

Global Diplomacy Lab (GDL): 21 to 24 June 2023 – Lab Report

Impact of Misinformation and Disinformation in the Global South and the Influence of Emerging Technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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For more information on the Global Diplomacy Lab please visit: www.global-diplomacy-lab.org

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Background

Why is Africa the target of mis-/ disinformation?

Africa is currently undergoing a rapid digital transformation. While it is true that Africa is still the least digitised continent in the world, information is becoming increasingly accessible. This process brings both benefits and risks for the continent and calls for strong regulatory frameworks that allow institutions and states to manage the negative effects of digital transformation. One of the most pressing problems related to Africa's digital transformation is the increased vulnerability to mis-/disinformation, the latter referring to the spread of false information with the intent to deceive.

External players have been exploiting new digital opportunities to reach the general public in African nations and to exert influence. Institutional support from rogue nations is emerging as one of the most important factors in mis-/ disinformation campaigns in the Global South. Africa is particularly vulnerable to such campaigns, since multiple nation states are targeting the continent in order to present a more appealing image of themselves and strengthen their influence in the countries targeted. Africa also suffers from a lack of regulation as well as information. an inability to enforce compliance with regulations, and this gives free reign not only to big- repressive possibilities of new technologies to techs to experiment but also to rogue individuals to spread dis-/misinformation freely. Lastly,

inadequate digital literacy in general presents a challenge to attempts to arrest the spread of dis-/misinformation in Africa.

While disinformation is not a new phenomenon, several factors have spurred it to unprecedented levels. These include the rapid and cheap growth of social media usage, emerging media options and the ease with which it is possible to become an influencer, everyone's increased screentime on social media, politicians' growing influence on the media, the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and state-sponsored involvement of mainstream media in spreading disinformation.

Few actors conduct fact-checking to fight disinformation in the region, partly due to a shortage of expertise and the necessary skills. With growing media viability concerns, newsrooms are narrowing the range of issues covered in order to cut costs, while ownership of news organisations by political actors, including individuals holding senior positions in government, undermines media independence and often makes such media houses sources of dis-

Local actors have also benefited from the advance their agendas. The recent wave of military coups in West Africa, which are legitimised through anti-Western and anti-European discourse, came about through Junta-led disinformation campaigns and attempts to monopolise the flow of information in the respective countries.

How to address this?

Against this backdrop, GDL Members spent in- disinformation in their countries and therefore tense days in Kenya (in June 2022) learning about and co-creating on the misinformation and disinformation landscape in Africa by shar- has made news proliferation and flow of mis/ ing personal experiences and presenting country-specific trends and action taken by relevant trust. not-for-profit organisations to highlight the exwidespread misinformation and disinformation campaigns orchestrated by roque individuals, sometimes supported by foreign entities linked to foreign powers in Africa, and even political parties targeting opponents and influential candidates came to light, often during important events such as election campaigns. Reviews of data from other African countries show that the situation in the East African countries -Uganda, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan as well as Kenya – is largely similar to trends seen throughout Africa.

erbated the impact of dis-/misinformation in Africa. Information about COVID-19 itself contained many false claims, not least regarding vaccination side-effects and why or why not to vaccinate. This caused confusion and mistrust in the public health response and the vaccines that were being developed to combat the vi- is unlikely to question its accuracy. rus. As a consequence, conspiracy theories and myths surrounding the COVID-19 vaccine proliferated in African societies, hampering vaccination efforts.

The ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, where mis-/disinformation has been used as a weapon of war, has also spilled over into African countries, as both Russia and has given rise to propaganda and conspiracy theories regarding other regional security and foreign policy issues, such as the famine in the Kenyan border region, South Sudan's civil war that had displaced half of country's popcross-border militia conflict between the Dem- flected in legislative decisions. ocratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, and others, sowing further division and confusion.

Many social media consumers in African countries are unaware of the foreign-driven mis-/ treat it as reliable and consumable news. The Russia Ukraine war and the Israel-Gaza conflict disinformation reach unpreceded levels of mis-

Most journalists on the African continent tent and scale of such spread. Sophisticated and lack skills to detect or fact-check the misinformation that they not only consume but pass on to their respective audiences or followers. In an ideal situation, well-trained journalists function as gatekeepers: they are taught to distinguish between fake and real news and filter the former out. The problem concerns not only textual information, but also pictures: shallow fakes (photo manipulation) are a widespread phenomenon in all these countries. They involve editing old photos, including those showing events from other countries, to imply that such events occurred recently. There is also evidence of mass brigading, mass sharing and the use of From 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic exac- fake social media accounts. Mass brigading is a social media tactic which involves a group of people ganging up against a post or posts by a targeted individual or entity. If they support the individual or entity, they unleash a barrage of coordinated comments in support of the post so that anyone who catches sight of the thread

What should be done?

