMD ARLIS

Human Aspects of Military Operations

Assistant Research Scientist, Rhetoric

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Sender: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@lexsg.com (b)(6)@lexsg.com>;

Patrick Keane (b)(6)@convenelab.com>;

(b)(6)@hotmail.com (b)(6)@hotmail.com>;

(b)(6)@webheadtech.com (b)(6)@webheadtech.com>;

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@washpost.com (b)(6)@washpost.com>;

(b)(6)@newsguardtech.com (b)(6)@newsguardtech.com>;

(b)(6)

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Out of office Re: Invitation: Discussion on FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

Date: Thu, 29 Oct 2020 08:52:36 -0700

I'm out of office for the day.

I'll get back to you as soon as possible!

--

Baybars Örsek

(b)(7)(E)

*Director | *International Fact-Checking Network
@baybarsorsek

(b)(7)(E)

Sender: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Davey Alba (b)(6)@nytimes.com>;
Eliot Higgins (b)(6)@bellingcat.com>;
To: (b)(6)@eeas.europa.eu>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
CC: AVC-CBW-DL <AVC-CBW-DL2@state.gov>;
USOPCWTheHague <USOPCWTheHague@state.gov>
Subject: OPCW Disinformation Panel
Date: Mon, 22 Nov 2021 23:38:36 +0000

This is a place holder until we get confirmation that all participants agree with the new start time. The Meeting will be updated with the list of participants.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

(b)(7)(E) United States, Spokane

Phone Conference ID (b)(7)(E)

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Davey Alba (b)(6)@nytimes.com>;
Eliot Higgins (b)(6)@bellingcat.com>;
(b)(6)@eeas.europa.eu>;
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
AVC-CBW-DL <AVC-CBW-DL2@state.gov>;
USOPCWTheHague <USOPCWTheHague@state.gov>

From: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Live at 2:00 p.m. ET: New Government with California Secretary of State Alex Padilla

Date: Mon, 11 Jan 2021 17:28:27 +0000

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Sender: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>
Recipient: (b)(6) @state.gov>

From: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Live at 11:00am ET-What's Next Retail with Jeni Britton Bauer, Dionna Dorsey, and Philip Krim

Date: Thu, 29 Apr 2021 14:47:17 +0000

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Sender: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Last day to register: WashPost "Trust in Science" event with former NIH director Francis S. Collins and more

Date: Mon, 5 Dec 2022 18:01:37 +0000

Sender: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Last Chance: WashPost in-person entrepreneurship event Tuesday, 9/13
[Response Requested]

Date: Mon, 12 Sep 2022 14:05:45 +0000

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FL-2023-00013

A-00000598390

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

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Sender: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

FL-2023-00013

A-00000598351

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

From: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Last Chance: WashPost in-person entrepreneurship event Tuesday, 9/13
[Response Requested]

Date: Mon, 12 Sep 2022 14:05:44 +0000

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

FL-2023-00013

A-00000598351

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

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Sender: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>
Recipient: (b)(6) @state.gov>

From: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Last Chance: WashPost in-person climate change event tomorrow with Patagonia CEO Ryan Gellert, Sen. Brian Schatz, and more, 9/20 [Response Requested]

Date: Mon, 19 Sep 2022 16:04:15 +0000

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

FL-2023-00013

A-00000598616

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

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OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

Sender: Washington Post Live <washpostlive@washpost.com>
Recipient: (b)(6) @state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@iwpr.net>
SentVia: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@poynter.org>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@pacom.mil>;
(b)(6)@poynter.org>
Subject: Invitation: Poynter Pacific Islands Kick Off Call @ Tue Dec 8, 2020 2pm - 3pm (EST) ((b)(6)@state.gov)
Date: Mon, 7 Dec 2020 14:14:33 +0000

You have been invited to the following event.

Poynter Pacific Islands Kick Off Call

When Tue Dec 8, 2020 2pm – 3pm Eastern Time - New York

Calendar (b)(6)@state.gov

Who

- (b)(6)@iwpr.net - organizer
- (b)(6)@state.gov
- (b)(6)@poynter.org
- (b)(6)@state.gov
- (b)(6)@pacom.mil
- (b)(6)@poynter.org

[more details »](#)

Conference call link:

(b)(7)(E)

Agenda:

Intro (IWPR)

Overview and timeline of project (Poynter)

Questions/comments (GEC et al)

Going (b)(6)@state.gov)? **Yes - Maybe - No** [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this courtesy email at the account gentzelca@state.gov because you are an attendee of this event.

To stop receiving future updates for this event, decline this event. Alternatively you can sign up for a Google account at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> and control your notification settings for your entire calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer and be added to the guest list, or invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or to modify your RSVP. [Learn More](#)

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Sender: (b)(6)@iwpr.net>; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

(b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@poynter.org>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6)@pacom.mil>;

(b)(6)@poynter.org>

From: (b)(6)@iwpr.net>
SentVia: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
(b)(6)@theglobalamericans.org>;
Dhaniella Falk (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
(b)(6)@poynter.org>;
(b)(6)@theglobalamericans.org>;
To: (b)(6)@poynter.org>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
Alan Davis (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>;
Seth Meixner (b)(6)@iwpr.net>;
(b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Invitation: IWPR GEC DRL Western Hem Projects Meeting @ Thu Nov 19, 2020
11am - 12pm (EST) (b)(6)@state.gov)
Date: Mon, 9 Nov 2020 20:41:42 +0000

You have been invited to the following event.

IWPR GEC DRL Western Hem Projects Meeting

When Thu Nov 19, 2020 11am – 12pm Eastern Time - New York

Calendar (b)(6)@state.gov

Who

- (b)(6)@iwpr.net - organizer
- (b)(6)@theglobalamericans.org
- Dhaniella Falk
- (b)(6)@poynter.org
- (b)(6)@theglobalamericans.org
- (b)(6)@poynter.org
- (b)(6)@state.gov
- Alan Davis
- (b)(6)@state.gov
- Seth Meixner
- (b)(6)@state.gov
- (b)(6)@state.gov

[more details »](#)

Conference call link:

<https://meet.jit.si/CommercialCornersEmailMagnificently>

(b)(6)

Agenda

1. Introduction (IWPR - Vonda)

2. Project Summaries:

- IWPR LAC (Dhaniella Falk)
- Poynter (Baybars Orsek)
- Global Americans (Guy Mentel)

3. GEC/DRL Comments

4. Comments/questions/thoughts on synergies (all)

Going ? **Yes - Maybe - No** [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this courtesy email at the account benaignestc@state.gov because you are an attendee of this event.

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Sender: ; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

;

;

Dhaniella Falk < >;

< >;

< >;

Recipient: ;

;

Alan Davis < >;

;

Seth Meixner < >;

From: Cristina Tardaguila (b)(6)@poynter.org>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: IFCN Inquiries Re: Automatic Response Chat Applications

Date: Wed, 2 Jun 2021 11:09:50 -0700

This email box is no longer being monitored. For IFCN inquiries, please contact Baybars Örsek, Director of IFCN, at (b)(6)@poynter.org.

Cris can be reached at (b)(6)@gmail.com.

Sender: Cristina Tardaguila (b)(6)@poynter.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

REDACTED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: (b)(6)@aol.com>

chinarealtime@wsj.com <chinarealtime@wsj.com>;

To: (b)(6)@batelco.com.bh (b)(6)@batelco.com.bh>;
chinateam@state.gov <chinateam@state.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Facts of Qatar's modernized Slavery and Oppression of Migrant Workers

Date: Sat, 26 Nov 2022 04:14:32 +0000



Date: 10 October 2022

To: THE HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER
Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa
Building 1600, Shaikh Salman Highway
Block 906, Riffa / Alrowdha - Kingdom of Bahrain
P.O Box 29091 Riffa - Kingdom of BAHRAIN

Subject: Facts of Qatar's modernized Slavery and Oppression of Migrant Workers

This factual report is presented to the world to enlighten everyone's perceptions on what is actually occurring in Qatar.

With every statement we shall reflect on in this report, we shall provide the relevant evidence as documented by several prominent human rights organizations

Furthermore, we are willingly able to provide everyone with the relevant evidences that these human rights violations are being imposed on millions of migrants.

We have several witness statements from individuals who have suffered these ordeals and more from individuals who are still imposed and enforced to live in these sufferings.

We have several documented pictures and recorded videos depicting the ongoing human rights violations, illustrating how these migrants are being treated, tormented and what they are going through.

Available evidence on how the WPS and Kafala reform system are nothing but a scam that was created to "legally" enslave million of unfortunate migrants.

Every document, every evidence and every statement available to us depicts the lives of these migrant workers, on how they have left their countries indebted to Qatar's corrupted authorities representative offices abroad and how they were entrapped in Qatar for years without pay and how their families are facing greater poverty and starvation because of these deprivation acts of human right, acts imposed by Sheikha Mozah and her accomplices, not only imposed on 2 Million migrant workers, but on far more, each of these migrants have children, wives, brothers, sisters, parents, and other relatives, all of them are affected by these destitutions imposed by Sheikha Mozah on them.

When did this modernized Slavery initiated?

Since 1995, when Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al Missnedenticed Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani to overthrow his own father Late Emir Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani, whereby he manifested a coup against his father and prevented him from returning to his own country. During that period Sheikha Mozah has also exiled and denied the rights of over 6000 Qatari citizens, whose only faults were that they supported their own Emir from being overthrown.

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/05/12/qatar-families-arbitrarily-stripped-citizenship>

At that moment, Sheikha Mozah has been able to control the State and prevented any of its citizens to interfere in the process, some of which were detained, arbitrarily arrested and many of which were purposely induced with chronic illness whilst they were in detention

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde22/5414/2022/en/>

Many advocates in Qatar that dared to face the adversity and take a stand against Sheikha Mozah and her corruptive circle of enticed authorities, where detained and at most time prevented to leave the country by placing travel bans on many citizens

<https://www.gc4hr.org/news/view/2944>

By enforcing their control over the state, Sheikha Mozah and her encounter have been able to manifest a process whereby all State's projects are directly subcontracted to companies owned by Sheikha Mozah, her direct family, closest relatives and business associates.

These large number of companies have been provided with the privilege of obtaining governmental funded projects at very high prices, at time over 500% more than any comparable project around the world.

These projects are taken to enable these companies to enrich the selective individuals who are in direct control, and allowing them to exploit the state's funds, wealth and resources

<https://breakingthelines.com/investigation-piece/the-cesspit-of-corruption-how-qatar-bought-a-world-cup/>

How were Migrant Labors in Qatar affected by such control?

