

Commitments Canada has signed or made for protecting democracy / elections.

Year	Statements, commitments, declarations	Partners or co-signers	Commitments, statements, declarations Canada has made or signed	Detailed list of commitments Canada has made or signed
2018	Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace	Several member States + stakeholders (businesses, CSOs, NGOs, etc.)	Member States recognize the necessity of a strengthened multistakeholder approach and of additional efforts to reduce risks to the stability of cyberspace and to build-up confidence, capacity and trust. To that end, they affirm their willingness to work together, in the existing fora and through the relevant organizations, institutions, mechanisms and processes to assist one another and implement cooperative measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and recover from malicious cyber activities that threaten or cause significant, indiscriminate or systemic harm to individuals and critical infrastructure; Prevent activity that intentionally and substantially damages the general availability or integrity of the public core of the Internet; Strengthen our capacity to prevent malign interference by foreign actors aimed at undermining electoral processes through malicious cyber activities; Prevent ICT-enabled theft of intellectual property, including trade secrets or other confidential business information, with the intent of providing competitive advantages to companies or commercial sector; Develop ways to prevent the proliferation of malicious ICT tools and practices intended to cause harm; Strengthen the security of digital processes, products and services, throughout their lifecycle and supply chain; Support efforts to strengthen an advanced cyber hygiene for all actors; Take steps to prevent non-State actors, including the private sector, from hacking-back, for their own purposes or those of other non-State actors; Promote the widespread acceptance and implementation of international norms of responsible behavior as well as confidence-building measures in cyberspace.
Dec. 6, 2021	The Joint statement on democracy	International Institute for Democracy & Electoral Assistance (IDEA)	The 33 member States of IDEA express their support for global and regional multilateral efforts to protect & advance democracy, as well as national initiatives to strengthen states' own adherence to democratic principles. Therefore, democratic practice should be the cornerstone of global decision-making processes. [They] regard democracy as the best political system to realize the aspirations for freedom, equality, dignity, development, peace and security enshrined in the UN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investing in the quality of public institutions, enhancing state capacities to deliver public goods and services to their population, and combatting corruption in order to contribute to inclusive and accountable post-pandemic recovery. Strengthening the rule of law through independent, impartial and competent people-centered judiciaries, checks and balances, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, particularly freedoms of the press, expression and assembly. Promoting independent democratic institutions, especially the pluralism of party systems and political voices, the integrity and legitimacy of elections, and informed political debates free from disinformation, including in digital spaces and online platforms. Embracing democratic practices, by exploring institutional innovations, highlighting local solutions, supporting civic actors, free and independent media and human rights defenders, and including more young people, women and disadvantaged groups in the political process.

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			<p>Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.</p> <p>[They] restate [their] unwavering commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal on peace, justice, and strong institutions, with the conviction that democracy built on human rights and the rule of law is pivotal to achieving the 2030 Agenda. Thriving democracies deliver both for their own citizens and for the broad international community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building new equitable, inclusive, transparent and sustainable social contracts, and advancing gender and racial equality, so that human rights are enjoyed by all, no one is left behind and trust is strengthened.
December 2021	Canada's progress on Summit for Democracy commitments (international.gc.ca)	<p>Canada and other Summit for Democracy member States</p>	<p>Respecting human rights and freedoms, holding free, fair and inclusive elections, and adhering to the rule of law are essential for our democracies to thrive. By protecting and promoting democracy globally, Canada will create a more secure, stable, and prosperous world for future generations.</p>	<p>In December 2021, Canada announced 35 commitments in alignment with the 3 key themes of the Summit for Democracy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Advancing Democracy and Defending Against Authoritarianism Addressing and Fighting Corruption Advancing Respect for Human Rights
2022	Joint statements on the spread of disinformation online	<p>Freedom Online Coalition: The Freedom Online Coalition (FOC) regroup 32 countries committed to the promotion & protection of</p>	<p>The FOC highlights that the Internet should be conducive to a news and media ecosystem where there is access to information and plurality of the media; free and independent media has a sustainable future, and public service media and local news outlets are able to thrive. Public access to factual and diverse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abstain from conducting and sponsoring disinformation campaigns, and condemn such acts. Address disinformation while ensuring a free, open, interoperable, reliable and secure Internet, and fully respecting human rights. Improve coordination and multi-stakeholder cooperation, including with the private sector and civil society, to address disinformation in a manner that respects human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Implement any measures, including legislation introduced to address disinformation, in a manner that complies with international human rights law and does not lead to restrictions on freedom of opinion and expression inconsistent with Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