As the amount of disinformation grows in many African countries, the challenge of combating it is also increasing; yet measures to tackle it Ukraine try to garner support in Africa. This remain inadequate and often inappropriate. Disinformation researchers are therefore concerned that, if more robust measures are not adopted, disinformation could become pervasive and harder to fight, with broad social and political ramifications. The inadequacy of govulation, Ethiopia's internal ethnic conflict, the ernment responses to disinformation is also re-

Building resilience and developing a multi-pronged approach

Governments must take steps to develop media literacy skills among the public so that people are better able to discern what information is trustworthy and what is not. This could involve targeted education campaigns and the development of critical thinking skills to help individuals better evaluate information sources. The creation of community-led and local fact-checking organisations to help combat the spread of disinformation should be encouraged, and support for not-for-profit organisations must be provided, working on social issues such as healthcare, agriculture and education, to minimise the spread of misinformation. Fact-checking by media organisations can help debunk falsehoods and restore trust in accurate reporting. Another tool could be public awareness campaigns that emphasise the dangers of disinformation and the importance of accurate and trustworthy information. This could involve working with media outlets, community organisations and other stakeholders.



Greetings and introductions representative of multi-disciplinary GDL members from academia, UNFCCC and diplomacy

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Introduction to the GDL Lab:

The Lab "Impact of Misinformation and Disinformation in the Global South and the influence of Emerging Technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI)" aimed to bring together the diverse expert group of GDL Members from various fields, provide clarity on the topic and put the issue in a glocal context. The objective of the Lab was conceived during the COVID-19 pandemic and further evolved with the advanced use of video interactive tools such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams technology for manipulating and falsifying information. The advent of ChatGPT (a conversational chatbot) brought to light the significance of synthetic content generation using Al. Synthetic text generation and consumption of information directly from Chatbots by the public has proliferated the spread of disinformation. The Lab hosts were driven by a motivation to understand, analyse, discuss and corroborate the true significance of the problem and highlight it in the context of Kenya – a country that supports freedom of speech and has launched the National Coalition on Freedom of Expression and Content Moderation to counter the impact of mis-/disinformation. In addition, as Kenya is actively discussing the impact of and issues related to information flow with the advent of new emerging technologies such as AI, the Lab was conceived as a safe space for intensive dialogue on this critical topic. The Lab coincided with the Kenya Internet Governance Forum (KIGF) held in Nairobi on 22 June 2023, entitled "The Internet we want - empowering all people". One of the key subjects of discussion was understanding and preventing misinformation in the first place.

The Lab ran over three-and-a-half days, with each day focusing on an action point, and included a policy and practitioner discussion with insights from six key-challenge holders: ARTICLE 19, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Baraza Media Lab, GIZ - Digital Transformation Centre (DTC) and KICTANet. Fifteen GDL Members participated, representing academia, activists, innovators, policymakers, diplomats, and international organisations. In addition, local actors and participants were invited to enrich the discussion.

DAY 1 SETTING THE SCENE

Taxonomy of Misinformation and Disinformation

The goal of this day was to ensure that all GDL participants understood the mission and the Lab could start by establishing a shared and common understanding of what participants associated with the terms "misinformation and disinformation". It soon emerged that within the group of GDL Members (representing multi-disciplinary expertise) casual use of the words "mis-/disinformation" was normal, and that for some, the terms had emotional connotations. Thus, the introductory session was critical in setting the context of the Lab with clear-cut definitions regarding the use of terminology when talking about "misinformation" and "disinformation".

Misinformation = Spread of wrong or manipulated information with NO harmful intent

Disinformation = Spread of falsified information with harmful intent



Caption

In addition, examples were provided of how GDL Members associate words like "fear", "anger", "media" with the terms "misinformation" and "disinformation". Lastly, the GDL Members shared how the spread of misinformation and disinformation was affecting their everyday life and how the concept was interpreted differently in different countries, depending on local beliefs, customs and thinking. The group soon realised that it is sometimes hard to agree on a common definition: what was deemed misinformation in some parts of the world would be described as "normal" information flow in others. We put the term "foreign information manipulation interference" in the context of the war in Ukraine, and examples were presented to show how societies have been polarised by the spread of disinformation. There was consensus that technology and social media channels such as Meta (formerly Facebook), Instagram and WhatsApp have accelerated the spread of information in general and outpaced efforts to arrest the flow of misinformation or disinformation.