That is the most important question that billion of people around the world are trying to understand;

- How can one government take advantage of millions of migrant workers and why?
- How can many prominent human rights organizations fail to have their message heard?
- How can millions of migrant workers still unable to attain their basic rights?
- How can thousands of foreign leaderships stand idle and turn a blind eye?
- How can Qatar's corrupted authorities get away with the world's greatest Ponzi Scheme ever?

Well, we will address each of these points and in hopes that everyone around the world will be able to grasp the concepts of what is being imposed in Qatar, and how for decades, Sheikha Mozah and her corrupted circle have been able to deceive the world and prevent them from seeing the truth. Such feeble façade that they have placed to distort the world's attention away from their

attempt to get away with billions of exploited funds, at the expense of their own citizens and at the high expense of unfortunate migrant workers who left their countries seeking opportunities to support their families.

Low-wage migrant workers have been forced to pay billions of dollars in recruitment fees to secure their jobs in World Cup host nation Qatar over the past decade.

Different nationalities have made their way into Qatar, seeking opportunity and hoping they would be able to support their families back home.

Through an investigation carried out by a prominent news agency, they have found that Bangladeshi men migrating to Qatar are likely to have paid about \$1.5bn (£1.14bn) in fees, and possibly as high as \$2bn, between 2011 and 2020. Nepali men are estimated to have paid around \$320m, and possibly more than \$400m, in the four years between mid-2015 to mid-2019.

Migrants from Bangladesh and Nepal, who make up around a third of Qatar's 2-million strong foreign workforce, typically pay fees of \$3,000 to \$4,000 and \$1,000 to \$1,500 respectively. This means that many low-wage workers from Bangladesh – who can earn as little as \$275 a month – have to work for at least a year just to pay off their recruitment fees.

And these same recruitment agencies that have been present in all these countries are directly and indirectly owned by Sheikha Mozah and her encounter.

<https://www.gulf-times.com/story/609061/First-Qatar-Visa-Centre-opens-in-Sri-Lanka-today>

So, migrant workers not only have to work for nearly 1 to 2 years to pay off their recruitment agencies' debt, but as well endure the agony and stress of not being paid at all during their entire recruited period, leaving these unfortunate migrants with no pay for a long period.

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2022/mar/31/migrant-workers-in-qatar-forced-to-pay-billions-in-recruitment-fees-world-cup>

How can one government take advantage of millions of migrant workers and why?

As mentioned herein, the process that Sheikha Mozah has manifested enabled her to impose such control that enforced million of migrant workers to succumb to her ways.

Sheikha Mozah has not only controlled all companies that are directly subcontracted to government projects, she has also imposed her control over

Qatar's Justice System, preventing judges and lawyers to rule fairly over any case that involves migrant workers, imposing prejudgments on every case before it makes its way into Qatar courts.

The United Nations has undergone several investigations and carried out an inspection to verify just how much Judges and Lawyers are coerced to change their ruling and how is the justice system in Qatar compromised.

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/797647?ln=en>

This report published by the United Nations is available in many languages and can be accessed by everyone through the UN's direct link pasted here above.

Ali Bin Fetais Al Marri is not just another name of a corrupted authorities that is involved in Sheikha Mozah's circle of deception, he plays a larger role in enforcing Sheikha Mozah's decisions against everyone, he was placed as the State's attorney General for decades until he was ousted from his position because of so many complaints lodged against him in Switzerland, France, USA and other parts of the world, whereby these international complaints are still under investigation till this date for his acts of corruption, money laundering and terror financing.

So, the process that Sheikha Mozah has manifested to impose her control is clear but requires everyone to visualize it for what it is, but many may ask, why would Sheikha Mozah and her entire corrupted circle go through so much trouble to manifest such control and why impose such injustice on so many migrants.

Well, as always, the why is related to how much money they have made throughout these years by incorporating this process of injustice, and the total estimated value would shock the world as to how much funds were exploited from migrant workers alone, by not paying them their rights, these corrupted individuals stood to gain billions over the past decades.

Why and how does that add up to a large amount?

To exploit a large sum of money from migrant workers, they have placed them in labor camp rooms, low standards of living conditions, costing them only \$ 250 per room per month and these rooms are crowded with at least 8

individuals in a single room, with minimum living space, resulting in a very low cost of \$31 per individual per month, that is almost \$1 per day per person.

Whereas if they are to comply to International Standards of Living Conditions, it would cost them at least \$ 684 per room per month, and 4 individuals can only be placed in 1 room, providing enough space for everyone, with proper bathrooms, internet, change of duvet sheets every 6 months, proper house cleaning, pesticide controls, and properly air-conditioned, costing appx. \$ 171 per individual per month

Such process enabled Sheikha Mozah and her partners to save in cost over \$140 per migrant worker per month, that is exploiting over 90% of the normal standard cost of human living conditions.

That is not all, Sheikha Mozah and her corrupted circle were still bold enough to exploit more out of these migrants:

- Labors are given \$ 55 per month as food allowance, not enough to purchase proper food and to maintain their health, mostly they are able to purchase rice and some low-quality food on that budget.
- Whereas to obtain proper food quality and to eat a well-balanced diet such would cost not less than \$ 5.5 per day for 3 meals for 1 individual, per month at an average of \$ 165 for a healthy balanced diet.
- Another exploited gain of \$ (110.00)
- And more, and more, whereas they are not providing the labors with gyms, in-house clinics, recreational areas or any other facilities that would allow them to maintain the mental and physical health, currently costing them **NOTHING**.
- And if they had to provide proper gyms, in-house clinics, recreational areas and lounges where migrant workers can engage in enhancing their mental and physical health, it would cost them at least an average of **\$40 per individual**

Another exploited gain of \$40 per individual per month,

Let's add them up, that is \$ 140 saving on accommodation, \$110 saving on food quality, and \$ 40 for mental and physical health.

So that is your \$ 290 per individual per month, times that by the size of the workforce of appx 2 million individuals, you get over half a billion of saving per month, that is over US\$ 7 billion per year, times that over 12 years, you got your number, a total of 85 billion US Dollars at least, that is not taking into consideration that all these migrant workers have been underpaid and their

salaries are the lowest in years, with an average of 87% of migrant workers obtaining less salary value below the minimum wages as publicly announced by Qatar's corrupted authorities themselves and published by the International Labor Organization

https://www.ilo.org/beirut/countries/qatar/WCMS_760466/lang-en/index.htm#:~:text=A%20non%2Ddiscriminatory%20minimum%20wage,QR%201%2C800%20or%20USD%20500.

-A non-discriminatory minimum wage came into force in March 2021, and 280,000 workers, or 13% of the workforce, saw their basic wage rise. The law includes minimum thresholds for basic wage, food and accommodation, totalling QR 1,800 or USD 500. In addition, a Minimum Wage Commission was established to monitor its impact.

Which results in over 87% of migrant workers being underpaid below the minimum wage threshold, with a value of a minimum of \$ 120 per migrant workers less of their minimum wage, resulting in over US\$ 240 Million of less wages paid per month, well over US\$ 2.9 Billion for each year they are underpaid, for over 12 years that equates to over US\$ 34 Billion of exploited funds from these unfortunate migrants

This is how a total profit of 120 billion US Dollars is generated for not complying to international standards of living and working environment and is such amount enough to convince the world as to why Sheikha Mozah and her entire corrupted circle have been manifesting over the years, that is apart from the funds they have been exploiting from the State of Qatar

How can many prominent human rights organizations fail to have their message heard?

Qatar's corrupted authorities, and specifically through Sheikha Mozah's and Ali Bin Fetais engagement with the United Nations, they have been able to infiltrate the ranks of the world's largest Human Rights Organization, enticing its authorities to turn a blind eye on many human rights violations carried out in Qatar, for a fee that is being paid as contributions towards United Nations programs, which the total amount of contribution paid by Sheikha Mozah to

the UN is less than 0.08% of the total US\$ 120 Billion that they have extorted from the migrant workers

Although the UN has published many reports indicating Qatar's human rights violations, they were all swept under the rug and forgotten about, some of these reports are mentioned in the following links;

- **Limitation or restrictions of education for children** (<https://undocs.org/pdf?symbol=en/A/HRC/44/39/Add.1>)
- **Limitation or restrictions of education for migrants** (<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/apr/13/qatar-families-only-zones-entrench-segregation-of-migrant-workers>)
- **Limitation or restrictions of healthcare** (<https://www.hrw.org/news/2021/08/24/human-rights-watch-submission-committee-economic-social-and-cultural-rights-qatar>)
- **Harboring of terrorists** (<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-40246734>)
- **Financing of terrorists** (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/CHRG-115hhrg26427/html/CHRG-115hhrg26427.htm>)
- **Imposing human rights violations on migrants** (<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/06/qatar-migrant-workers-unpaid-for-months-fifa-world-cup-stadium/>)
- **Slavery and human trafficking** (<https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-trafficking-in-persons-report/qatar/>)
- **Torture, detention, execution of innocent lives** (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25296&LangID=E>)
- **Radicalizing extremism around the world** (<https://icsr.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/ICSR-Report-The-Islamic-Movement-in-Britain.pdf>)
- **Racism and Racial Discrimination** (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25374&LangID=E>)
- **Unlawful coups on the state's authorities** (<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/emir-of-qatar-deposed-by-his-son-1588698.html>)

· Manipulating the Laws and imposing pressure on Judges and Lawyers in the State(<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/797647?ln=en>)

· Arbitrary arrest and Injustice(<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25296&LangID=E>)

How can millions of migrant workers still unable to attain their basic rights?

Migrant workers have not been able to attain their rights because the process that has been manifested has rendered them cornered into a position that prevents them from being able to move, voice or even object to any act that is being imposed on them.

Qatar's corrupted authorities have carried out the following processes to ensure that these migrant workers are not able to raise their voices effectively;

- By controlling the Justice system in Qatar, prevent Judges and Lawyers to do anything that defies their orders
- By owning all companies that employ these migrant workers
- By controlling all their respective Embassies representatives that have been enticed with gifts, positions and financial favors
- By preventing organization like the UN to impose restrictions on them
- By initiating and contributing towards the International Labor Organization, UN offices and many organizations that have been financially enticed to look the other way

How can thousands of foreign leaderships stand idle and turn a blind eye?