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		human rights & fundamental freedoms, offline & online. These countries working together to support Internet freedom and human rights for individuals worldwide – including the freedoms of expression, association, peaceful assembly, and privacy rights.	information can make societies more resilient to disinformation. [...] The FOC urges all stakeholders, including governments worldwide, the private sector, civil society, research and educational institutions, the media, and individuals to share experiences, expertise and best practices on addressing disinformation. Such collaboration and engagement will encourage a global movement towards countering disinformation while fully respecting human rights and promoting the multi-stakeholder Internet governance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect, protect and fulfill the right to freedom of expression, including freedom to seek, receive and impart information regardless of frontiers, taking into account the important and valuable guidance of human rights treaty bodies • Refrain from discrediting criticism of their policies and stifling freedom of opinion and expression under the guise of countering disinformation, including blocking access to the Internet, intimidating journalists and interfering with their ability to operate freely. • Support initiatives to empower individuals through online media and digital literacy education to think critically about the information they are consuming and sharing, and take steps to keep themselves and others safe online. • Take active steps to address disinformation targeted at vulnerable groups, acknowledging, in particular the specific targeting of and impact on women and persons belonging to minorities. • Support international cooperation and partnerships to promote digital inclusion⁷, including universal and affordable access to the Internet for all.
Oct. 2023	Joint statement on internet shutdowns and elections		FOC members strongly condemn intentional measures taken by States to undermine an open, free, global and interoperable Internet and digital communications platforms through shutdowns and network disruptions before, during, and following electoral periods. Elections are key democratic milestones and help hold governments accountable and responsive to the needs of their citizens. Protecting, respecting, and promoting human rights is essential to foster free and fair elections. This includes the	We call on all States to commit publicly to refrain from restricting the Internet and digital communications amid electoral periods.

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			<p>rights to freedom of association and of peaceful assembly, and to freedom of expression and opinion, which includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information. Access to information is a cornerstone of informed voting and decision-making during elections.</p>	
	<p>Statement on AI and human rights</p>		<p>As a first step towards the promotion and protection of human rights, states and the private sector should endeavor to promote & increase transparency, traceability, and accountability in the design, development, procurement, & use of AI systems, with appropriate protections for intellectual property. [...] FOC reaffirms that states must abide by their obligations under international human rights law to ensure that human rights are fully respected and protected. As also noted in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, "States must protect against human rights abuse within their territory and/or jurisdiction by third parties, including business enterprises."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States should take action to oppose and refrain from the use of AI systems for repressive and authoritarian purposes, including the targeting of or discrimination against persons and communities in vulnerable and marginalized positions and human rights defenders, in violation of international human rights law. • States should refrain from arbitrary or unlawful interference in the operations of online platforms, including those using AI systems. States have a responsibility to ensure that any measures affecting online platforms, including counter-terrorism and national security legislation, are consistent with international law, including international human rights law. States should refrain from restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including in relation to political dissent and the work of journalists, civil society, and human rights defenders, except when such restrictions are in accordance with international law, particularly international human rights law. • States should promote international multi-stakeholder engagement in the development of relevant norms, rules, and standards for the development, procurement, use, certification, and governance of AI systems that, at a minimum, are consistent with international human rights law. States should welcome input from a broad and geographically representative group of states and stakeholders. • States need to ensure the design, development and use of AI systems in the public sector is conducted in accordance with their international human rights obligations. States should respect their commitments and ensure that any interference with human rights is consistent with international law. • States, and any private sector or civil society actors working with them or on their behalf, should protect human rights when procuring, developing and using AI systems in the public sector, through the adoption of processes such as due diligence and impact assessments, that are made transparent wherever possible. These processes should provide an opportunity for all stakeholders, particularly those who face disproportionate negative impacts, to provide input. AI impact assessments should, at a minimum, consider the risks to human rights posed by the use of AI systems, and be continuously evaluated before deployment and throughout the system's lifecycle to account for unintended and/or unforeseen

