

PROTECTING ALLIED DEMOCRACIES AND PARTNERS FROM DISINFORMATION RESOLUTION 483*

The Assembly,

1. **Considering** that disinformation in all its forms constitutes a severe threat to the security, cohesion and democratic functioning of the Alliance and Allied societies;
2. **Deploring** the increasing dissemination, sophistication and impact of false information, spread among, and by, people who sometimes lack sufficient access to reliable sources of information by means of elaborate communication technologies;
3. **Denouncing** the use of disinformation campaigns by authoritarian states to weaken Allied countries and their partners, and to delegitimise their democratic institutions, officials, processes and principles, while promoting their own repressive models of governance;
4. **Concerned** by the creation and dissemination of disinformation by multiple non-state actors, including within Allied societies;
5. **Recalling** that, although malicious actors take advantage of the openness and freedom of expression that characterise Allied societies to spread their false narratives, the fight against disinformation must not lead to democratic principles being undermined;
6. **Reaffirming** the importance of NATO's role in supporting and coordinating resilience-building and the fight against disinformation, even if these areas are primarily a national prerogative;
7. **Welcoming** the strong emphasis on combatting disinformation campaigns and the commitments made in this regard in the NATO 2022 Strategic Concept, and **applauding** the efforts made in recent years by Allies and NATO to strengthen their ability to detect and counter disinformation campaigns;
8. **Strongly denouncing** the aggressive and intensive disinformation campaigns launched by Russia and its proxies in the information domain in the context of its full-scale military invasion of Ukraine, **commending** the effectiveness of the Ukrainian response, and **welcoming** Allied support for the Ukrainian authorities;

* Presented by the Committee on Democracy and Security and adopted by the Plenary Assembly on Monday 9 October 2023 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

9. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance, and, where appropriate, NATO bodies:
- a. to implement the commitments already made in the fight against disinformation and to continue to place this fight at the centre of their present and future initiatives to strengthen Allied resilience;
 - b. to enhance their understanding of the threats posed by disinformation in order to respond more quickly and effectively, in particular by stepping up their efforts to detect campaigns and identify the actors behind them;
 - c. to clearly attribute disinformation campaigns wherever possible and punish those responsible;
 - d. to conduct regular and thorough assessments of their resilience to disinformation in order to detect and address potential vulnerabilities;
 - e. to promptly refute false narratives spread in the information space that pose a risk to Allied societies, while avoiding unduly increasing their visibility;
 - f. to consolidate their national legislation so as to better protect the information space against the dissemination of disinformation, while guaranteeing respect for freedom of expression;
 - g. to allocate sufficient human and financial resources to the fight against disinformation at the national and intergovernmental levels, in particular by strengthening the capacities of specialised institutions and increasing support for quality media and relevant civil society organisations;
 - h. to promote media literacy and run campaigns to raise awareness of disinformation among Allied populations, including through the media and education systems;
 - i. to encourage social media platforms to better integrate the fight against disinformation into their advertising, content moderation and algorithm development practices;
 - j. to maintain and increase their support for Ukraine in its fight against Russian disinformation and propaganda, and to learn from and adopt the lessons of Ukraine's successful response;
 - k. to enhance collaboration and facilitate the exchange of best practices among member and partner states, international organisations, including the European Union, and relevant civil society actors, as well as between NATO and the NATO PA, in order to disseminate verified information about the Alliance;
 - l. to create a Centre for Democratic Resilience within NATO that can serve as a platform for sharing resources and exchanging best practices among Allies and their partners;
 - m. to assess and prevent any negative impact of the use of Artificial Intelligence developments in disinformation campaigns.
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