Many around the world have tried to uncover this unjust process that Sheikhha Mozah has manifested, but some have been financially enticed and others are facing difficulties to prove otherwise.

Many journalists and human rights activists have tried to expose the truth, but at every moment they are prevented to leave the country with the relevant evidences that would prove the manifested human rights violations, as what happened to the Norwegian journalists who were detained for hours and later released after erasing and confiscating all their photographic records.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/nov/24/norwegian-journalists-reporting-labourers-qatar-world-cup-arrested>

Whilst others were presented with several reformed laws and regulations that indicates that Qatar's corrupted authorities have changed their ways and are starting to provide the migrant workers with their rights. But the world has been deceived once more, as all the reforms that they have claimed to have served the purpose of presenting these migrants with further rights, these illusive reforms actually constrained them even more.

Some of these major reforms and laws, like abolishing of the "Kafala" system, was replaced with travel ban, whereby the Kafala system previously prevented the migrant workers from exiting the country unless their sponsor would allow them, it was replaced with travel bans which alternatively also requires their sponsor to submit an online request permitting a migrant worker to exit the country

As to the other infamous process known as WPS (Wage Protection Scheme), this process was implanted for the reason of assuring that the migrant workers are going to be paid on time without fault and to serve as proof that the migrant workers are being timely paid. Little did everyone know that this system served as a way for Sheikha Mozah and her corrupted authorities to legally exploit million of migrant workers.

Whereby the WPS requires that bank account be issued for every single migrant worker and that each account is provided with a debit card, upon which each company that employs any migrant workers is required to make timely transfers to the respective accounts. But the issued debit cards were never released to the migrant workers, rather it was released to the company's accountants, who are required to deposit the salaries into all workers account, and withdraw all the transferred funds back into the company by using the confiscated debit cards.

Hence, this WPS system only served positively towards the corrupted companies and provided them with a legal way not to pay their labors. In such instance when a migrant labor comes forward to complain that they have not received their salaries, the companies provide evidence that there have been monthly transfers made into these migrant workers respective accounts, which were signed and named for each worker, but they do not have access to the debit cards at all.

How can Qatar's corrupted authorities get away with the world's greatest Ponzi Scheme ever?

FIFA 2022 Hosting is just moments away, and Qatar's corrupted authorities admitted that there are many migrant workers who were left with unpaid salaries and they have acknowledged to pay less than a billion USD as compensation, which is nothing relative to the US\$ 120 billion they have amassed over the past 12 years, and still these migrant workers have not been paid till date. That is also apart the thousands of migrant workers who have died during that period, whereby publicly everyone talks about 6500 deaths, but that number is a fraction of the actual number of deaths that have been indicated as natural death due to other chronic diseases, to mask the truth and to prevent a world outburst against them.

Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al Missned, Ali Bin Fetais Al Marri and their corrupted circle of enticed authorities believe that they are able to pull out one of the world's greatest Ponzi schemes, by misleading the world with baseless reforms and by financially enticing world's authorities

It is up to everyone of us to decide, to we allow these corrupted minds to take advantage of so many million unfortunate people, or do we take a stand now before they get away with their heinous crimes

To all Human Rights advocate, to all human with conscience, protect yourselves, protect others and advocate for the rights of the oppressed, and stand against the oppressors.

The worst of all deceptions is self-deception. Let us not deceive ourselves and expose the whole truth as it is, no matter what the consequences.

Sincerely,

Al Thani Council of the Ruling Family

Sender: (b)(6)@aol.com>

chinarealtime@wsj.com <chinarealtime@wsj.com>;

Recipient: (b)(6)@batelco.com.bh (b)(6)@batelco.com.bh>;
chinateam@state.gov <chinateam@state.gov>

A framework for information incidents

Consultation document

**FULL
FACT**

Closing Date for Responses: 14 May 2021

About the framework for information incidents

Events such as elections, public health emergencies and natural disasters can affect the information environment in ways that make it harder to tackle misinformation effectively.

The responses from internet companies, governments, media, fact checkers, academics and civil society to Covid-19 misinformation in 2020 shows that those tackling misinformation can adapt and innovate fast. But these responses also highlighted the need for greater discussion of principles, proportionality, and the use of evidence in responding to other types of information incidents in future.

Full Fact is bringing together practitioners, experts and community groups from different sectors to develop a framework to identify how to respond to issues that occur during moments of crisis.

The aim of this consultation document is to test our thinking so far among a wide range of potential users. We extend our warmest thanks to those who contributed their time and gracious feedback throughout the first stage of this project, especially:

- Africa Check (South Africa/Nigeria/Kenya/Senegal)
- Boom (India)
- Chequeado (Argentina)
- Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (UK)
- Facebook
- First Draft (UK/US/Australia)
- Google
- International Fact-Checking Network
- Maldita.es (Spain)
- Privy Council Office (Canada)
- Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at Oxford University
- Twitter

We refer to 'misinformation' throughout this document, but this framework is intended to also cover disinformation and malinformation as defined by Claire Wardle and Hassein Derakhshan:¹

- Mis-information is when false information is shared, but no harm is meant.
- Dis-information is when false information is knowingly shared to cause harm.
- Mal-information is when genuine information is shared to cause harm (e.g. by moving information designed to stay private into the public sphere).

This project was supported in 2020 by a grant from Facebook.

1 Wardle, Claire, and Derakhshan, Hossein, "Information Disorder: Toward an interdisciplinary framework for research and policy making", Council of Europe, 2017

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Providing feedback

Summary of questions

Below is an overview of questions which are asked throughout this consultation document. Please answer as many questions as you want.

Page 9 covers a list of incidents which could cause significant changes to the information environment and create additional challenges for those tackling misinformation. The related questions are:

- Q1.** Is there anything missing, either as a category of information incident, or significant type of situation that might fall within a category?
- Q2.** Do you think that the distinction between categories of information incident is sufficiently clear? Yes/No. If No, please describe how this could be improved.

Page 12 sets out a system of five levels for determining an incident's severity. The related questions are:

- Q3.** Are these five levels of severity clear to understand and do the descriptors at each level of severity sufficiently cover the characteristics of information incidents? Yes / No. If No, please describe what needs to be clearer.
- Q4.** Which entities should be involved in assessing and declaring an incident's severity level in any country?
- Q5.** Can you describe (an) example(s) of what response(s) you/your organisation might introduce or look to see happening at different levels, for example at **Level 2**, **Level 3** and/or **Level 4**?

Page 20 sets out common challenges which arise across different types of incident. The related questions are:

- Q6.** Thinking about efforts to combat misinformation in exceptional circumstances, are there any important challenges missing or challenges that you would characterise differently?
- Q7.** Looking at the high level aims, are there any missing aims and/or significant responses which should be included here? (Please state the number of the challenge you are referring to.)

Page 26 pulls these components together. The related questions is:

Q8. Would this kind of tool be useful as a basis for discussions in your team and/or with other organisations?

Question 9 is for you to offer any other feedback:

Q9. Do you have any other comments on the framework (not covered by the previous questions)?

The last two questions are about you:

Q10. Please state the country you are based in and your name and email address.

Q11. If you work for an entity or organisation working on or affected by these issues, please state which one.

How to respond

There are two ways to respond to this consultation: either by email or via the Full Fact website. To respond via email, please send your answers to **policy@fullfact.org** (preferably in an attachment), indicating which question you are responding to.

Please feel free to answer as many or as few questions as you wish. To respond online, please fill in your answers at **fullfact.org/incidentframework**. Please note we will not be able to acknowledge every response.

You can respond to the ideas set out in this document by Friday 14 May 2021.

Following consultation, we will consider feedback on the framework's utility and main elements in order to refine the product content, before converting it into a useful tool and inviting organisations to test it in practice in the latter half of 2021.

Why do we need a framework for information incidents?

We know that certain events can affect the information environment. That could be by increasing the complexity of accurate information, by creating confusion or creating information gaps – all of which can result in an increase in the volume of misinformation. This was clearly evident in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic, which prompted a slew of intensified measures from internet companies, governments, media, fact checkers, academics and civil society to try and tackle the huge amount of misinformation about the virus.

In 2020 we saw how fast and innovatively those working to analyse and counter misinformation can respond. But it has also thrown light on the need for greater discussion of the principles behind such measures, of what proportionality means, and on the use of evidence. This will be important for responding to other types of information incidents that may be just round the corner.

This document presents a framework for helping decision-makers understand, respond to and mitigate information crises in proportionate and effective ways. Full Fact brought together practitioners, experts and community groups from different sectors who are affected by and/or seek to affect the information environment to develop this framework. We sought to identify:

- A methodology for assessing the severity of an information incident

- The most common issues that occur during information incidents

- Joint aims for how organisations should try to respond to these issues

We hope that this framework will enable more collaboration, for example sharing information during and in the run up to incidents, joint planning and evaluation, or increased sharing of capacity and resources.

We are producing this framework with the aim that it is compatible with other analysis, including existing frameworks used by different organisations to spot and guide responses during crises. Analogous frameworks are used in mature industries such as cyber security, or emergency response guidance from public health bodies and governments.¹

In developing this work we have drawn on existing research and analysis from First Draft, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Ben Nimmo, Joan Donovan, the University of Texas researchers and others to develop a methodology for determining and describing the severity of different information incidents. We are grateful to the authors of these reports for laying the groundwork to understand these complex issues.

We would now like to test this thinking among a wider range of potential users, in order to develop a simple and useful tool to help specialists in this area coordinate work, and to help other stakeholders better understand and engage with that work. In this consultation, we are particularly keen to hear from organisations, groups and individuals that identify, analyse and respond to misinformation, and those whose work, audiences and/or service users are affected by misinformation.

You can respond to the ideas set out in this document by Friday 14 May 2021.

1 World Health Organisation, "Emergency Response Framework", second edition, who.int, 2017; HM Government, "Emergency Response and Recovery non statutory guidance accompanying the Civil Contingencies Act 2004", gov.uk, 2013; Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, "CISA National Cyber Incident Scoring System", cisa.gov, as of March 2021.

What is an information incident?

Our aim is to identify the types of incidents that are likely to have a substantial and material impact on the people, organisations and systems that consume, process, share or act on information – referred to in this document as the “information environment”.² Importantly, the information environment informs decisions – whether by citizens, other actors or policy-makers – toward good, neutral or bad outcomes.