Session with Challenge Holder Partner:

ARTICLE 19

The British human rights organisation ARTICLE 19 is the implementation partner for the Kenyan Government's programme on the National Coalition on Freedom of Expression and Content Moderation funded by UNESCO. ARTICLE 19 specialises in the protection of journalism and freedom of speech. It presented its findings with respect to the Kenyan eco-system on misinformation and disinformation with a focus on the social media impact and examples of hate speech and election information manipulation, sharing experiences from the Kenyan elections.



Jeremy Ouma from ARTICLE19 shared one of the political jokes that were as part of the information campaigns in election times by opposition. "Please describe what is happening in the photos if you recall"



ARTICLE 19 was instrumental in presenting the local context to GDL Members and showcasing the negative impact of harmful content and how undertones of ethnic violence were driven by disinformation practices, particularly targeting women and girls, that incited gender-based violence and launched smear campaigns against female public figures in Kenya. Patrick Mutahi, head of media work at ARTICLE 19, presented social media propaganda campaigns shaming public figures, and explained how disinformation led to civil unrest on the streets of Nairobi and media troll stories. ARTICLE 19 also highlighted the gap between stakeholders and social media and how social media platforms such ARTICLE 19 highlighted some of the legal loopas Twitter and WhatsApp amplified harmful content to obtain more likes and increase their profit. According to ARTICLE 19, such platforms lack the guardrails to understand the local context of harmful and violence-inciting expres- likewise been critical of the government and polsions in local language. Patrick shared examples of when ARTICLE 19 had to communicate directly with social media platforms to take down harmful content, as there was little or no understanding among the local population and no content-management mechanism was in place. ty and focussed media sensitisation campaigns, Furthermore, there are no human rights stand- but they have not gone far enough. ARTICLE 19 ards for content moderation in Kenya.





holes in the Kenyan legislature regarding disinformation such as a lack of institutional capacity, resources and funding to tackle the problem of misinformation in Kenya. Other activists have iticians and their inability to control the spread of misinformation and disinformation. There have been initiatives such as the Kenya Internet Governance Forum, a premier multistakeholder forum with a central communications authorialso pointed to the increase in internet shutdown and online surveillance by security agencies as violation of freedom of expression as a hard-stick policy of the Kenyan government. ARTICLE19 suggested the need for more inclusive and at scale awareness campaigns for digital literacy are needed at empowering citizens at identifying mis/disinformation as the first step to build digital trust. GDL Members presented examples from countries in Africa, Asia and Europe and contextualised the discussion from their respective domains. Election-driven misinformation and disinformation dominated the discussion; ease of access to low-cost technology such as 2G and 3G smartphones in the absence of digital literacy was highlighted as another reason fuelling the uncontrollable spread of information in the Global South. The inadequacy of legislation such as GDPR was also discussed in this context.

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Session with Challenge holders UNEP/UNFCCC

Mis/Disinformation and climate

During the UNEP/UNFCCC session, GDL Members met Damaris Mungai and Jade Roberts-Maron from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). UNEP is based in Nairobi, Kenya and defined the strategy for tackling climate change, biodiversity, nature loss and pollution and waste from 2022-2025. Damaris and Jade discussed climate misinformation and dissemination of scientifically misleading information organised by counterforces and how it is leading to polarisation and having a negative impact on climate action.

The UNEP/UNFCCC session aimed to raise awareness of the risks posed by mis- and disinformation on climate change. The session was chaired by Damaris Mungai (Officer at UNEP) and the presentation given by Jade Roberts-Maron (Expert Reviewer to the UNFCCC for the review of Biennial Reports and National Communications). The presentation showcased the misuse of scientific data in the context of climate change and how cherry-picking climate datasets is used to distort information or spread misinformation. The session highlighted some of the key campaigns undertaken by UNEP and UNFCCC such as #Communication-Green, #PledgetoPause, #TakeCareBeforeYouShare and Facts Postcard to combat misinformation campaigns. The session also highlighted the #Greenwashing campaigns developed by fossil fuel companies and how information integrity on digital platforms is at risk.