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				<p>outcomes with respect to human rights. States need to provide an effective remedy against alleged human rights violations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • States should encourage the private sector to observe principles and practices of responsible business conduct (RBC) in the use of AI systems throughout their operations and supply and value chains, in a consistent manner and across all contexts. By incorporating RBC, companies are better equipped to manage risks, identify and resolve issues proactively, and adapt operations accordingly for long-term success. RBC activities of both states and the private • States should consider how domestic legislation, regulation and policies can identify, prevent, and mitigate risks to human rights posed by the design, development and use of AI systems, and take action where appropriate. These may include national AI and data strategies, human rights codes, privacy laws, data protection measures, responsible business practices, and other measures that may protect the interests of persons or groups facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. National measures should take into consideration such guidance provided by human rights treaty bodies and international initiatives, such as human-centered values identified in the OECD Recommendation of the Council on Artificial Intelligence,⁵ which was also endorsed by the G20 AI Principles.⁶ States should promote the meaningful inclusion of persons or groups who can be disproportionately and negatively impacted, as well as civil society and academia, in determining if and how AI systems should be used in different contexts (weighing potential benefits against potential human rights impacts and developing adequate safeguards). • States should promote, and where appropriate, support efforts by the private sector, civil society, and all other relevant stakeholders to increase transparency and accountability related to the use of AI systems, including through approaches that strongly encourage the sharing of information between stakeholders, on topics such as the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ user privacy, including the use of user data to refine AI systems, the sharing of data collected through AI systems with third parties, and if reasonable, how to opt-out of the collection, sharing, or use of user-generated data ○ the automated moderation of user generated content including, but not limited to, the removal, downranking, flagging, and demonetization of content. ○ recourse or appeal mechanisms, when content is removed as the result of an automated decision. ○ oversight mechanisms, such as human monitoring for potential human rights impacts • States, as well as the private sector, should work towards increased transparency, which could include providing access to appropriate data and information for the benefit of civil society and academia, while safeguarding privacy and intellectual
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				<p>property, in order to facilitate collaborative and independent research into AI systems and their potential impacts on human rights, such as identifying, preventing, and mitigating bias in the development and use of AI systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> States should foster education about AI systems and possible impacts on human rights among the public and stakeholders, including product developers and policymakers. States should work to promote access to basic knowledge of AI systems for all.
2023	Code of Conduct on AI	G7 Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 30, 2023, the Group of Seven (G7) announced their agreement to commit to International Guiding Principles on Artificial Intelligence (the Principles) and an International Code of Conduct for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems (Code of Conduct). The G7 noted that the Principles and Code of Conduct will be reviewed and updated as necessary. [...] Organizations that may endorse this Code of Conduct may include, among others, entities from academia, civil society, the private sector, and/or the public sector. [...] The Code of Conduct entails a non-exhaustive list of actions, and it was discussed and elaborated as a living document to build on the existing OECD AI Principles in response to the recent developments in advanced AI systems and is meant to help seize the benefits and address the risks and challenges brought by these technologies. Organizations should apply these actions to all stages of the lifecycle to cover, when and as applicable, the design, development, deployment, and use of advanced AI systems. [...] <p>The G7 call on organizations developing advanced AI systems to commit to the application of the International Code of Conduct.</p>	
2023	Global Declaration on Information Integrity Online	34 members States (many OECD countries + Kenya, Brazil, Georgia, etc.)	<p>This Declaration establishes a set of high-level international commitments by participating States to protect and promote information integrity online. It is grounded in international law, in particular human rights treaties, as the foundation of good governance that transcends borders, promotes equality and freedom of expression and the media. The Declaration also sets out participant States' expectations that industry and online platforms adopt a human rights-respecting approach and employ business practices that contribute to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect, promote and fulfill all human rights that are essential to upholding information integrity, including the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information regardless of frontiers. Implement necessary and appropriate measures, including legislation, to address information integrity and platform governance, in a manner that complies with international human rights law, including but not limited to States' obligations to respect privacy rights as set out in Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the rights of freedom of opinion and expression as set out in Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Respond to and monitor the rapid development of emerging technologies such as generative artificial intelligence, including through multi-stakeholder fora, to identify the possible risks, impacts, harms, benefits and opportunities to the information ecosystem online and ensure that adopted measures are proportional to the risks, respect human rights and promote international law. Promote user access to diverse online content, including national and international sources of news and information, and encourage efforts that promote diversity of content online while supporting the promotion of cultural diversity, such as through supporting and fostering strong, independent and pluralistic media that also help to preserve cultural heritage and identities, and local languages. Promote and respect pluralistic media and journalism, and protect access to media content as one measure to counter disinformation.