An unexpected incident like a terrorist attack is likely to lead to an increased demand for information and news, but there is often a gap before information is confirmed which may lead to a surge in false information or conspiracy theories. An election or referendum (particularly where referendums are not normal occurrences) might spur polarisation or prompt high profile false claims from figures in authority who are usually trusted by mainstream audiences. In both these scenarios, the baseline information environment shifts: information might be complex, incomplete, or shared or consumed in new ways – both deliberate and accidental.

Based on a comprehensive mapping of recent incidents, we propose nine categories of information incidents that might require responses above and beyond ‘business as normal’. These categories are non-exhaustive and are broad by design. They are intended to give an understanding of the types of situations where one could reasonably expect the information environment to be affected. Not all incidents will require the same level of response: later we present a methodology for determining the severity of an incident, and ways to translate this into proportionate responses.

Categories of incidents:

Human rights or freedom of expression abuse. Civil action such as disrupted peaceful protests; violent public confrontations; long term escalating tension e.g. between regions; mass detainment and/or killings; citizenship or demographic changes.

2 This description of “the information environment” is adapted for the purpose of discussing largely domestic misinformation from a definition used by the military in relation to the hybrid warfare context.

- **Unexpected disasters with high, wide reaching impact.** Deliberate attack with wide reaching, long-term impact; innovative or novel deliberate attack; incidents without warning that create deaths or displacement of people; national/regional health incidents; natural disasters affecting people.
- **Unexpected events where response plans are likely to exist, with low and/or short term impact.** High impact weather; incidents with cultural/religious significance; localised deliberate attacks with short term impact; accidents and transport disasters; some hacks, leaks or data dumps. Authorities would be expected to have a plan for response or containment for these types of incidents.
- **Long-horizon and long-tail incidents.** Economic changes; shortages e.g. food or fuel; exceptional electoral events; displacement of people; climate change.
- **Planned political events in democratic states.** National or regional votes.
- **Nationally significant events where there could be opportunities to exploit polarisation.** War memorials; societal or political commemorations; controversial political incidents.
- **High impact incidents that occur or where the impact is felt across multiple markets.** Pandemic or war.
- **Controversial and/or shocking news stories.** Events that generate news headlines, but do not become major incidents.
- **Spreading of false/misleading information by authoritative actors.** Some party political messages; high profile endorsements of conspiracies; denying controversial incidents.

Q1

Is there anything missing, either as a category of information incident, or significant type of situation that might fall within a category?

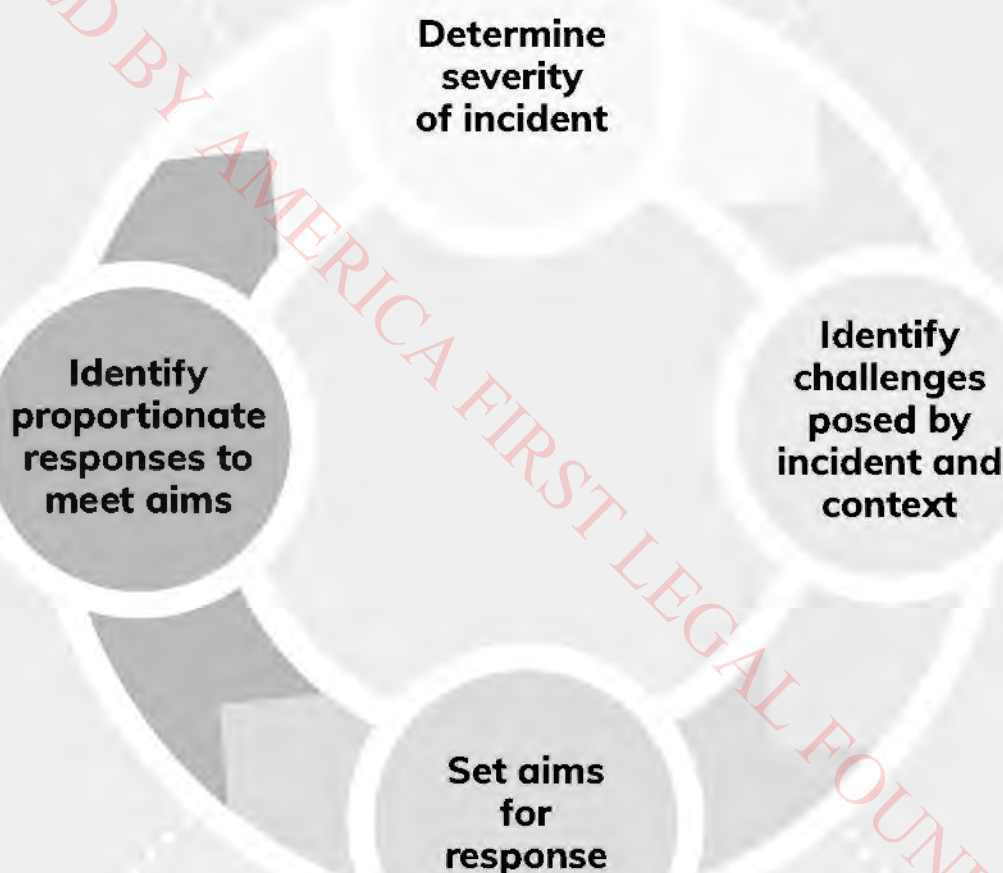
Q2

Do you think that the distinction between categories of information incident is sufficiently clear? Yes/No. If No, please describe how this could be improved.

Use of the framework in an ongoing cycle

The framework can also be used to show whether an incident is becoming less serious, and to evaluate whether it has been well managed.

A five level framework of determining an incident's severity lets us have shared risk assessments.



Every incident will require particular responses but we can draw on previous experiences. Different organisations will have different strengths and resources.

Incidents are often novel, but they cause common challenges. Common challenges means that we can identify common aims in response to many incidents.

Five levels of severity

Beyond these broad categories of incidents in scope we wanted to understand which incidents were more severe than others, and whether there were common attributes that could distinguish between them.

The below methodology attempts to do this, with the goal being that different levels will require different actions to keep the responses proportionate, and which can be ramped up or lowered as needed. We propose five levels to map this increasing escalation of severity.

Level 1 is "business as usual" in recognition that some misinformation is, and will remain, a constant fact of life. A world in which there is no misinformation circulating is also likely to be a world with an unreasonable and dangerous amount of surveillance and censorship, and we do not advocate for that scenario. Instead, **Level 1** identifies a realistic scenario where there are low levels of misinformation, but where organisations have space to focus resources on long-term goals and priorities.

Incidents could move between levels over time, whether that is in response to rising severity, for example if it becomes clear that longer-term responses are needed, or where severity is decreasing, such as when an incident is drawing to a close. Early on, it may not always be clear how long an incident will last: this framework aims to offer flexibility to adapt to this reality. Having clear "exit criteria" that indicate when an incident can be moved down in severity will be a key priority for the next phase of developing this framework.

Levels of incidents

Level 1 ●○○○○

Business as normal, no additional response needed

Reach: Misinformation is circulating at levels considered to be normal, with no incident apparent on the horizon.

Subject matter: There may be some spikes of claims around certain events, topics or locations but they die down quickly.

Urgency of response: There is space to work on long-term goals such as audience resilience and media literacy.

Collaboration: Key organisations are collaborating to identify emerging threats.

Level 2 ●●

Monitor and prepare external facing responses

Reach: False claims or narratives are breaking out related to a certain topic or event, on one or more smaller platforms.

Urgency of response: Subject matter may be controversial or polarising, or has potential to cause harm if the volume of misinformation or engagement grows, e.g. may threaten vulnerable groups.

Collaboration: There is time to put plans in place to mitigate the growth and effects of misinformation.

Level 3 ●●●○○

An incident is occurring, responses ramp up

Reach: Misinformation is moving into the mainstream and there may be amplification (whether organic or coordinated).

Continues...

Urgency of response: The incident may be relatively short term, so acting immediately is important.

Collaboration: Individual organisations are implementing internal incident response plans; collaboration is enhanced to identify cross-media and cross-platform risks.

Level 4 ●●●●●

An incident is occurring, coordinated responses start

Reach: Misinformation is moving into the mainstream / being amplified by large accounts; there may be evidence of coordination or malicious intent or unprecedented use of online campaigning techniques/technology.

Subject matter: The event or topics may be completely new, or emotive, to the audience, increasing the likelihood of confusion; the topic(s) may be polarising.

Urgency of response: The misinformation might spark violence or physical danger; the incident may compound existing conspiracy theories / false narratives.

Collaboration: Core and expanded (e.g. public health, agriculture) organisations are collaborating.

Level 5 ●●●●●

Maximum response levels and co-operation required

Reach: The incident is unusual in terms of fast spread and high volumes of misinformation, and is unlikely to be resolved in the short term; the incident is global or affecting multiple regions, with the same misinformation often appearing in different languages.

Urgency of response: The misinformation is causing, or is likely to cause, significant human harm; lasting effects on public misperceptions may occur.

Collaboration: A maximum level of cooperation from a range of different organisations is required.

Deciding on a level

One of the reasons to have a shared framework is to improve coordination and cohesion and establish shared language. From that perspective, it would be beneficial for different organisations to agree the level of an incident together. However, it may not be acceptable or appropriate for one or multiple organisations to impose a decision on others. In particular, governments should not declare a level for others. Even in countries without concerns about political dynamics or government being involved in the information flows, a government declaring a level might undermine the action of others and their distinct roles (or perceptions around this).

An approach where each organisation reaches their own determination allows for flexibility, but may become inoperable. We recognise the difficulty for large multinational companies and governments to commit to something too rigid, but equally recognise the tension in creating something that cannot achieve the aims set out above, including enabling quick responses. We welcome views on which approach would function best.

Impact of levels

The purpose of having different levels is to enable greater understanding and to identify what a proportionate response would be. Measures which are seen as proportionate and reasonable in response to a **Level 5** incident should not be the same measures which would be taken in response to a **Level 2** incident. Incidents may not exhibit every single feature described at each level above.

We seek to define this further below but welcome views on what types of measures you would expect to occur at each level.

Q3

Are these five levels of severity clear to understand and do the descriptors at each level of severity sufficiently cover the characteristics of information incidents? Yes / No. If No, please describe what needs to be clearer.

Continues...

Q5

Which entities should be involved in assessing and declaring an incident's severity level in any country?

Q6

Can you describe (an) example(s) of what response(s) you/your organisation might introduce, or would want to see happening at different levels, for example at **Level 2**, **Level 3** and/or **Level 4**?