UNFCCC emphasised the alarming power in targeting youth and school children, one of the main targets of mis-/disinformation campaigns as they are more likely to rapidly spread the misinformation available online. A current analysis of data has proven the rise of the Hashtag #ClimateScam on social media platforms during the annual UN Climate Change conferences (COP). The challenge holders suggested that science and transparency are key for urgent action to limit the spread of mis-/disinformation in the climate sphere. UNEP underscored the value of citizen-led efforts and climate advocacy in funding the loss and damage caused by spreading climate-related misinformation. In conclusion, verifying information is key to combating mis-/disinformation in the public international arena and fact-based coverage is an effective tool for influencers, public figures, institutions and international organisations to stop or reduce the spread of false information on climate change. The session revealed that no scientific data is safe from manipulation and that scientific facts are manipulated on social media with credible reasoning and logic. The session underscored the power of social media and reels to make reason and analysis take a back seat when it comes to scientific mis-/disinformation campaigns.



Community Dinner at the German Ambassador's residence in Nairobi and contextualising the activities from day 1:

The community dinner was hosted by Ambassador Sebastian Groth, a cordial event that included the key challenge holders and GDL participants. The ambassador's keynote address highlighted the importance of the theme of misinformation and disinformation in the Kenyan context and various initiatives supported by the German Government. The dinner provided an opportunity to informally discuss with local partner representatives the various initiatives led by civil society organisations and showcase the support from the German Embassy and other German development agencies, highlighting the multi-level integration of misinformation and disinformation projects on the sidelines of the Kenyan Internet Governance Forum (IGF) (a regional UN forum which also focused on this issue). Furthermore, the event allowed participants to consolidate the activities from day 1 and celebrate the spirit of diversity and inclusion in a jovial environment.

DAY 2 INPUT



Challenge Holder: Baraza Media Lab

An introduction to the Baraza Media Lab was facilitated by GDL member and lab cohost Sylvia Mukasa and Baraza Media Lab's Wanjiru Nguhi and aimed at framing the context of the GDL mandate and emphasising the importance of Baraza Media Lab in strengthening Kenya's media ecosystem. Baraza Media Lab is a platform for media practitioners and creatives dedicated to fostering a collaborative environment to thrive innovative ideas and experimentation, committed to public interest and collaborative storytelling. The introduction was followed by two sessions:

A Provocative Dialogue: Navigating Mis-/Disinformation in the Digital Age: Dr Katherine Getao, an expert on cyber diplomacy and mis-/disinformation, shared a video message in which she contextualised the Kenyan thinking process on the theme and how WhatsApp and other social media platforms accelerate the spread of mis-/disinformation in Kenya. She pointed out that laws in Kenya do not include accountability for online content that is shared/posted and its harmful effect on others. She also highlighted the impact of social media on the young population, and how false information that is regarded as true can lead to hatred or tension between communities.

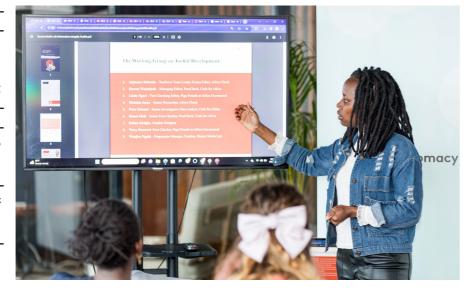


Immersive Discussion: Panel Discussion

The Fumbua Information Integrity Toolkit

Baraza Media Lab presented their Fumbua Information Integrity Toolkit, which aims to empower individuals, businesses, and community organisations by providing them with the tools to identify, understand and disrupt the flow of misinformation in the context of Kenyan communities. The toolkit comprises fact-checking guidance, practical advice on constructive dialogue, reporting of false information, distinguishing between deep and shallow fakes and effectively countering misinformation in communities. The toolkit resonated very well with GDL Members and enriched their understanding of the media landscape and the speed of information-sharing and consumption in Kenya.

The challenge holders presented the impact of mis-/disinformation on Kenyan youth and women (in particular female politicians). They talked about the power of advocacy and engagement with big-tech media platforms and how they could be held accountable in combating mis-/disinformation. Finally, the importance of inclusion and local language optimisation for accessibility and accurate consumption of information was raised and discussed.