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			a healthy information ecosystem online.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support initiatives that strengthen civic education online, especially to improve digital, media and information literacy so that individuals are empowered to think critically about the information they are consuming and sharing, and enable societies to become more resilient to the negative impacts of misinformation and disinformation, and online harms more generally. • Take active steps to address misinformation and disinformation targeted at women, LGBTQ+ persons, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging that women, adolescents and girls, in all their diversity, persons belonging to minorities and persons in vulnerable situations are specifically targeted and impacted. • Strengthen the multistakeholder approach, considered crucial to safeguarding the information ecosystem online, by working with all stakeholders, including with regulatory bodies, industry, technical experts, academia, and civil society, in order to increase understanding of the complexities of the online information ecosystem and foster better and stronger responses to online harms. • Support international cooperation and information exchange including by working with other initiatives and partnerships, such as the Forum on Information & Democracy, to promote digital freedom and inclusion, and bridge digital divides, including establishing a possible community of practice to allow for knowledge-sharing. • Refrain from unduly restricting human rights online, especially the freedom of opinion and expression, under the guise of countering disinformation, including blocking or restricting access to the Internet, eroding privacy, intimidating, harassing or abusing journalists, researchers and human rights defenders, interfering with their ability to operate freely, or criminalizing or otherwise punishing the exercise of the right to freedom of expression online. • Abstain from conducting or sponsoring disinformation campaigns, domestically or transnationally, that willfully spread inaccurate information with the intent and effect of undermining the course of justice or democratic processes, and to condemn any such acts.
March 9, 2023	Declaration of the Summit for Democracy	Leaders of the Summit for Democracy (74 countries worldwide)	The leaders of the Summit for Democracy reaffirm [their] shared belief that democracy – government reflecting the effective participation and will of the people – is humanity's most enduring means to advance peace, prosperity, equality, sustainable development, and security. Democracy is necessary to ensure that	<p>First, reaffirm our commitments or obligations to respect, protect, and fulfill human rights and fundamental freedoms as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on its 75th anniversary and applicable international human rights instruments. We commit to hold accountable alleged perpetrators of human rights violations and abuses.</p> <p>Second, commit to respecting the right of all citizens to elect their governments through periodic, free and fair elections, which are inclusive and transparent. We reaffirm that every citizen should have the effective right and opportunity to participate in elections on an equal basis, without undue restrictions, interference, or intimidation, including through systemic discrimination or marginalization. External or internal interference or intimidation in elections, in any way, shape, or form, undermines the right of citizens to</p>

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		<p>every voice is heard; that the human rights of all are respected, protected, and fulfilled, online and offline, and that the rule of law is upheld.</p> <p>[They] recognize that democracy can take many forms, but shares common characteristics, including free and fair elections that are inclusive and accessible; separation of powers; checks and balances; peaceful transitions of power; an independent media and safety of journalists; transparency; access to information; accountability; inclusion; gender equality; civic participation; equal protection of the law; and respect for human rights, including freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly, and association. To meet the rising challenges to democracy worldwide, [they] committed to strengthen democratic institutions and processes and build resilience.</p> <p>[They] acknowledge that freedom and democracy are strengthened through cooperation, and [they] commit to building stronger domestic, regional, and global partnerships that are more assertive in</p>	<p>select their governments and other representatives. We deplore the use of violence in all its forms, during and beyond elections, including threats targeting elected officials, lawmakers, and other public figures who carry out official duties and responsibilities.</p> <p>Third, promote and uphold the rule of law and promote equal access to justice for all through a fair, effective, and impartial justice system. We commit to strengthen efforts that focus on people and deliver fair, inclusive, relevant, and timely justice that upholds and respects human rights. We deplore any attempts to abuse legal systems to interfere with the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms or to obstruct accountability efforts for human rights violations and abuses, whether at home or abroad, including by unlawfully pressuring, influencing, or raising unfounded criminal charges against judges. We commit to strengthen the rule of law and justice systems that create opportunities for people to participate fully in their economies and societies and that ensure impartial, independent, and accessible judicial systems which provide checks and balances and can hold governments, authorities, and other stakeholders accountable.</p> <p>Fourth, support civilian control of the military and hold accountable those responsible for human rights violations and abuses, including those committed by non-state actors. We demand that all parties to armed conflict fully comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law including those regarding the protection of civilians, with particular consideration of populations in marginalized or vulnerable situations. We commit to fight against impunity and promote accountability for violations of international law, particularly genocide, war crimes, the crime of aggression and crimes against humanity, including where such crimes involve sexual and gender-based violence. We acknowledge the important role played by the ICC as a permanent and impartial tribunal complementary to national jurisdictions in advancing accountability for the most serious crimes under international law.