



Indonesia Civil Society Forum 2023
Civic Space, Capacity and Sustainability
Jakarta, June 14 - 15, 2023



Breakout Session 1: Countering the Misuse of Social Media and Digital Technology

June 14, 2023, 13:30 - 16:00

Host: Internews and AMSI

This panel, hosted by AMSI, will focus on digital technology, digital democracy, and social media platforms for civil society to protect democracy and pluralism. As discussed during the ICSF 2022, the number of mis and disinformation is increasing while digital literacy and education are still weak. There is a gap between the speed of information, digital literacy, and the lack of information verification by the public, which ultimately results in the spread of problematic mis- and disinformation. Journalists and fact-checkers are now shifting from the traditional method of 'debunking' to 'prebunking,' which involves familiarizing users with patterns of misinformation/disinformation to help them protect themselves and their surroundings from sharing false information that may cause harm.

On the other hand, the government must ensure the protection of internet users free from all forms of disinformation and guarantee the right to freedom of expression of citizens. Digital platforms must also increase their responsibility to maintain democracy, diversity, freedom of expression, and other civil liberties. There is a need for alternative platforms that can accommodate the voices of the people who convey real problems on the ground to encourage the acuteness of government and democracy.

Globally, there is also an increase in use of digital, online technologies to monitor what is seen as adverse information, often used against civil society groups by anti-democratic actors.

This session will highlight recent innovations and tools used by civil society and democratic institutions to counter these emerging trends, building a healthy and transparent information ecosystem that is necessary to maintain the integrity of democracy.

Question:

1. What kind of legal and statutory framework should be established to ensure the sustainability and security of the implementation of civil rights in the digital realm?
2. What kind of alternative platforms are emerging to accommodate the voice of the marginalized and underrepresented?
3. What can CSOs do to counter these new digital monitoring technologies?
4. What efforts do people and governments need to do in combating misinformation?
5. What is the role of social media to ensure free and fair 2024 general elections?

6. What could governments do better to establish a healthy internet ecosystem and ensure public safety in conveying and accessing information as part of public participation?

Coach: Wenseslaus Manggut (President of Association of Indonesian Cyber Media, AMSI, and co-founder of Cekfakta.com)

Issue Champions:

- Project Multatuli (Evi Mariani or Ronna Nirmala)
- SAFE-NET (Damar Juniarto or Nenden Sekar Arum)
- PurpleCode (Dhyta Caturani)
- Mubadalah.id (Faqihuddin Abdul Kodir)
- Konde.co (Luviana Ariyanti)