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Examples from recent information incidents

Level 2: 5G conspiracies, UK, April 2019

When conspiracy theories about 5G technology in the UK first began to emerge in April 2019, Full Fact highlighted a distinct lack of official guidance that properly addressed public concerns.³ Level 2 characteristics included:

- False claims and narratives breaking out about safety of 5G on one or more platforms

- Potential for real world harm in the future, but no immediate threat

- Time to put plans in place to mitigate growth of misinformation

Public health information about the safety of 5G rollout was not improved at the time when Full Fact identified this emerging incident. As a result we saw it increase in severity: 5G conspiracy theories merged with Covid-19 ones in early 2020, attracting celebrity endorsements and leading to the vandalism of phone masts. At this point we would have classified the 5G conspiracies as a **Level 3** incident, particularly as the conspiracies online translated into offline activities. We saw enhanced collaboration between organisations as the UK government, health bodies and mobile infrastructure companies created new materials on the safety of 5G and the internet companies worked to promote that information on their platforms. Many news outlets also ran explainer pieces debunking conspiracies.

Level 3: Notre Dame fire, France, April 2019

The Natre Dame church in Paris catching fire in April 2019 almost immediately prompted false claims that the fire was deliberately started, that the chant "Allahu Akbar" was heard at the church and that a Yellow

3 Rahman, Grace, "Here's where those 5G and coronavirus conspiracy theories came from", Full Fact, April 2020

Vest protester was seen in a tower.⁴ Authorities quickly suggested the fire was accidental, relating to a refurbishment. This lack of malicious cause, although accurate, left a vacuum for conspiracy theories and hate narratives aimed at non-Christians, particularly Islamophobic narratives.

Level 3 indicators included:

- Unexpected event, where acting immediately to respond to misinformation is important.
- Marginalised groups more likely to be targeted with misinformation.
- Misinformation breaking out onto mainstream platforms and the incident attracting news coverage.

Organisations moved quickly to share the information that the authorities released about the true cause of the fire, but it took a significant amount of time for that information to permeate given the amount of misinformation online. Some continued to believe the conspiracy theories: in November 2019 a French man set fire to a mosque and shot two men. He told investigators it was an act of revenge for the Notre Dame fire⁵.

Level 4: Brexit Referendum, UK, June 2016

Fresh from a recent election victory in 2015, the UK government announced a referendum on the UK's membership of the EU. One campaign ran a billion targeted Facebook ads (a lot, at the time), while the other campaign was criticised for using government funds to distribute partisan leaflets. Evidence of malicious coordination was proved retrospectively⁶, but other **Level 4** indicators present at the time included:

- Unfamiliar event (a UK referendum) with complex and hard-to-communicate topics (e.g. EU law and trade).
- Polarising campaign with misleading claims amplified by high profile/large accounts and compounding existing false narratives (e.g. 10%/70% of UK law comes from the EU).

4 Funke, Daniel and Benkelman, Susan, "5 lessons from fact-checking the Natre Dame fire", Poynter, 2019

5 Abdelaziz, Rowaida and Robins-Early, Nick, "How A Conspiracy Theory About The Notre Dame Cathedral Led To A Masque Shooting", HuffPost, 2019

6 Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee, "Disinformation and 'fake news': Interim Report", parliament.uk, 2018

- Unprecedented use of technology to distribute unscrutinised claims to certain groups.

At the time the response to these high levels of misinformation was limited to fact checking, which – despite best efforts – struggled to reach a large proportion of the UK population who did not trust the experts attempting to inform them.⁷

Level 5: Start of Covid-19 pandemic, February 2020

This is the only incident to date we would classify as a **Level 5**. As well as global lockdowns and economic crises, the pandemic prompted a slew of measures attempting to grapple with newly challenging types and volume of misinformation. The characteristics that put this incident at the most severe level include:

- Unusually high volumes and fast spread of life threatening misinformation on multiple platforms.
- Extended time period, with lasting effects on public misperceptions and public health.
- Unprecedented levels of cooperation among different organisations to effectively combat the incident.

The response to this was immediate but was, at the beginning, inconsistent, uncoordinated and required many organisations to create new emergency procedures and work internationally at a scale not seen before. Particularly as it became clear the incident was here for the long term, organisations had to reconsider protocols, funding structures, the deployment of resources and response policies.

⁷ For example, a YouGov poll carried out in June 2016 found that trust in economists stood at 38% and trust in academics stood at 42% ("YouGov / Today Programme Survey Results", yougov.co.uk, 2016)

What common challenges exist across incidents – and how should we respond?

Every incident is unique. But in many cases, common or predictable challenges will emerge for those trying to find and distribute reliable information, or tackle bad information. We have seen many incidents that threaten freedom of expression, create an unclear or quickly changing situation, or create longer lasting problems that outlast the initial incident, such as conspiracy theories or breakdowns in trust.

The existence of these common challenges implies that in some cases it should be possible to plan in advance how to respond. In this section, we present a set of aims for responding to the most common challenges we have identified. This is likely to be non-comprehensive, and we would welcome views on whether there is anything significant missing.

It is likely that organisations will prioritise aims differently; it is right that different organisations have different strengths and specialities and this should continue. But we believe that by communicating about intentions (and expectations), finding shared terminology, and even harmonising plans in advance where possible, more effective action can be taken to mitigate the pressures of crises with efficient, credible responses from all actors with the ability to do so.

Sometimes responses may be applied across different timelines: there might be a combination of short term tactical measures and longer term strategic measures.

The prior identification of challenges and aims also points to the necessity of dialogue with other actors that have an interest in a good outcome whether as a directly impacted group or community of practice or specialist organisation.

Challenges across different incidents with aims and possible responses

1: Threats to freedom of expression

Challenges e.g. when there is:

- Lack of independent scrutiny of laws, moderation policies and norms that allows for censorship creep
- Unprecedented use of technology to reach large audiences without the ability to independently scrutinise
- Suspected or known foreign interference

Aims: Design responses that are demonstrably proportionate to clearly identified harms, and open to informed debate and discussion

- Provide access to engagement, trends, and advertiser data to enable independent research on the impact of responses
- Evaluate the effectiveness of counter-misinformation efforts and publish learnings
- Enable independent experts to scrutinise AI recommendations

2. Unclear or quickly changing situation

Challenges e.g. when there is:

- Lack of insight into type and scope of misinformation and/or movement of content between platforms
- Unhelpful duplication of efforts among organisations
- Contradictory interpretations of a situation

Aims: Work towards a shared assessment of the situation and complimentary responses

- Share monitoring and verification information between trusted experts
- Support smaller platforms to share trends data to help predict when narratives / claims might move to mainstream platforms
- Brief media and other mainstream sources of information to reduce risk of amplification and stop dissemination of harmful information

Continues...

3. Difficulty disseminating or communicating information

Challenges e.g. when there is:

- Low baseline knowledge of key issues among public, politicians and media
- Low statistical literacy among public and media
- Accurate information is not contextualised or adapted for certain groups
- Topics are complicated or highly technical
- Information overload and audiences find it hard to judge content in the decontextualised format of news feeds
- Intense partisanship / emotive topics make it harder for accurate information to be believed

Aims: Ensure good information reaches both affected groups and the wider public, and the key information is communicated effectively by trusted figures

- Promote relevant impartial or official sources of information
- Identify and engage with appropriate trusted voices to disseminate information
- Disseminate information to pre-empt belief in emerging conspiracy theories

4. Information vacuums and uncertainty

Challenges e.g. when:

- Information is partial, allowing for distorted reporting and discussion
- New information must be produced, leaving a temporary gap
- Official advice is changing quickly or official sources backtrack
- The future is unknown so unfounded claims of certainty gain traction

Aims: Ensure reliable information from authoritative sources is available and that any limitations are communicated

- Funding and resources for statistical offices and impartial information providers

Continues...

- Horizon scanning to ensure information is adequate for future public decisions
- Transparently explain why information or advice has changed
- Strengthen and support impartial journalism

5. Unhelpful behaviour by influential public figures

Challenges e.g. when high profile figures:

- Repeat false claims or make conflicting statements
- Cast doubt on accurate information
- Deliberately encourage distrust of mainstream media

Aims: Provide context to help audience make judgements and promote alternative trustworthy sources of information

- Apply warnings, pop-ups and labels
- Promote alternative coverage from trustworthy media and fact checkers
- Give information and caveats about sources of information being presented

6. Pressure to work at speed and scale to halt spread of false beliefs

Challenges e.g. when:

- Volume and speed of information increases beyond resources of human teams to monitor and counteract it
- Increased consumption of news encourages media to report insignificant stories as major developments and increases likelihood of mistakes being made
- Unintended consequences arise from responses including entrenchment of false beliefs

Continues...

Aims: Limit bad information and ensure corrective information appears when and where people need it, and have a clear plan for scaling

- If appropriate, reduce circulation of harmful false content and / or address persistent offenders in a proportionate and transparent manner
- Design effective corrective content
- Implement additional verification standards before information is disseminated
- Strengthen moderation enforcement policies
- Invest in burst capacity and systems including support for experts and news organisations
- Work with volunteers to feed AI with marked up data for emerging topics or claims

7. Immediate threats to public order and safety

Challenges e.g. when:

- Public order and safety is dependent on the public understanding information accurately
- Communication from affected communities and first responders is compromised or ignored
- False information creates potential for physical harm through violence or hazard

Aims: Consider targeted measures for affected audiences to see and trust accurate information

- Adapt or contextualise information to reach target / affected audiences
- Identify and engage with appropriate trusted voices to disseminate information

8. Lasting longer term impacts of an incident or incidents

Challenges e.g. when:

- The incident spawns or entrenches conspiracy theories or myths which outlast the incident

Continues...

- False narratives are repeated over years and create hard-to-shift public misperceptions

Aims: Build audience resilience, and communicate and debunk effectively

- Cross sector investment in effective communication of information
- Increase audience awareness of and ability to identify bad information
- Research and fund effective teaching methods for information literacy, and evaluate existing information literacy programmes
- Work with schools, universities and qualifications bodies to ensure critical thinking and information literacy curriculums are effective and regularly evaluated and updated

Q7 Thinking about efforts to combat misinformation in situations above **Level 1**, are there any important challenges missing or challenges that you would characterise differently?

Q8 Looking at the high level aims, are there any missing aims and/or significant responses which should be included here? (Please state the number of the challenge you are referring to.)

How do severity levels map across to challenges and responses?

After this consultation, we aim to bring these elements together to create a simple, coherent product that can be consulted when incidents occur and be a common reference tool for effective action.

