



## EXECUTIVE ROUNDTABLE

### Artificial Intelligence and Online Hate Speech

31 January 2019, 13:00-16:00  
The University Foundation, 11 Rue d'Egmont, 1000 Brussels

**12:30** *Registration & light lunch*

**13:00** *Welcome & introduction*

- **Bruno LIEBHABERG** | Director General, **CERRE**

**13:10** *Opening address*

- **Michael O'FLAHERTY** | Director, **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights**

**13:25** *'Artificial Intelligence and Online Hate Speech': an introduction*

- **Michèle FINCK** | Research Fellow, CERRE & Senior Research Fellow, **Max Planck Institute for Innovation & Competition**

**13:35** *Triologue: The Use of Machine Learning algorithms to filter hate speech*

- To what extent are machine learning techniques currently being used to filter online hate speech? What are the costs of those techniques? Do the latter tend to over-intervene?
- In the future, what is the potential for developments in AI such as sophisticated forms of deep learning for hate speech detection? Can AI ever understand context and if yes, in what time frame?
- What is the potential of explainable AI ('XAI') in this domain?

Chair: **Alexandre DE STREEL**

Triologue:

- **Jeremy OLIVIER** | Manager, Public Policy, **Facebook**
- **Tom DE SMEDT** | Senior Researcher, Computational Linguistics Research Group, **University of Antwerp**
- **Erik MANNENS** | Professor & Research Valorisation Director, IDLab, IMEC Research Group, **Ghent University**

#### 14:15 Panel 1: Legal and ethical issues

- Is it at all possible to provide a legal definition of a context-dependent and evolving notion such as hate speech? Is there a need for a common European definition of hate speech?
- Should the difficult balance between human rights be left to algorithms? How to ensure the best balance between machines and humans in policing hate speech?
- What are the likely economic implications of using automated rather than human-centred detection tools?

Chair: **Sally BROUGHTON MICOVA**

Panellists:

- **Angelo CARDANI** | President, **AGCOM**
- **Michèle FINCK** | Research Fellow, **CERRE** & Senior Research Fellow, **Max Planck Institute for Innovation & Competition**
- **Winston MAXWELL** | Partner, **Hogan Lovells**
- **Alexandre DE STREEL** | Joint Academic Director, **CERRE** & Professor of EU Law, **University of Namur**
- **Milan ZUBÍČEK** | EU Public Policy & Government Relations Manager, **Google**

#### 15:00 Panel 2: Implication for policy and regulation

- Do we need new governance models that strike an adequate balance between public and private intervention?
- Is co or self-regulation through AI an appropriate means of enforcing public policy objectives? What has been the practical impact of the Code of Conduct initiated in the EU in 2016?
- What should be the role of the next EU legislature (2019-2024) to ensure to fight online hate speech in a manner which is effective and legitimate? In that regard, should the e-commerce Directive be reviewed?

Chair: **Alexandre DE STREEL**

Panellists:

- **Camilla BUSTANI** | Director, International Policy, **Ofcom**
- **Sally BROUGHTON MICOVA** | Research Fellow, **CERRE** & Lecturer in Communications, Policy & Politics, **University of East Anglia**
- **Michèle FINCK** | Research Fellow, **CERRE** & Senior Research Fellow, **Max Planck Institute for Innovation & Competition**
- **Maria Luisa STASI** | Senior Legal Officer, **Article 19**

#### 15:45 Closing address

- **Emmanuel CRABIT** | Director, Fundamental Rights and Rule of Law, **Directorate General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission**

#### 16:00 Conclusions and way forward

- **Bruno LIEBHABERG** | Director General, **CERRE**

#### 16:10 Networking drink