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PRESENTATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS
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Democracy has taken a beating as the eclipse of government, special interests, and personal agendas take the forefront of building a civilization of Peace. Challenges to follow the rule of law have become second place to rights and privileges. Polarization and manipulation of facts are used by those who have more, they get a free pass whilst those who need more are placed into suffering.

In the region, there are still some States that do not have legal and/or regulatory frameworks regarding the handling of information in digital media. Some others have fallen into over-regulation that can turn into a statist interventionism, which is tempted to misuse such regulation, in favor of various anti-democratic measures. The tendency to revert to old traditions of foreign actors and external forces which may exploit existing divisions and disseminate disinformation to advance their interests or destabilize the democracy perpetuating the message, the process, and the structural issues.

Information integrity is a key challenge for governments. Disinformation campaigns can have detrimental effects on public opinion and political decision-making. It is important to understand the challenge of information integrity and addressing disinformation campaigns, from a regional scope. Each region has challenges that, while sharing a common radiography, have elements of the local or regional legal system, and of course, their own elements that are determined by very specific cultural and social elements of the local environment.

Misinformation and disinformation erode the ability to form consensus or indeed even converse reasonably about the basic values and rules of what we owe to each other as members of national, ethnic, global, and other communities. On the other hand, government agencies, media, and social media platforms are increasingly requiring mitigators, professionals whose work focuses on the mitigation of misinformation incidents and disinformation campaigns such as researchers, fact checkers, and other trust and safety specialists.

The regional rise of the use of closed messaging apps (e.g., WhatsApp and Telegram), accompanied by the decay of the verifiability of sources, is an information diet that increases our regional susceptibility to misinformation and disinformation. The problem is so big, it requires well-trained and large scale artificial intelligence (AI), and humans to contextualize, as well as moderate (editing). The deployment of AI in the battle against misinformation and disinformation, should move

beyond transparency and explicability to replicability: running the result and producing the same answer.

We therefore propose:

1. Increase digital literacy from elementary school onwards;

2. Expand the use of localized mitigators, for languages and audiences of smaller or more marginalized populations, who are eo ipso more vulnerable to disinformation, due to a dearth of mitigators. Ensure the information provided by the media (electronic or script) is at the service of the common good based on truth, freedom, justice and solidarity

3. To combat disinformation campaigns, governments have developed public policies that promote the practice of fact-checking and corroborating sources before sharing information online or other means. Ensure the ethical dimension of the media relates to fundamental structural and systemic issues, - who shall be information rich and who shall be information poor.

4. Improve the communication strategy of governments on issues vulnerable to being the subject of these campaigns, preventing with clear and effective information. This includes providing accurate and up-to-date information on the topic that is or could be the target of the specific disinformation campaign, as well as responding quickly to disinformation when it appears. This implies good practices in relation to the integrated response capacity in communication of governments, and government information and logistics networks to detect disinformation networks, their interests, and the key actors in the articulation of such campaigns.

5. Create a network of Research Centers focused on studying disinformation across the region, accounting for the fact that the current knowledge-base is almost entirely focused on data from the United States, inhibiting the effectiveness of contextualized mitigators, including AI-driven detection systems. Create a regional analytic fusion group or task force to share information on TTPs, informing both governing and regulatory bodies to feed this data from the analytic fusion group or task force into AI-driven monitoring systems.

6. Create working groups of experts on the subject, both from the public sphere and civil society, academia, media and communication professionals, representatives of digital platforms, private initiative, etc. These working groups -which in our case could be regional groups, composed of members of the CVC, the SIRG, the JSWG and the Summits Secretariat, adding private initiative, universities, and civil society organizations, among others-, will generate declarative documents, action programs, general and specific publications, and proposals for public policies, programs, and campaigns to be implemented in the region, with the help of a fund managed by the IDB and approved by the General Assembly for this purpose.

7. Ensure that the human person is the end and measure of all media in the campaign process such that decisions are made genuinely and not skewed in favour of special interest groups when the media are a money making venture.