Ms. Wanjiru Nguhi from Baraza Media Lab







Disarm Language to Counter Disinformation

In this session, GDL Member Maia Mazurkiewicz highlighted the importance of local language and dialects and their interpretation in the spread of disinformation and how different age and gender groups understand slang and colloquialisms. She introduced the DISARM (Disinformation Analysis and Risk Management) Framework and the Public Editor Training Platform to help recognise the strategies behind disinformation campaigns and correctly identify different types of misinformation. DISARM framework provides a common language for documenting influence operations and helps in sharing intelligence and getting a better understanding of an actor's manipulative behaviours. Maia explained how the tool was used in projects across the world, such as analysing elections in Poland and Germany, to detect propaganda and disinformation, especially during political campaigns and national and local elections. Finally, the GDL Members were offered a practical opportunity to test the tool through a few case studies of past political campaigns, such as the Indian and the Kenyan elections in 2022.

Futurist Exercise: What holds the future of mis/disinformation?

GDL Member Peter Johnson introduced an exercise to imagine the future of media. The group was invited to think about what is true of media today and what is consumed as 'NEWS', followed by a discussion of possible and less probable scenarios, and what action can be taken to prevent the undesirable and help the desirable become reality. The exercise was welcomed by the GDL Members as a different way of looking at the future impacts of media and was discussed further during the subsequent working dinner.



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DAY 3 HAND ON

Challenge Holder:

Digital Transformation Centre (DTC), Kenya

The Digital Transformation Centre (DTC) promotes the strengthening of the Kenyan digital economy by focusing on measures to support the local digital ecosystem. It is co-financed by the European Union and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The DTC presented various projects helping the digitalisation of public services to be user-oriented, inclusive and transparent, and language data collection to amplify the use of artificial intelligence in sectors such as agriculture and healthcare. These projects take place mostly in the digital space and promote digital transformation in line with the Kenyan Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy. The DTC has been supporting and strengthening Kenya's digital economy and digital society, for example by identifying technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), through which socio-economic benefits can be achieved for vulnerable communities. The DTC operates by providing grants and signing service agreements with like-minded Kenyan institutions.



Challenge Holder: KICTANet

Interactive session: Challenge questions on civil society capacity-building and knowledge engagement

KICTANet is a multi-stakeholder think tank for institutions and individuals involved in information and communications technology (ICT) policy and regulation. During this session, KICTANet's Dr Grace Githaiga (CEO and Convenor of KICTANet) presented their projects to combat online gender-based violence (OGBV) and the impact that these had on reducing hate-speech against women and girls. KICTANet challenged the thinking process of the GDL Members through a series of interactive discussions about how disinformation is interpreted and disseminated in Kenyan social media and how this process differed from the countries that were representative of the GDL Member group, using multimedia to showcase examples from TikTok and Twitter (now X) and exchanging ideas on good practices in addressing OGBV in their countries/regions/spheres of influence.

Discussions focused on the challenges posed by writing the Swahili language in English on social media platforms and the difficulty of interpreting words in Swahili that can be abusive or have a double meaning in the context of gender-based violence. The words and language complexities highlighted the word associations with mis-/disinformation and how, within the context of gender, distinctive understanding is absorbed in the local language context, especially among young people and women. Furthermore, social-media channels such as Facebook (now Meta) and WhatsApp have compounded the problem and given rise to community tensions as no information verification and vetting mechanisms have been put in place on social media platforms in Kenya. ARTICLE 19 delegates emphasised that the processes in place to tackle the spread of mis-/disinformation are inadequate, especially regarding law and enforcement agencies. In addition, challenges relating to data rights such as privacy issues and inadequate were discussed.

KICTANet presented a case study: they created the Digital Enquirer Kit (DEK)¹ as a response to the mis-/disinformation surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak. The DIK is a successful example of an entry-level digital intervention to stop mis-/disinformation, accelerated by good advocacy and the participation of activists, students and teachers, and community Members in a just cause.

1 The number is an ongoing topic of discussion. According to human rights groups, between 10,000 and 30,000 people were disappeared during the last civil-military dictatorship - many of them without a trace. Some activists prefer to say 30,400 in order to visualise the LGBTQI+ victims who were silenced before.

Subsequent discussions touched upon the engagement and involvement of youth in e-learning courses and how digital literacy in the local language is the key to finding solutions. Furthermore, to understand mis-/disinformation in Kenya, it is crucial for civil activists to interpret local language written in English on social media channels and provide its true meaning and local context, especially for vulnerable groups such as women and marginalised communities. The importance of cultural sensitivities such as language, tribes, non-biased and inclusive datasets belonging to vulnerable communities, and control and importance of private data were highlighted from a language dialect perspective.