</p> <p>Fifth, respect, protect, and fulfill the right to freedom of opinion and expression; enhance access to information and the free flow of information, both online and offline, as a fundamental pillar of building a democratic society; and call on all states to release all political prisoners. We highlight the essential role that a free, independent, diverse, and inclusive media plays in resilient democracies, and commit to ensuring the safety of journalists and other media workers, both online and offline. We commit to investigate, prosecute, and punish threats and acts of violence, within our jurisdictions, committed against journalists and other media workers, and to strengthen and coordinate efforts for their protection in crises and conflict. In this regard, we recognize the central facilitating role of governments and authorities in providing transparent and easily accessible information from official sources promoting media sustainability. We are concerned by the increasing negative impact of disinformation campaigns, which threaten democracy by suppressing political engagement, engendering or deepening</p>
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			<p>countering authoritarianism and corruption and that demonstrate that democracy delivers peace, stability, and prosperity for all. [They] reiterate a firm resolve to support countries and people around the world that adhere to the values of freedom and democracy, against direct or indirect attempts or threats to undermine them.</p>	<p>distrust towards democratic institutions and processes, and hindering informed participation in political and public affairs. We commit to take appropriate steps, in a human rights-respecting manner, to address threats from, and build resilience against, misinformation and disinformation, and to refrain from conducting or sponsoring disinformation campaigns. We commit to strengthen the resilience of our societies against these threats, including by expanding digital inclusion, media literacy education, and fact checking, as well as fostering intercultural understanding and continuing to counter, by all possible means, the propaganda disseminated by autocratic regimes that undermines the free flow of information in all societies.</p> <p>Sixth, work collectively to prevent and combat corruption and illicit finance in all their forms, promote good governance, and ensure integrity. We reaffirm our strong commitment to implement anti-corruption measures, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), the most comprehensive international anti-corruption instrument, as well as the commitments made in the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) of 2021 Political Declaration. We also recognize the critical role of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, as well as domestic, international, and regional anti-corruption conventions, bodies, institutions, and initiatives. We acknowledge the importance of implementing existing anti-corruption obligations and commitments, including those regarding financial transparency, anti-corruption training, and education, initiating and implementing anti-bribery reforms, and countering illicit finance. We reaffirm our commitment to the effective implementation of the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations. We commit to maintain and build upon existing and effective tools to address all forms of corruption. We reaffirm our commitment to ensuring anti-corruption bodies have the necessary independence and competence, and, where necessary, to strengthening their institutional capacity, in accordance with the fundamental principles of domestic legal systems. We recognize that investigations of kleptocracy, particularly where such investigations involve acts of public official corruption, including embezzlement, bribery, misappropriation of public funds, and related money laundering are critical. We stress the need to promote the wider participation of the private sector, civil society, academia, and the independent media as part of an inclusive, multistakeholder, and holistic approach to preventing and countering corruption and illicit finance. We reaffirm our commitment to provide effective protection from retaliation or intimidation to any person who identifies, detects, or reports corruption-related offenses in accordance with domestic legal frameworks. We recognize the need for effective, efficient, and responsive international cooperation in asset recovery and return and mutual legal assistance without undue delay, to ensure that those who engage in corruption offenses are held accountable for such conduct and are denied the enjoyment of the proceeds of their crimes, and that such proceeds are returned consistent with the UNCAC and domestic laws. We commit to hold corrupt actors accountable, and to take practical measures to</p>
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			<p>deny them the ability to hide their illicit proceeds and access our respective jurisdictions and the international financial system, in accordance with respective domestic laws.</p> <p>Seventh, respect and uphold the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association as essential components of democracy, both online and offline. Civil society should have the opportunity and space, consistent with international human rights law, to operate, raise resources, represent the views and concerns of society, including persons in marginalized or vulnerable situations, and monitor and advocate to hold governments and authorities accountable. This is essential in building and upholding trust between citizens and public authorities. A strong, independent, inclusive, and diverse civil society empowers communities, contributes to good governance, and provides a voice to the powerless. We commit to promote a safe, accessible, and enabling environment for civil society and human rights defenders, including through the implementation of domestic legislation in compliance with applicable obligations under international human rights law. We support active citizenship, including that of youth, and civic education on democracy and human rights to increase participation in democratic life and guarantee political participation and representation of citizens in all areas.