Logistics:

Session Time: **Tuesday, March 19, 14.00 - 15.30 KST**
Location: Room 301, COEX Convention & Exhibition Center

Session Description: *(also available online)*

In recent years, the importance of a healthy information ecosystem has become increasingly apparent. It's vital for maintaining public trust in democratic processes and institutions, fostering open, pluriform and inclusive public debate, and facilitating discussions on human rights, public health, and environmental issues grounded in a shared understanding of reality. The growing scope and sophistication of disinformation highlights the necessity for coordinated efforts among government, private sector, and civil society stakeholders. These efforts are essential to promote and protect the online information ecosystem. With a packed electoral calendar in 2024, the urgency of addressing these challenges is clear. The 39 member states of the Freedom Online Coalition are committed to supporting global efforts to uphold information integrity online and to reinforce democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.

This session will highlight the vision and goal of the FOC's multistakeholder Task Force on Information Integrity, and foster dialogue among Summit participants on collaborative efforts to uphold information integrity during electoral periods. We take notice of the many different efforts, including recent industry initiatives such as the *Tech Accord to Combat Deceptive Use of AI in 2024 Elections* to address the challenges in particular caused by AI to election integrity. At this event, we will discuss methods to collectively advocate for the promotion of a healthy online information ecosystem, and how these initiatives can work in conjunction with each other. We will also discuss what further steps are needed to fully understand our different roles and responsibilities, the functioning and the nature of the online information ecosystem, and how we consequently can better design and govern it in a way that promotes democracy and human rights.

Format and run-of-show:

14.00	**Moira Whelan** (Moderator) opens the event, gives the floor to NL Ambassador to ROK.
>	Opening remarks by **Peter van der Vliet,** Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Republic of Korea. ● The Ambassador gives the floor to US Zeya
14.05	Opening remarks by **Uzra Zeya,** Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights

14.10	**Moira** thanks NL and US for their remarks and briefly sets the stage for the lightning round of global testimonies from three (/four) civil society representatives to underscore the global presence of these issues and underlines the importance of including visions on information integrity from around the world.
>	Lightning round: 1. **Camilo Arratia Toledo**, Project Analyst, Internet Bolivia 2. **KS Park**, Founder, Executive Director, Open Net Korea 3. **Hyra Basit**, Senior Project Manager, Digital Rights Foundation
14.25	**Moira** thanks the civil society reps, then welcomes panelists to the stage. ● **Alex Walden**, Global Lead for Human Rights, Google ● **Amy Larsen**, Director, Democracy Forward, Microsoft ● **Aws Al-Saadi**, Founder & President, Tech4Peace ● **Elonnai Hickok**, Managing Director, Global Network Initiative ● **Mia Møhring Larsen**, Senior Tech Advisor for Human Rights & Global Engagement, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark **Guiding Questions:** <u>Information integrity:</u> 1. Misinformation, disinformation, propaganda are all age-old phenomena. In your view, what is the most crucial new challenge that we're facing in terms of information integrity in the digital age? 2. The pursuit of information integrity is a complex task. Many global initiatives are taking different approaches to this. Have you identified any gaps in how we approach the issue, if so which? What would you ask of the global community to do differently? 3. In discussions around information integrity, we often talk about the information we do not wish to see online. Information that harms people, institutions, trust or social coherence, ultimately harming democracy. What is our strongest card in dealing with false or misleading information? 4. Recent initiatives from both the UN, governments, industry and civil society shows that the issue of information integrity is imperative for everyone. Given the global nature and the complexities of issues related to information integrity, what more is needed to strengthen collaborative efforts? <u>Elections:</u> 1. While 2024 is a historic year for democracies, and one the one hand could be celebrated as such - many have dreaded this year due to the significant challenges to democratic institutions and processes. What have you done to

	prepare? And do you think that is enough to safeguard election and information integrity this year? 2. A string of elections have already taken place this year. What lessons have we learnt so far seen from your perspective? Are there any unexpected outcomes that we can learn from as we head towards other elections? 3. Over the course of past years, we've spoken a lot about multistakeholder and collaborative efforts. Tried to forge trustful partnerships so that we could jointly tackle digital threats and challenges. How do we best put these lessons learnt to use in 2024 and beyond?
15:20	**Moira** closes the panel discussion, briefly sums up and thanks panelists, and they leave the stage. Moderator then welcomes **Rachel Arinii Judhistari**, Lead Public Policy Specialist, ESEAP, Wikimedia Foundation to the stage to give closing remarks.
>	**Rachel** gives closing remarks and thanks participants for coming.