Dr Githaiga also pointed out the importance of access to information during crises using the COVID-19 example and how collaboration with private partners, media, academia and big-tech digital players contributed to a better understanding of what type of intervention is inadequate and what type of information is not needed to counter mis-/disinformation campaigns. The role of civil society actors is important to create awareness and keep government actions in-check and lastly to link and advance the legal debate based on the constitutional rights of the citizens. Dr Githaiga also argued that mis-/disinformation is a public issue that requires crowdsourcing and citizen-led efforts. The role of positive storytelling, community level verification and vetting efforts of information in general should become part of every endeavour to counter mis-/disinformation, with individual responsibility at the core of all efforts. Political power structures play an important role, as well as social media influencers, community elders and religious leaders. In order for them to use their standing in the fight against disinformation, it is important to understand which actors influence which population groups.

Bus Transfer to Karura Forest and guided nature experience and walk: The walk through the nature reserve of Karura Forest was a refreshing break for the participants, offering a chance to learn about Kenya's flora and fauna and the efforts of the indigenous community to preserve the forest and reinstate indigenous plant and tree varieties that had been replaced by trees like eucalyptus during the colonial period. Karura Forest is setting an example in nature conservation and the involvement and impact of the local community, supporting efforts to nourish and restore the identity of a lost forest.

DAY 4 GROUNDING

The Workshop and Next Steps

GDL Global Impact Session

GDL Members discussed different regional perspectives, taking into consideration different legal structures, advocacy challenges, the role of the judiciary, lack of capacity and inadequate standardisation mechanisms. The dominance of English and the problem of mistranslation of information in local languages as well as inadequate knowledge of local values and customs were the main insights from the impact session. There was a consensus within the group that mis-/disinformation is being systematically weaponised, and global vulnerable communities are differently affected. Examples were shared from Poland, Uganda, Turkey, Palestine, India, Kenya, and other places. The role of multilateral organisations such as the United Nations and the African Union was also discussed.

The impact sessions focused on amplifying the voices of youth, women and marginalised communities and discussed initiatives that enhance dialogue and trust by creating and promoting fact based, positive narratives and greater gender equality in the public sphere and media, to address mis-/disinformation issues. The GDL colleagues shared their personal motivation and this included techniques for generating positive and constructive content, creative intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding in tacking themes such as hate speech and divisive narratives. The suggestions included methods to liaison with international organisations in Kenya such as the UNEP and other UN bodies in supporting the Kenyan challenge holder community and harnessing the GDL's own regional and global capacities via networking, working on policy recommendations and inter-regional and intra-regional programs on ideas and themes that reflect lab's learning's.

To reflect on the new ideas discussed over the three days, the GDL Members were divided into three groups and were tasked with analysing what they had learned using the GDL impact tree approach. The results included a commitment to share their insights with peers, other communities and organisations, international conferences, and other fora, and potential future projects in related areas.



Lab Reflection: Experience Sharing and What Next?

GDL Global Impact Session



This session was designed to convey and integrate all elements of the Lab topics discussed across themes and sectors into an information synopsis, highlighting the various elements of mis/disinformation and to channel the Lab findings and learnings to empower GDL members in becoming more informative and vigilant regarding the mis/dis-

information practices and to view information with fact-check mindset. The labs reflection on personal experiences benefited GDL Members in formulating continuity in communication regarding the lab theme and ensure continuity of engagement on the topic via informal and bilateral communications within GDL. For example, Maia Mazurkiewicz (the lab co-host) is now the host of a TV Show, 'The

Anatomy of Disinformation' and invited Sylvia Mukasa from Kenya to discuss how disinformation is shaping the information environment, with a focus on Kenya as a use-case in foreign influence. In this way, the session formulated informal engagements that lead into concrete next steps to ensure that the Lab has a lasting impact by the participating GDL Members and with challenge holders





Participants

Abed Al Raouf Turman Aidah Bukubuza **Andreea Petre-Goncalves Ankit Khanal Chris Fowler** Claudia Loebbecke Elif (Çavuşlu) Perla **Fabrice Muchiga** Gaurav Sharma **Jakob Preuss** Katarzyna Hanula Bobbitt Khaldun Al Saadi Maia Mazurkiewicz Mome Saleem **Monica Gavriluta** Simon Masaba Sylvia Mukasa Volkan Sezgin

Challenge holders

ARTICLE 19
Baraza Media Lab
Digital Transformation Centre (DTC),
Kenya
KICTANet



Disclaimer:

Attending GDL members participated in their personal capacity in the Global Diplomacy Lab. None of the views expressed in this document represent any of those of the partner institutions or the institutions and organizations

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