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Ninth session

Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme

UNESCO House, Paris (Fontenoy Building, Room XI)
30-31 May 2016
9.30 a.m. -12.30 p.m. and 2.30 p.m.-5.30 p.m.

Item 12 of the provisional agenda

Thematic debate

A debate on “The Internet, the youth and radicalization” will take place at UNESCO headquarters in Paris on 31 May 2016, 2:30 pm. This event will bring together the 26 States Members of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council, Permanent Delegations and Observers, in order to identify and discuss gaps and challenges relating to radicalization and violent extremism in the fields of philosophy and law.

FIRST SPEAKER

Dan Shefet

Biography

French lawyer born in Denmark, Dan Shefet holds a Philosophy Degree and a Law Degree from the University of Copenhagen. Specialist in European Law, Competition Law as well as Human Rights in general and in the IT environment in particular, he is also a speaker at conferences and academic venues on IT Law, Data Privacy and Human Rights on the internet. In 2014 he founded the Association for Accountability and Internet Democracy (AAID) with for main objective to introduce a general principle of accountability on the internet in order to secure the protection of human integrity.

Summary of his intervention

The presentation will cover only the legal aspect of radicalization. After a brief and succinct survey of existing definitions in strict legal terms of the concept of “radicalization” (including international treaties, domestic laws and jurisprudence of selected countries) it will argue that there is a pressing need to develop a consensus based international definition not only for enforcement purposes, but also in order to secure compliance with fundamental human rights (penal liability subject to law, freedom of access, protection of privacy, freedom of establishment/religion and freedom of expression). Inspiration for such a definition will be sought in the above international instruments and national legislation/regulations as well as resolutions passed by NGOs and International Institutions (UN, EU, NATO). A distinction between “radicalization” and the related terms of “terrorism” and “hate speech” will be discussed. Illustrative cases will be mentioned. A short description of technical remedies (filtering/blocking/access control/deletion/page ranking) and their legal basis and limitations will be developed (principle of proportionality and judicial oversight).

SECOND SPEAKER

To be confirmed.