</p> <p>Eighth, promote respect for human rights and equality for all individuals and combat all forms of discrimination and exclusion on any grounds, consistent with international human rights law, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including on the basis of gender, race, ethnicity, color, religion or belief, national or social origin, property, birth, indigeneity, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, pregnancy, political opinion, class, genetic information, or age, and promote inclusion and the full and equal participation of all individuals in marginalized or vulnerable situations, including internally displaced persons.</p> <p>Ninth, commit to protecting and upholding the human rights of all women and girls in all their diversity. Women's rights are human rights. We commit to promoting women's full, equal, and meaningful participation and leadership in all aspects of policymaking and decision-making, peace processes, and governance at all levels, and to ensuring the equal protection of all their rights before the law. We commit to address gender inequalities, including discriminatory structures, social norms, and gender stereotypes, and sexual and gender-based violence, both online and offline, which prevent women's full, equal, and meaningful participation and enjoyment of human rights. We commit to advancing their sexual and reproductive health and rights consistent with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences. The perpetrators of violence against women and girls in all their diversity should be held accountable, and governments and authorities should take appropriate measures to create a safe, enabling, and violence-free environment for all. In order to achieve gender equality, we need the commitment of all, including men and boys, to</p>
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			<p>engage, show solidarity, and participate in the struggle and process of change. We commit to ensure equal access for women in the labor market, especially in returning after the pandemic, to emphasize the education of and increase women's participation in technology sectors, and to strive to ensure equal pay for equal work or work of equal value.</p> <p>Tenth, shape a fair, accessible, inclusive, and secure future of work with full, productive, decent, and freely chosen employment, through efforts to respect, promote, and realize fundamental labor rights, including the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, and through measures to promote decent work for all including a world of work free from violence, exploitation, and harassment. We recognize that women, persons with disabilities, and all those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination face additional barriers in the world of work and in accessing decent work, and we commit to tackling these barriers. We commit to protecting and advancing decent work and economic inclusion at home and around the world by protecting the fundamental rights to form and join independent trade unions and employer organizations, and through strengthened labor laws and enforcement. We commit to nondiscrimination, equitable treatment, equal opportunity, and the participation of all in the world of work, in addition to the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, and international cooperation to strengthen economic resilience in developing countries.</p> <p>Eleventh, promote an open, free, global, interoperable, reliable, accessible, and secure Internet, and protect human rights across the digital ecosystem so as to enhance the security, prosperity, and well-being of people around the world. We affirm that the ways in which technologies, including new and emerging ones such as artificial intelligence, biotechnologies, and quantum technologies, are designed, developed, maintained, governed, acquired, funded, sold, and used should be shaped by a commitment to democratic principles including equality, inclusion, sustainability, transparency, accountability, diversity, and respect for human rights including privacy. All people should have access to the opportunities offered by technology, with no one left behind, and we recognize the importance of bridging many forms of digital divides, including the gender digital divide, and expanding accessibility for persons with disabilities. In this regard, we commit to champion the importance of inclusion using accessible digital technologies, and we reaffirm a vision of a human-centered, inclusive, secure, and development-oriented information society and technology ecosystem. We underline that existing international law applies to state behavior in cyberspace and continue our efforts to promote the framework for responsible state behavior in cyberspace affirmed by the UN General Assembly.</p> <p>Twelfth, affirm that the responsible use of digital and emerging technologies has the potential to strengthen democracy and combat corruption, with due respect for the rule</p>
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			<p>of law, and note our commitment to defending democratic institutions and processes from threats related to misuse of technology. We recognize and commit to guarding against the chilling and dangerous effects of online abuse, harassment, and disinformation on the freedom of expression and civil and political participation of women, girls, and populations in marginalized or vulnerable situations and their potential connections to violent extremism.</p> <p>Thirteenth, promote access to the Internet, protect civic space, enable the enjoyment of human rights online, commit to supporting information communications technology infrastructure projects in underserved communities, and work to prevent government-imposed Internet disruptions and restrictions online that violate international human rights law obligations. We also recognize the importance of ensuring that surveillance technology is used in a manner consistent with democratic principles and with respect for applicable human rights obligations and commitments. We highlight the importance of technology platform accountability and underline that platforms have a responsibility to respect human rights, consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. We expect technology platforms to take appropriate action to anticipate, identify, prevent, and mitigate adverse human rights impacts directly linked to their operations and address violence, exploitation, and abuses taking place on their platforms. We underscore the need for technology companies to behave responsibly, including by enabling robust protections of individuals' privacy, safety, and health, with a focus on even stronger protections for children and youth, transparency and accountability related to platforms' algorithms and content moderation decisions, and strong protections against misuse and discrimination related to the use of algorithms, recognizing that populations in marginalized or vulnerable situations are disproportionately at risk to suffer negative consequences. In addition, we stress the importance of strengthening regional and global partnerships to increase collaboration while mitigating the risks posed by new and emerging technologies. We are guided by a commitment to a strengthened multistakeholder approach to Internet governance and more robust cooperation among governments and authorities on relevant public policies issues pertaining to digital ecosystems in order to achieve inclusive, comprehensive, coherent, and enduring solutions.