



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK



Permanent Mission
of the Republic of Albania
to the United Nations - New York

CONCEPT NOTE

“ARRIA-FORMULA” MEETING OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

****ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: ITS IMPACT ON HATE SPEECH, DISINFORMATION AND MISINFORMATION****

Tuesday, 19th December 2023, 3:00pm
UN Headquarters, Conference Room 12, New York

1. Introduction

The Permanent Missions of the United Arab Emirates and Albania will convene an “Arria-formula” meeting on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its impact on hate speech, disinformation and misinformation in the context of the maintenance of international peace and security.

The meeting will be chaired by H.E. Omran Sharaf, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Advanced Science and Technology of the United Arab Emirates, and Ambassador Ferit Hoxha, Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations.

The meeting will offer the UN, Member States, the private sector, academia, and civil society the opportunity to share how they assess the threat posed by AI tools to disseminate and amplify hate speech, misinformation and disinformation. It will also address how to use AI to counter these phenomena, engage in international cooperation and develop safeguards and self-regulation, including through public-private partnerships.

2. Background

The international community has witnessed the extraordinary advance in the capabilities and use of AI over the past year. There are countless possibilities for what AI could achieve for the benefit of humankind and the planet, but AI also poses dangers and risks for which the Security Council and Member States must be better prepared.

We are already witnessing horrifying trends of hate speech on the rise fueling xenophobia, racism, religious hatred and misogyny around the world. AI has the potential to compound threats and intensify conflicts by spreading hate speech, undermining the integrity of public information, including the interpretation of international humanitarian law, amplifying bias and exacerbating human rights abuses, contributing to increased polarisation and instability on a vast scale. Malicious actors could exploit AI for cyberattacks, disinformation, misinformation or extremist rhetoric, to interfere in elections or contribute to increased intercommunal tensions.

The meeting will build upon Security Council resolution 2686 (2023) and the Security Council briefing on “Artificial intelligence: opportunities and risks for international peace and security” (18 July 2023) to focus on



the specific threats and the opportunities of AI tools in connection with hate speech, misinformation and disinformation that can fuel extremism, exacerbate conflict and undermine trust.

The Security Council has repeatedly recognised that hate speech, misinformation and disinformation can contribute to the escalation of tensions and the erosion of trust and confidence within communities, as well as towards governments and UN actors.

The Council has expressed concerns about the negative impact of such trends in many of the country-specific situations on its agenda. The Council has highlighted the importance of effective, strategic communications to be implemented by relevant UN peace operations, for example, to enhance mission protection, information gathering and situational awareness. Some peace operations have also been asked to use strategic communications in support of their actual mandate. And others have been specifically requested to develop strategies to counter disinformation and misinformation.

There is an opportunity for technology to drive positive change and for the Security Council and the UN to explore innovative practices and technologies such as AI to enable more data-driven, evidence-based and anticipatory decision-making, to help respond to and prevent conflict. For example, the UN's Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)'s Innovation Cell has stepped up efforts to use new technologies such as AI in its conflict prevention work.¹

The Secretary-General made recommendations pertaining to AI-governance in *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9: A New Agenda for Peace* (July 2023), including that Member States develop national strategies on the responsible design, development and use of AI, consistent with their obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law; that Member States agree on a global framework to govern and strengthen oversight mechanisms for the use of data-driven technology, including AI, for counterterrorism purposes; and that States consider creating a new global body on AI.

3. Objectives:

- To offer to Security Council members the latest evidence-based research, practice, and horizon-scanning on the use of AI in regards to hate speech, disinformation and misinformation;
- To promote the fostering of innovation and collaboration to use AI to counter these phenomena with a focus on gender-responsive, practical recommendations for stakeholders across all sectors of society;
- To examine how advancing AI technologies and their use may impact efforts to counter terrorist narratives and prevent the use of the internet for terrorist purposes;
- To promote transparency, accountability and oversight of AI systems, and to ensure that AI is grounded in non-discrimination, inclusivity and human rights;
- To encourage discussion of the Secretary-General's recommendations on AI governance as set out in *Our Common Agenda Policy Brief 9: A New Agenda for Peace*.

¹ <https://futurespeace.org/>



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4. Guiding Questions:

1. What tools should the Security Council use to assess and determine the disruptive capability of AI, whether positive or negative, in the framework of its overall mandate but also in country-specific contexts?
2. What role can AI tools play to promote tolerance, sustainable and inclusive peace, to strengthen social cohesion, community resilience and peaceful coexistence between and within communities? How can AI support the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and the empowerment of youth, including in conflict and post-conflict situations and between displaced populations and host communities?
3. What measures can be taken to prevent and combat the AI-enabled spread of intolerant ideology, incitement to hatred, misinformation and disinformation in the context of armed conflict, in a manner consistent with international law?
4. What role can AI tools play to support effective strategic communications by UN peace operations in support of their mandates, such as the protection of civilians, support for a peace process and implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda, as well as to enhance UN missions' protection, information gathering and situational awareness?
5. What confidence-building measures can be taken to promote the integrity of public information and to prevent the erosion of trust at the diplomatic level and within communities to mitigate the risk of generative AI being used to undermine truth, facts and safety?

5. Briefers:

- Melissa Fleming, UN Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications;
- Private sector representative, TBA
- Civil society representative, TBA.

6. Format:

The meeting will be in the format of an "Arria-formula meeting" on Tuesday, 19th December 2023 from 3:00pm at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in Conference Room 12. Interpretation will be provided in the six UN official languages. The meeting will be webcast via UN Webtv.

Member States, or Observer Offices speaking on behalf of groups of two or more delegations, will be invited to deliver statements after the briefers and the UN Security Council Members. We ask delegations to speak for **no more than 3 minutes** to allow more time to hear from the briefers and to let the briefers respond to comments from Member States. Please note that, due to time constraints, we may not make it through the entire speakers list. All Member States and Observer States of the United Nations are invited to attend.

To subscribe to the list of speakers, please email nora.elaktaa@uaeun.org (referring to the speakers' list for the Arria-formula meeting in the subject line, for ease of reference) no later than midday on 18 December 2023. A summary of the meeting will be prepared and officially circulated as a Security Council document. Copies of statements as delivered should be sent to: nora.elaktaa@uaeun.org, by 20 December 2023.