



**Co-Chair Statement
Christchurch Call Leaders' Summit**

NEW YORK, 20 SEPTEMBER 2022

Joint Statement by Prime Minister Rt Hon Jacinda
Arden and His Excellency President Emmanuel
Macron on the occasion of the 2022 Christchurch Call
Leaders' Meeting

Today, Leaders of the Christchurch Call Community – the Heads of State and Government, Leaders from Online Service Providers and Civil Society have convened to address our continued efforts to combat terrorist and violent extremist content online.

Just over three years ago at the Elysée Palace in Paris, Leaders from the technology industry and Government were joined with a karanga – a call to attention from the indigenous culture of Aotearoa New Zealand, remembering not only the lives lost in Christchurch but also countless more lives and communities around the world impacted by the weaponization of the internet and online services.

The Christchurch Call made significant progress. Together, among other important actions, we have:

- Enforced new policies and set up systems to combat terrorist and violent extremist content;
- Supported establishment of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism as an independent NGO to create integrated solutions and share information and expertise;
- Developed incident protocols that increased the speed and effectiveness of our response to livestreamed terrorist attacks and similar incidents; and
- Built a multistakeholder community that spans every continent, dedicated to advancing our work together.

Since our last Summit, we have added new industry supporters and partner organisations to our ranks including Roblox, Zoom, Mega, Clubhouse, the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund, and Tech Against Terrorism.

The karanga, or call, was not just to those who have passed, but also to future generations. The future of the internet and the future of our free, open, societies are intertwined. As we look ahead our legacy must be a free, open, secure and interconnected global internet as a force for good, a place where human rights are promoted and upheld and where technology contributes to social mobility and empowerment for all.

Today, we considered how to take forward our work in three broad areas.

1. Incident Response and the Proliferation of Terrorist and Violent Extremist Content

The Christchurch Call has galvanised significant action, meaning users are far less likely to encounter terrorist and violent extremist content online. We have also built systems to coordinate and respond during a terrorist attack, to make it more difficult for attackers to exploit online services. There are, however, many online service providers that remain outside the Call. Some are small. Others cannot or will not meet the Call Commitments. The threat landscape continues to evolve. We have seen concerted efforts to exploit gaps and vulnerabilities and find novel ways to defeat the detection and moderation efforts of Call supporters. We therefore need to extend our reach and to harness the commitments, capabilities, skills, and networks that exist across all sectors.

Today the Call's Leaders endorsed the following key actions:

- Continue reaching out to a diverse set of online service providers both large and small, bringing them into the Call and into our systems for crisis response.
- Ensure shared industry tools remain at the leading edge of technology and are effective in responding to adversarial tactics and shifts.
- Start Community work on options and advice for Call Supporters to address the role of unmoderated and 'alt-tech' services in disseminating terrorist and violent extremist content, day-to-day and in crises, while protecting and respecting human rights and maintaining a free, open, and secure internet.
- Continue working with all sectors to test and refine our crisis response protocols, to improve information-sharing and coordination, to strengthen human rights protections, and to increase transparency. Ensure an active role for researchers, civil society, and community groups in crisis response.

2. Algorithms, social drivers, impacts, and interventions

Our Mission is to deal with the online impacts of terrorism and violent extremism and to address its drivers including underlying social factors and the impact of online user journeys on radicalisation to violence. Enhancing our understanding of the impacts of algorithmic systems – including those which curate and recommend the content we see, and those that identify and remove violating content – is a crucial element in making the internet safer. There are many challenges that hinder the effective investigation of algorithmic systems including commercial sensitivity, privacy of user information, and the technical challenge of accessing systems and data securely. Insights derived from improved understanding of these processes will enable us to develop more effective interventions.

The Call's Leaders endorsed the following key actions :

- Develop shared solutions to studying algorithmic impacts within the Christchurch Call
- Drive forward discussions on targeted research pilots that respond to questions raised by our Community, including on how content recommendations might be exploited by terrorists, deepening the evidence base on the links between online misogyny as a vector for violent extremism, and the possible unintended consequences of human / machine learning AI interactions
- Promote a wide range of tools, including third party standards and quality metrics, and features that promote user choice and responsibility to help disrupt violent extremist and terrorist content.
- Increase outreach to organisations representing communities impacted by terrorism and violent extremism online, including women, LGBTQIA+ communities, youth, and intersectional communities, to embed diverse voices in our understanding of the impact of algorithms, radicalisation, and the design and implementation of effective interventions.
- Recognizing that there are demonstrated linkages between targeted violence and online hate-based movements and ideologies, including, for example, online misogyny, gender-based hatred, and other hate-based, discriminatory prejudices, deepen the evidence base on the links between these factors as potential vectors for terrorism and violent extremism.

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3. Future-proofing the Christchurch Call

As we continue to innovate and the functionality of online environments grows, we want today's young people to enjoy the benefits of a global internet without having to confront violent extremist and terrorist content or threats. We are determined that the Call will play a role in building a positive future online, and that our Call Community continues to thrive and contribute positively to it.

The Call's Leaders endorsed the following key actions:

- Launch a new stream of work to understand how we can support the adoption of new technologies while promoting safety and securing against terrorist and violent extremist content.
- Increase our understanding of the challenges presented by new technologies, to develop strategies to address those challenges and prepare the Call Community to counter new types of terrorist and violent extremist content.
- Engage directly and thoughtfully with children and young people about our new workplan and actions under the Christchurch Call and reflect their voice in our work.
- Prioritise outreach to online service providers that serve a younger audience as we build our multistakeholder community, with a focus on those at the forefront of emerging technologies such as immersive gaming platforms.
- Deliver a platform to help our Community work more effectively together on common projects.
- Build on the success of the Call as a global multistakeholder Leaders initiative by pushing for globally aligned approaches and solutions.

The Christchurch Call has developed a unique model for coordinating action, bringing together affected communities, civil society, and technical experts, alongside international organisations, industry and government. By applying the distinct capabilities of each sector and forging a community with shared purpose and ambition, we are delivering results.

The success of the Call is now well recognised, and some stakeholders have expressed interest in seeking to understand how the Call might work on related issues. We agreed the Call should remain focused on the scope of its Commitments building on our success and sustaining this work into the future.

Ahead of the Paris Peace Forum, New Zealand, France, and other Call community members with an interest will consider some of these related issues – including disinformation, harassment, abuse, and hatred online, and issues affecting youth – to understand how we might apply what we have learned working on the Christchurch Call, where we can support and engage on related initiatives such as Tech for Democracy, the Summit for Democracy, the Freedom Online Coalition, the Declaration for the Future of the Internet, the Aqaba Process, the Global Partnership for Action on Gender Based Online Harassment and Abuse, the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence, and the International Call to Stand up for Children's Rights Online, and where there is multistakeholder interest in new work programmes separate to the Call.

We look forward to re-convening Christchurch Call Leaders in 2023

**CHRISTCHURCH
CALL** |

TO ELIMINATE TERRORIST
& VIOLENT EXTREMIST
CONTENT ONLINE



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