We want to match up the elements outlined above: understanding the severity of an incident and mapping out common challenges and responses.

It is clear that different levels should require different responses. A proportionate measure to address a **Level 4** scenario might not be proportionate in a **Level 2** scenario. In a **Level 1** situation with normal misinformation flow, the risk is likely to be low in the immediate term.

As we have set out above, **Level 1** is intended to represent the regular, day-to-day environment that organisations work in. In this situation there is no specific incident either currently happening or on the horizon, and therefore no need to do anything beyond business as usual. In this situation organisations can work on long-term priorities such as building media literacy resilience, responding to the topical news of the day, trialling new products or interventions, undertaking research, and planning and preparing for when incidents do occur. Each organisation will have their own priorities and aims to achieve (and will communicate with other actors in common spaces and forums on shared concerns accordingly).

Levels 2-5 represent when something is happening outside of the norm. Our current thinking is for users of the framework to select a challenge (outlined above), and then to identify which of the corresponding aims is likely to mitigate or resolve this challenge. We propose that different severity levels will not affect challenges and aims, but that responses can be calibrated and adapted to ensure they are proportionate to the severity level.

Below we outline possible responses to the challenge of dealing with information vacuums and uncertainty. The suggested responses are not mutually exclusive to each other, for example **Level 4** responses might be put in place in addition to **Level 3** responses.

Worked example: information vacuums and uncertainty

Aim: Ensure reliable information from authoritative sources is available and that any limitations are communicated

Responses that could meet this aim in a **Level 2 scenario**, when false claims are breaking out on smaller platforms, which may be polarising or threaten vulnerable groups:

- Identify topic-relevant information producers and influencers
- Establish when information might change quickly and what is needed to keep messaging clear, including how to communicate uncertainty
- Remind public figures to avoid making claims of false certainty
- Identify potentially problematic gaps in public information and ways they could be filled within existing work plans

Responses that could meet this aim in a **Level 3 scenario**, when misinformation is moving into the mainstream but the incident is likely to be short term:

- Increase information-sharing with fact checkers and media to enable quick effective rebuttals
- Provide additional relevant information from authoritative sources
- Increase flagging of most viral claims to platforms and authorities
- Communicate to intermediaries where information gaps currently exist
- Avoid creating/ promoting speculation about the cause of the incident and work rapidly to put out accurate clear statements
- Transparently explain why information or advice has changed or where there are gaps

Continues...

- Promote materials that debunk false claims of certainty and link to official sources and accurate news
- Provide access to data on the incident to enable learning and improvement
- Strengthen and support impartial journalism
- Update and introduce policies transparently and collaboratively
- Increase funding and resources for statistical offices and impartial information providers to fill information gaps
- Increase collaboration with organisations to identify false claims and disseminate reliable information
- Coordinate with others to ensure messaging and advice is clearly heard
- Promote best practice for communicating about uncertainty

- Maximum monitoring and information sharing between all relevant sectors
- Emergency support for impartial journalism and independent research
- Increase funding and resources for statistical offices and impartial information providers to fill information gaps
- Commission real time or rapid research into trends, misperceptions and behaviour which can be applied straight away to improve responses
- Inter- and cross-industry collaboration to create new policies and products to respond to the situation

09 Would this kind of tool be useful as a basis for discussions in your team and/or with other organisations?

Conclusion

Finally, thank you for your interest in this work. Please do submit any views on the questions outlined in this consultation or any further views. The consultation will be open until Friday 14 May 2021 to allow time for your consideration and response.

There are two ways to respond to this consultation: either by email or online via the Full Fact website. If you are providing your input by email please simply send your answers to **policy@fullfact.org** (preferably in an attachment) and indicate which questions you are responding to. Please feel free to answer as many or as few questions as you wish. If you would like to respond online, go to the website at **fullfact.org/incidentframework** and fill in your answers there.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Annex: Further case studies

Case study 1: Covid-19 pandemic

While Covid-19 was first identified in December 2019, it was not until early February 2020 that much of the world realised that there was a significant incident underway. It took a further few weeks for organisations to realise the extent of the information crisis that was underway. If this framework had been widely operational before the pandemic, the incident could have played out as follows.

Governments around the world begin to implement measures to try and restrict the virus. Recognising that an incident is occurring, representatives from internet companies and government, civil society, health experts and news media meet to discuss. The group recognises that:

There is clearly a lot of confusion and misreporting, both online and offline, on the symptoms of the virus, how it can be caught and passed on and the new restrictions on socialising and movement.

Conspiracy theories around the origin of the virus are growing in popularity and translating into anti-Chinese sentiment.

The incident is global, misinformation is being shared in multiple languages and across borders and engagement is only rising.

Organisations are struggling to keep on top of how the accurate information is evolving, and tracking the misinformation being shared. It is clear that this cannot be effectively mitigated by individual organisations working alone.

After deliberation and dialogue the group decides this is a **Level 5** incident. This is the first time that **Level 5** has been triggered. The key challenges are identified as:

Difficulty disseminating or communicating complex scientific information.

Information vacuums and uncertainty.

- An unclear and quickly changing situation, with contradictory explanations and changing scientific advice.

In addition, the danger of lasting long-term impacts and the pressure of needing to work at speed and at scale are recognised. Academics and civil society point out that there is also a risk of threat to freedom of speech from overzealous new content moderation policies taken in response to these challenges. The number and variety of challenges contribute to the agreement that this is a Level 5 incident. Three aims are chosen as priorities:

Aim 1: Ensure reliable information from authoritative sources is available and that any limitations are communicated

- Government and health bodies have responsibility for collecting and producing accurate and reliable information.
- The internet companies take significant steps to provide information to users, from redirecting search results to providing proactive information boxes at the top of the newsfeed.
- Fact checkers and news organisations seek to communicate the limitations of any information and provide easy to understand explanations of the data available.

Aim 2: Work towards a shared assessment of the situation and complimentary responses

- Researchers, internet companies, governments and fact checkers share information on a regular basis about the situation, including the most common narratives and any emerging claims that may be concerning.

Case study 2: Stem rust crop fail (hypothetical)

At the start of a boiling hot August, reports of stem rust, a serious yield-affecting disease caused by a fungus, begin appearing in Facebook groups for farmers in South East England. Soon, farmers' unions declare an industry emergency: the disease has not appeared in such force since 1955. Theories begin to emerge online: environmentalist groups planted the disease; the government is trying to break the farmers' unions; potatoes and rice will infect your garden.

The summer news lull is quickly replaced by interviews with panic-stricken farmers begging the government to buy up fungicide to protect British crops. Front pages feature close-ups of wheat ears with lurid orange growths next to images of food made from UK grain. As #stemruststockpile starts trending on Twitter, hoaxes soon become reality and supermarket shelves are emptied of flour, bread, yeast and granola. WhatsApp messages urge farmers and their allies to take to the streets and block roads into London.

Recognising that an incident is occurring, representatives from internet companies, government, civil society, farmers' unions, scientists and news media meet and decide the situation is a Level 3 incident. It is noted that:

- There is misinformation moving into the mainstream and organic amplification.
- Response plans could be improved through collaboration.
- There is little time to plan; acting quickly is vital to maintaining public order and safety.

The group agrees that the key challenges are:

- Unclear situation: lack of insight into type and scope of misinformation on platforms.
- Limited threats to public order and safety: false information may fuel violence/shortages.
- Information vacuums and uncertainty: unfounded claims of certainty are gaining traction.

The organisations choose several aims to address these problems, with actions for each.

Aim 1: Work towards a shared assessment of the situation and complimentary responses

- Internet companies and monitoring groups agree to a two month period of sharing detailed topic-specific trends data and verification information.
- Fact checkers and impartial researchers begin the first of sixteen coordinated bi-weekly briefings for media detailing the top false claims circulating to the reduce risk of amplification.

Aim 2: Consider targeted measures for affected audiences to see and trust accurate information

- Facebook and Google introduce flash grants to newsrooms and fact checkers to support contextualisation of information to reach affected audiences.
- The government identifies and engages with trusted voices to disseminate information.

Aim 3: Ensure reliable information from authoritative sources is available and that any limitations are communicated

- The UK Statistics Authority diverts resources to ensure that public information on wheat crops and diseases is communicated accurately and corrected quickly.
- The Royal Agricultural Society of England agrees to regular media appearances transparently explaining the background to changes in public advice.
- A consensus is reached that there should be limits on frequency of briefings, media appearances, etc, and an end-date for collaboration, recognising that the incident is of relatively low severity.

Evaluation

One example of evaluation could be that the regulator, The Office of Communications, known as Ofcom, commissions an independent evaluation which looks at organisations' satisfaction with collaboration, tests audience beliefs, and retrospectively analyses patterns in misinformation and online activity. This could be reported back in a debrief meeting two months after the end of the incident.

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To: Mediarequests@state.gov <Mediarequests@state.gov>
CC: (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Early 202 Blocked State Department Nominees - Deadline 10/28
Date: Wed, 27 Oct 2021 17:35:34 +0000

Hello!

I'm Tob Raji and I work with Jackie Alemany and Theo Meyer on the Early 202. I'm taking a look at Ted Cruz's hold on State Department nominations in an attempt to get the Biden administration to reinstate sanctions against Nord Stream 2 AG.

I know Cruz has blocked Anne E. Witkowsky for Assistant Secretary of State for Conflict and Stabilization Operations. I'm trying to get a better sense of how this logjam has impacted operations. I'm wondering if Acting SoS **Robert J. Faucher** has a few minutes to hop on the phone today or tomorrow for an interview?

Thanks in advance for your time and help,

Tobi

Tobi Raji

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The Washington Post, Early 202

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To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Confirmation for 50th Anniversary of Watergate: Inside the Story with Bob Woodward & Carl Bernstein

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DTEND:20220617T180000Z

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LOCATION:Washington D.C. DC 20071

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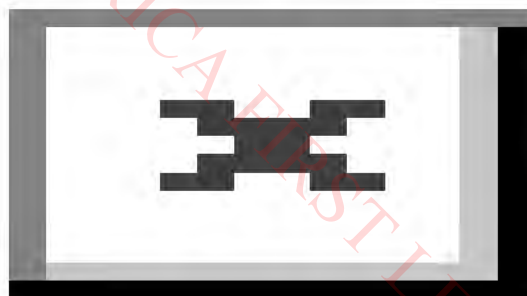
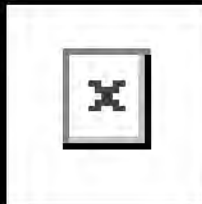
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Hi (b)(6)

Let's celebrate journalism and its undeniable value to our democracy.