</p> <p>Fourteenth, reinforce our commitment to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and protect against human rights abuses, within our territories and/or jurisdictions, by third parties, including business enterprises, by taking appropriate steps to prevent, investigate, punish, and redress such abuse through effective policies, legislation, regulations, and adjudication. We are committed to working towards consensus-based multi-stakeholder efforts that build upon the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights to strengthen international cooperation and consistency, including, but not limited to, protecting rights holders, addressing instances of abuses, and supporting remedy.</p>
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			<p>Fifteenth, work together to defend against transnational threats, including foreign information manipulation and interference, which includes disinformation that is discriminatory and targets women and girls and populations in marginalized or vulnerable situations. We commit to defend against foreign interference, including in elections; transnational organized crimes; corruption; forced labor in global supply chains; terrorism; and transnational repression, including that of human rights defenders, whatever their origin. We commit to strengthen international cooperation and reinforce our support for an effective multilateral system, including the United Nations.</p> <p>Sixteenth, affirm that arbitrarily arresting, detaining, and sentencing individuals for leverage in state-to-state relations is unacceptable, unjust, and contrary to international law. We acknowledge the Declaration Against Arbitrary Detention in State-to-State Relations and speak against this practice, recognizing that citizens of any country could be targeted at any time.</p> <p>Seventeenth, commit to working together to address the most critical global challenges. We are committed to protecting the environment as an essential element in achieving sustainable development and advancing sustainable, inclusive, and functional democracies. We recognize that sustainable development, in its three dimensions (social, economic, and environmental), and a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment contributes to and promotes the full enjoyment of all human rights. Pollution, climate change, and environmental degradation, including loss of biodiversity, and their adverse effects, which includes resource scarcity, shortage of water, and food insecurity, negatively impact the enjoyment of human rights and present a challenge to the social, economic, and political stability of societies around the world, while having a disproportionate impact on populations in marginalized or vulnerable situations. Our cooperation is essential to reduce the adverse effects of climate change and pollution and to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by delivering on global commitments to address these challenges including by scaling up relevant financial resources while advancing more resilient, innovative, and long-term transformative and inclusive governance models that protect a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. We commit to strengthen transparent and effective democratic institutions that can support global efforts to advance health goals, including building stronger and more resilient health systems, and advancing pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response for all. We also commit to continue to work to build, sustain, and finance the capacities we need to prevent, detect, and respond to not only emerging COVID-19 variants, but also to current and future health crises in a more rapid, transparent, accountable, safe, equitable, and secure manner. International cooperation remains essential to create the systems we need to end the COVID-19 pandemic, save lives, and build better health security and health systems for all.</p>
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	Pledge for Election Integrity	Alliance for Democracies (Transatlantic Commission on Election Integrity)	Political parties and their candidates are on the front lines of democracy and election integrity. That is why the members of the Transatlantic Commission on Election Integrity (a transatlantic, bi-partisan group of political, tech, business and media leaders that seeks to foster a more collective approach to preventing the next wave of foreign election interference) are calling on all democratic parties, as well as candidates themselves, to commit to take no action to aid and abet those who seek to undermine our democracies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not fabricate, use, or spread falsified, fabricated, doxed, or stolen information or data for disinformation or propaganda purposes, Not fabricate, use, or spread synthetic (AI-doctored) media content, which was created for instance with deepfake technology to impersonate other candidates without their consent, Ensure transparency in my use of any coordinated and particularly AI-based network activity (so-called "bots") to disseminate messages; avoid using such networks to attack opponents and other electoral stakeholders, or coordinating third-parties, proxies, or fake accounts to undertake these actions; avoid unethical microtargeting of voters on any social network, Ensure transparency in foreign and domestic sources of campaign financing, especially online political advertising purchases, to maximize public trust in the electoral process, Take active steps to maintain good cyber hygiene of my election campaign, such as regular cybersecurity checks and password protection, training of my campaign staff in digital literacy and digital risk awareness, to recognize and prevent attacks, Inform myself at the beginning of the election campaign about the authorities and institutions responsible for safeguarding the integrity of the elections, to which any suspected attempt to influence elections should be reported. In the event of an incident against me, I will immediately report it to these institutions.