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Let's celebrate the ways the Poynter Institute supports that journalism.

As a friend of Poynter, you've witnessed our efforts up close. You've tracked the media industry's ups and downs in our popular morning newsletter, The Poynter Report. You relied on PolitiFact to rate claims made by public officials and pundits, and to offer in-depth reporting and context on volatile issues. Many of you went with us behind the scenes in the White House press room with NBC News' Peter Alexander. You learned how to tell fact from fiction online through a MediaWise course. You cheered with us when a signatory to Poynter's International Fact-Checking Network's code of principles won this year's Nobel Peace Prize. And thousands of you have elevated your work as journalists, educators and students through Poynter training this year.

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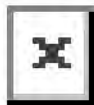
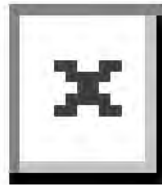
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Thank you for sharing our passion for a free and independent press. I hope you’ll join us Nov. 10 as we recognize journalistic excellence, the courageous people who keep us informed and the stories that will go down in history.

See you there,



Neil Brown
President
The Poynter Institute



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801 Third Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

If you don't want to receive email updates from Poynter, we understand.
You can [update your subscription preferences here](#) or [unsubscribe](#).

FL-2023-00013

A-00000598618

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

Sender: Neil Brown, President of The Poynter Institute <marketing@poynter.org>

Recipient: (b)(6) @state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Jim Rutenberg (b)(6)@nytimes.com>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Book blurb
Date: Tue, 9 Nov 2021 18:09:52 -0500

Thanks for talking

Here's how the Penguin described it in the deal announcement for Publisher's Lunch newsletter:

Thursday, January 10, 2019

Deal News

This morning we dispatched a report of 47 new deals, among them: Media columnist for the NYT Jim Rutenberg's narrative, tracing the half-century campaign to neutralize the mainstream news and a deep dive into the maelstrom of forces, some coincidental, some orchestrated, that resulted in the rise of "alternative facts," to Penguin Press

Sender: Jim Rutenberg (b)(6)@nytimes.com>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

From: (b)(6)@state.gov>
To: Baybars Orsek <(h)(6)@poynter.org>;
(h)(6)@poynter.org <(h)(6)@poynter.org>
Subject: Automatic Response Chat Applications
Date: Wed, 2 Jun 2021 18:09:24 +0000

Dear Baybars, Cristina,

Hoping this finds you well. My name is (b)(6) and I work with the Global Engagement Center at the Department of State. Baybars, I believe we have been on a few calls with my colleague (h)(6) who has since headed over to the NSC. Cristina, I believe we have not yet met, but it is a pleasure to e-meet you -- I believe you may have worked with some of our posts in Brazil back in March/April.

If I may, earlier today I was on a call with some colleagues from our Western Hemisphere Affairs bureau (WHA) and they indicated they were interested in connecting with folks that have expertise in creating automatic-response chat functionalities. They are considering creating a similar automatic-response functionality and are looking for advice/expertise. As I recall, Poynter IFCN worked to help Whatsapp create a similar functionality -- please feel free to correct me if I have this wrong. If I do have this right though, would either of you be interested in being connected with them, or may I connect their team with someone on your staff who may be able to assist and share insights on this?

Please let me know if I can clarify anything on the above -- much thanks.

V/r,

(h)(6)

Program Analyst

GEC | DOS | Alutiiq Contractor

Cell: (b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Sender: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Recipient: Baybars Orsek <(h)(6)@poynter.org>;
(h)(6)@poynter.org <(h)(6)@poynter.org>

From: Nancy Nussbaum (b)(6)@ap.org>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: AP Definitive Source: The Pandemic Road Ahead

Date: Thu, 14 Oct 2021 07:08:09 -0600



[View in browser](#)



The Pandemic Road Ahead

More than a year and a half into the COVID-19 pandemic, The Associated Press increasingly is pivoting its coverage to focus on the long road ahead. The pandemic has morphed into a crisis the world will be living through for some time, as vaccine inequality, misinformation and mistrust lead millions to go about their daily lives with no protection from the virus. Where do we see the story going? How can your newsroom break news and where do we set the bar for news now? Join AP news leaders for a discussion of where COVID-19 coverage is headed.

The webinar will last about 30 minutes, followed by Q&A.

Please register even if news may prevent you from joining. **We will send a recording link to everyone who registers.**

Who

-**Jonathan Fahey**, Editor/Health & Science

-**Anna Johnson**, News Director/Europe & Africa

-**Ted Anthony**, Director/New Storytelling & Newsroom Innovation

When

Date: October 28, 2021

Time: 0900 GMT (5 a.m. Eastern)

[Register here](#)

Date: October 28, 2021

Time: 2 p.m. Eastern (1700 GMT)

[Register here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please feel free to share this invitation with anyone from your staff who might be interested in these topics.

Thank you in advance for your participation.



Nancy Nussbaum

Global Director of Engagement

Need any help? Talk to us.

We're open 24/7

Editorial Support (editorial questions and requests, on-the-day and planning)

Customer Support (technical queries, access and account issues, account creation)



The Associated Press is an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP today remains the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day.

[Contact us](#)[Update your preferences or unsubscribe](#)

Sender: Nancy Nussbaum (b)(6)@ap.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Nancy Nussbaum ([REDACTED])@ap.org>

To: ([REDACTED])@state.gov>

Subject: AP Definitive Source: Driving Digital Engagement

Date: Wed, 11 May 2022 08:08:06 -0600



[View in browser](#)



AP Definitive Source: Driving Digital Engagement

Do the words “digital disruption” inspire or intimidate your newsroom? The pandemic accelerated change for the news industry, forcing everyone to reimagine their business models. We have partnered with our customers to redefine how we work together to ensure each organization has a competitive advantage in an increasingly digital space and you will benefit from that work.

Join leaders of our Digital News team for our **Definitive Source webinar “Driving Digital Engagement.”** We’ll share best practices and tips for growing your audience online. The session includes Q/A.

Please register even if news may prevent you from joining. **We will send a recording link to everyone who registers.**

Who

-**Josh Cornfield**, Deputy Director/New Platforms & Audience Growth @AP

-**Shawn Chen**, Deputy Director/Audience Experience @AP

When

Date: Thursday, May 26

Time: 0900 GMT (5 a.m. Eastern)

[Register here](#)

Date: Thursday, May 26

Time: 2 p.m. Eastern (1800 GMT)

[Register here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please feel free to share this invitation with anyone from your staff who might be interested in these topics.

Thank you in advance for your participation.



Nancy Nussbaum

Global Director of Engagement

Need any help? Talk to us.

We're open 24/7

Editorial Support (editorial questions and requests, on-the-day and planning)

Customer Support (technical queries, access and account issues, account creation)



The Associated Press is an independent global news organization dedicated to factual reporting. Founded in 1846, AP today remains the most trusted source of fast, accurate, unbiased news in all formats and the essential provider of the technology and services vital to the news business. More than half the world's population sees AP journalism every day.

[Contact us](#)[Update your preferences or unsubscribe](#)

Sender: Nancy Nussbaum (b)(6)@ap.org>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Agenda announced for WashPost Global Women's Summit featuring Ukrainian first lady Olena Zelenska, Hillary Clinton and more

Date: Fri, 11 Nov 2022 16:11:52 +0000

Sender: Katherine O'Hearn <washpostlive@washpost.com>

Recipient: <lampronbb@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: (b)(6)@poynter.org>
Sent Via: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Accepted: State/Poynter: Efforts in the MENA Region @ Fri Jul 15, 2022 2pm - 2:30pm (EDT) (b)(6)
Date: Fri, 8 Jul 2022 15:12:11 +0000

(b)(6)@poynter.org has accepted this invitation.

discuss Poynter's footprint/efforts in the Middle East and North Africa

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting

Join by entering a meeting ID

Meeting ID: (b)(6)

Passcode: tyVH6B

or call in (audio only)

(b)(6) United States, Spokane

One Conference ID: (b)(6)

or dial a local number | Reset PIN

Learn More | Meeting options

Re

Friday, Jul 15, 2022 · 2pm – 2:30pm (Eastern Time - New York)

Organize

(b)(6)

(b)(6)@state.gov

Host

(b)(6)@poynter.org - creator

(b)(6)

[View all guest info](#)

Invitation from Google Calendar

You are receiving this email because you are an attendee on the event. To stop receiving future updates for this event, [decline this event](#).

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer, be added to the guest list, invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or modify your RSVP. [Learn more](#)

Sender: (b)(6)@poynter.org>; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

a12b2121f44b&threadId=19_meeting_MTVIYTzkMWmtM2QyZC00YzU0LTg5OWUtZmFlZjJiZjU5ZTk0@thre
ad.v2&messageId=0&language=en-US>

From: (b)(6)@poynter.org>
SentVia: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Accepted: M&E Workbook/Performance Monitoring Plan Walk Through @ Tue Feb 16, 2021 9am - 9:50am (MST) (b)(6)
Date: Fri, 12 Feb 2021 05:24:35 +0000

(b)(6)@poynter.org has accepted this invitation.

M&E Workbook/Performance Monitoring Plan Walk Through

When Tue Feb 16, 2021 9am – 9:50am Mountain Time - Denver

Where <https://meet7.webex.com/meet7/j.php?MTID=m93b7bcf016e18f8c3e5478fb6a1b27c8>
([map](#))

Calendar (b)(6)

Who

- (b)(6) - organizer
- (b)(6)@poynter.org - creator
- (b)(6)@poynter.org

JOIN WEBEX MEETING

<https://meet7.webex.com/meet7/j.php?MTID=m93b7bcf016e18f8c3e5478fb6a1b27c8>

Meeting number (access code): (b)(6)

Meeting password: (b)(6) from video systems)

JOIN BY PHONE

Use VoIP only

JOIN FROM A VIDEO SYSTEM OR APPLICATION

Dial [sip:1324237370@meet7.webex.com](tel:sip:1324237370@meet7.webex.com)

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business

Dial [sip:1324237370.meet7@lync.webex.com](tel:sip:1324237370.meet7@lync.webex.com)

Can't join the meeting?

<https://collaborationhelp.cisco.com/article/WBX000029055>

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please note that this Webex service allows audio and other information sent during the session to be recorded, which may be discoverable in a legal matter. By joining this session, you automatically consent to such recordings. If you do not consent to being recorded, discuss your concerns with the host or do not join the session.