2024	Joint statement by Canada, United States and United Kingdom on foreign information manipulation	The United States, the United Kingdom and Canada	The United States, the United Kingdom and Canada jointly endorse the Framework to Counter Foreign State Information Manipulation, which affirms our shared understanding of the threat and offers a holistic view of how to address the foreign information manipulation challenge. It aims to standardize our approach to this problem and build interoperable and complementary systems to resist this threat as technologies continue to emerge and adapt. The framework complements the high-level international commitments from the Global Declaration on Information Integrity Online and reinforces our joint efforts and commitment to protect and promote information integrity.	
Jan. 28, 2024	The Framework to Counter Foreign State Information Manipulation	United States and its allies	Foreign information manipulation and interference is a national security threat to the United States as well as to its allies and partners. Today, the U.S. Department of State is announcing an important new tool for addressing this problem: The Framework to Counter Foreign State Information Manipulation.	<p>National Strategies and Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively addressing foreign state information manipulation requires countries to go beyond "monitor-and-report" approaches, to include developing and implementing strategies to counter this threat. These policies should ensure safeguards for freedom of expression, protection for marginalized groups, transparency in media ownership, and a commitment to protect elections from foreign malign influence. <p>Governance Structures and Institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marshaling and administering a national-level approach to countering foreign state information manipulation requires designated governance structures and institutions within governments.

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			<p>This Framework seeks to develop a common understanding of this threat and establish a common set of action areas from which the United States, with its allies and partners, can develop coordinated responses to foreign information manipulation and protect free and open societies. The Framework serves as a tool for diplomatic engagement on the threat of foreign information manipulation. It will deepen cooperation between like-minded partners, establish a common operating picture, and support the development of resilient, fact-based information ecosystems. The Framework is based on five Key Action Areas: (1) national strategies and policies; (2) governance structures and institutions; (3) human and technical capacity; (4) civil society, independent media, and academia; and (5) multilateral engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ability to organize dedicated government institutions to lead and coordinate national efforts, international engagement, and fact-based digital communication on foreign information manipulation is key to this effort. <p>Human and Technical Capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively countering foreign state information manipulation requires technical means and human capacity to maintain threat awareness. Building effective capacity includes investing in digital security tools that can detect foreign state information manipulation and ensuring interoperability between government partners working to counter this threat. <p>Civil Society, Independent Media, and Academia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society, independent media, and academia can play essential roles in informing and supporting government-led initiatives to counter foreign state information manipulation. Countering foreign state information manipulation is best done when governments protect and support the role of independent media, promote independent fact checking and media and digital literacy, and welcome public advocacy on the issue. <p>Multilateral Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multilateral organizations that leverage international cooperation to counter and build resilience against foreign state information manipulation are indispensable to alleviating information and capability shortfalls across partner nations. <p>The Way Forward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A broad coalition of like-minded partners is key to successfully countering foreign information manipulation, as each country brings different strengths, capacities, and resources to offer. The United States calls on partner countries committed to promoting open and fact-based information environments, free from foreign information manipulation, to endorse the Key Action Areas included in the Framework and to begin working towards a coordinated approach to this transnational threat.
Forth-coming in 2024	UN Global Digital Compact	United Nations	<p>Following the political declaration adopted at the occasion of the United Nations' 75th anniversary in September 2020, the Secretary-General in September 2021 released his report Our Common Agenda. It proposes a</p>	

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			<p>Global Digital Compact to be agreed at the Summit of the Future in September 2024 through a technology track involving all stakeholders: governments, the United Nations system, the private sector (including tech companies), civil society, grass-roots organizations, academia, and individuals, including youth. The Global Digital Compact is expected to "outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all". The Common Agenda report suggests issues that it might cover, including digital connectivity, avoiding Internet fragmentation, providing people with options as to how their data is used, application of human rights online, and promoting a trustworthy Internet by introducing accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content.</p>	
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