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this courtesy email at the account (b)(6)@state.gov because you are an attendee of this event.

To stop receiving future updates for this event, decline this event. Alternatively you can sign up for a Google account at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> and control your notification settings for your entire calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer and be added to the guest list, or invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or to modify your RSVP. [Learn More](#).

Sender: (b)(6)@poynter.org>; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wed, 10 Feb 2021 17:27:17 +0000
To: (b)(6)@poynter.org
Subject: M&E Workbook/Performance Monitoring Plan Walk Through

JOIN WEBEX MEETING

<https://meet7.webex.com/join.php?MTID=m93b7bcf016e18f8c3e5478fb6a1b27c8>

Meeting number (access code): (b)(6)

Meeting password: (b)(6) from video systems)

JOIN BY PHONE

Use VoIP only

JOIN FROM A VIDEO SYSTEM OR APPLICATION

Dial sip:1324237370@meet7.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business

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From: (b)(6)@poynter.org>
SentVia: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>
To: (b)(6)@state.gov>
Subject: Accepted: GEC FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe @ Thu Nov 5, 2020 2pm - 3pm (EST) (b)(6)
Date: Thu, 5 Nov 2020 18:29:59 +0000

(b)(6)@poynter.org has accepted this invitation.

GEC FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

When Thu Nov 5, 2020 2pm – 3pm Eastern Time - New York

Calendar (b)(6)

Who

- (b)(6) - organizer
- (b)(6)@poynter.org - creator
- Alan Davis
- Sarah Cook
- (b)(6)@poynter.org
- Tom Baker
- Vonda Wolcott
- Alex Joske
- (b)(6)
- Corina Rebegea
- Danielle Cave
- (b)(6)@ceip.org
- (b)(6)@me.com
- Grodnicki, Marsha
- (b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz
- (b)(6)
- Rachael Owen
- (b)(6) (Canberra)
- (b)(6)
- (b)(6)
- (b)(6) (Meg)
- (b)(6) optional
- (b)(6) - optional

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting

(b)(6) United States, Spokane (Toll)

Conference ID: (b)(6)

Apologies for the multiple updates. We've added a new Teams line that includes a phone dial-in option. Looking forward to speaking with you all later today.

Please find appended below an agenda for tomorrow's discussion. We look forward to speaking with you all.

///

With a new fiscal year and a full slate of programs in execution globally, the GEC China team invites you to join a discussion as we look ahead to our efforts in Europe in FY21.

We hope this discussion can be candid, informal, and focused on how we can bring our unique capabilities to bear to support our efforts to counter PRC malign influence in Europe. We look forward to hearing your thoughts on where we've made progress, where gaps remains, and things we should keep in mind as put together our programmatic strategy for FY21.

Global Engagement Center China Directorate

Agenda for FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe Roundtable

November 5, 2020

Participants:

Global Engagement Center

(b)(6)

Australian Strategic Policy Institute

Danielle Cave

Rachael Owen

Alex Joske

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Evan Feigenbaum

Erik Brattberg

Center for European Policy Analysis

Edward Lucas

Corina Rebegea

Freedom House

Sarah Cook

Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Alan Davis

Tom Baker

Vonda Wolcott

Poynter Institute

Baybars Örsek

Ferdi Özsoy

Sinopsis

Martin Hála

Agenda (all times in EST):

14:00 – 14:05

Welcome remarks and GEC/China strategic landscape

* (b)(6), GEC/China Director

14:05 – 14:25

Research and networking activities in Europe

* Each participant summarizes their relevant work in Europe as it relates to the GEC (max three minutes per organization), proceeding in alphabetical order as shown in the Participants list.

14:25 – 14:55

Open discussion

* How can we ensure these activities are complementary?

* How much overlap is there among our European network partners?

* Are there opportunities to amplify each other's work to maximize counter-propaganda and -disinformation impact?

* How do we create sustained impact?

14:55 – 15:00

Synthesis, closing remarks, next steps

* (b)(6), GEC/China Director

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this courtesy email at the account (b)(6)@state.gov because you are an attendee of this event.

To stop receiving future updates for this event, decline this event. Alternatively you can sign up for a Google account at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> and control your notification settings for your entire calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer and be added to the guest list, or invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or to modify your RSVP. [Learn More](#)

Sender: (b)(6)@poynter.org>; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

FL-2023-00013

A-00000598577

"UNCLASSIFIED"

6/28/2023

Recipient: (b)(6)@state.gov>

OBTAINED BY AMERICA FIRST LEGAL FOUNDATION

Danielle Cave

Rachael Owen

Alex Joske

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Evan Feigenbaum

Erik Brattberg

Center for European Policy Analysis

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Synthesis, closing remarks, next steps

- * (b)(6) GEC/China Director

From: (b)(6)@poynter.org>

SentVia: Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

To: (b)(6)@state.gov>

Subject: Accepted: GEC FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe @ Thu Nov 5, 2020 2pm - 3pm (EST) (b)(6)

Date: Wed, 4 Nov 2020 20:58:44 +0000

(b)(6)@poynter.org has accepted this invitation.

GEC FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe

When Thu Nov 5, 2020 2pm – 3pm Eastern Time - New York

Calendar (b)(6)

Who

- (b)(6) organizer
- (b)(6)@poynter.org - creator
- Alan Davis
- Baybars Orsek
- Sarah Cook
- Tom Baker
- Vonda Wolcott
- Alex Joske
- (b)(6)
- Corina Rebegea
- Danielle Cave
- (b)(6)@ceip.org
- (b)(6)@me.com
- Grodnicki, Marsha
- (b)(6)@ff.cuni.cz
- (b)(6)
- Rachael Owen
- (b)(6) (Canberra)
- (b)(6)
-
-
-
-

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Global Engagement Center China Directorate

Agenda for FY21 Strategy for Engagement in Europe Roundtable

November 5, 2020

Participants:

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Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Evan Feigenbaum

Erik Brattberg

Center for European Policy Analysis

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Corina Rebegea

Freedom House

Sarah Cook

Institute for War and Peace Reporting

Alan Davis

Tom Baker

Vonda Wolcott

Poynter Institute

Baybars Örsek

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- * How do we create sustained impact?

14:55 – 15:00

Synthesis, closing remarks, next steps

* (b)(6) GEC/China Director

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this courtesy email at the account chapmanj2@state.gov because you are an attendee of this event.

To stop receiving future updates for this event, decline this event. Alternatively you can sign up for a Google account at <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/> and control your notification settings for your entire calendar.

Forwarding this invitation could allow any recipient to send a response to the organizer and be added to the guest list, or invite others regardless of their own invitation status, or to modify your RSVP. [Learn More](#)

Sender: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@poynter.org>; Google Calendar <calendar-notification@google.com>

Recipient: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@state.gov>

From: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org>
SentVia: <fakenewssci@googlegroups.com>
To: <fakenewssci@googlegroups.com>
Subject: [fakenewssci] IFCN looking for independent assessors
Date: Wed, 31 Aug 2022 10:10:30 -0400

Greetings to all,

The International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) at the Poynter Institute, is searching for prominent individuals of journalism and media in the United States to consider joining our team of external assessors to assess our Code of Principle applications. As you may be aware, the IFCN is the umbrella unit for fact-checking organizations around the world.

To share a bit about our program, the Code of Principles of the IFCN is a series of commitments that organizations abide by to promote excellence in fact-checking. We believe nonpartisan and transparent fact-checking can be a powerful instrument of accountability journalism.

Eligible candidate description:

- Assessors are the first line in the review of an application to become a signatory to the Code of Principles.
- As mentioned, these independent assessors may be journalism professors, journalists, researchers, or media consultants that have a solid working knowledge of their country's media and the fact-checking ecosystem.
- Assessors are required to have a broad understanding of transparency and freedom of the press, including experience with the political context of the country where applicants to the Code of Principles publish their fact checks.
- The application will be in English so the assessor must have English language proficiency.

Time commitment:

- Interested individuals will schedule a call with the IFCN staff, of up to one hour, to speak about the role, including walking through the assessment process.
- The review of the orientation materials by the individual should take no more than 1-2 hours.
- Each application assessment is allocated 15 consecutive days for review, based on the guidelines here. New assessors can request time extensions as

appropriate. If the assessor determines that applicant responses require clarification, an additional 1 - 2 weeks may be necessary to complete the assessment.

- The actual commitment of assessment time will be dependent on the number of new and renewal applications that an assessor can be matched with.

Compensation:

- For each assessment conducted, the IFCN pays the assessor \$350 USD. \$200 USD comes from the application fee and the rest is a subsidy that comes from IFCN funding. Assessments that require an extended **second phase of reviewing over five or more sections** will be compensated with an additional \$100 amount for extra work.
- Interested individuals who have a desire to join our pool of assessors can simply visit [here](#) and register. Kindly drop us a line to let us know that you have done so.

We understand that there may be additional questions about the role of an assessor. If you would like to know more, please use [this calendar](#) to schedule a call so that we can dive into a deeper conversation about the IFCN and the Code of Principles.

I hope that this information is helpful and we look forward to hearing from you.

Have an excellent week ahead.

--

Baybars Örsek

Director | International Fact-Checking Network

[@baybarsorsek](#) / [@factchecknet](#)

--

#FakeNewsSci seeks to cultivate and continue an academic and practical agenda around defining and protecting against fake news and misinformation, and work to build news literacy, defend a free press and strengthen first amendment principles.

There are three ground rules for this community aimed at ensuring appropriate communication and exchange:

(1) Civility is the primary responsibility of membership - we intend to avoid uncivil debates or rhetoric and those who violate this rule will be immediately removed.

(2) To preserve people's comfort with being open and frank, all exchanges are to be treated as "off the record" unless the member(s) in question explicitly agree otherwise.

(3) To maintain high-quality exchanges of ideas and practice, all new members must be recommended by two other group members to be added to this group. Please fill the form at <https://goo.gl/forms/h1UkZHwGEjt5Z4wg1> before you apply for membership.

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Combating Fake News: The Science of Misinformation" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to fakenewssci+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit

https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/fakenewssci/CAC1R%3D120bNCERZw3nyJNvNB%3D%2BwwOV5tYgHKhqRDOc_tEZGMFxQ%40mail.gmail.com.

Sender: Baybars Orsek (b)(6)@poynter.org; <fakenewssci@googlegroups.com>

Recipient: <fakenewssci@googlegroups.com>