



SERIES ON PROTECTING DIGITAL SPACES

“Safeguarding the Metaverse: Countering Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism in Digital Space”

28 November 2022
9:00-11:00 am ET (New York Time), *via Webex*

AGENDA

28 November 2022	
9:00-9:05	Welcome Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">o <i>Mr. Raffi Gregorian - Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General and Director, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) (5 min)</i>
9:05-9:10	Opening Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none">o <i>Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED), Speaker TBD</i>
9:10-9:13	Introductory Video
9:13-9:44	Session 1 – Setting the Stage: Defining the Metaverse, Understanding its Origin, its Role, and Current Use <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the Metaverse, when and where did the concept originate, and what are its intended purposes?• What is the Metaverse currently used for, and why is it gaining such rapid momentum?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many platforms can we expect to exist in the Metaverse and how will they interact? Will the internet be the medium for these technologies to integrate with one another, ensuring interoperability? • When can we expect the Metaverse to be applied as a mainstream technology, and what are the foreseeable developments towards its expansion? • How will the Metaverse impact real-world experiences (social, business and commercial)? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Dr. Joel Elson, Research Professor at the National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (NCITE)</i> ○ <i>Dr. Mariam Nouh, Vice President of Future Economies Sector at King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) and Associate Fellow at the Global Network on Extremism and Technology</i> ○ <i>Mr. Fabio La Franca, Founder and CEO, Blueverse Ventures and member of the World Economic Forum's Defining and Building The Metaverse Initiative</i> ○ <i>Ms. Anna Collard, Senior Vice President Content Strategy and Evangelist, KnowBe4 Africa</i> <p>▪ <i>Moderator: Dr. Christina Schori Liang, Head, Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism, Geneva Centre for Security Policy</i></p>
9:44-10:15	<p>Session 2 – Possible Risks of Terrorist Misuse and Identifying Safeguards in the Metaverse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are some of the Metaverse's vulnerabilities and possible risks for exploitation by terrorists and violent extremists and is there a projected timeline for their occurrence? ▪ How will immersive technologies affect the ability to convey narratives and how can this be potentially exploited by terrorists and violent extremists? ▪ How do algorithmic biases help to facilitate radicalization in the Metaverse? ▪ What are ways in which we can operationalize a whole-of-society approach in proactively identifying risks and safeguarding the Metaverse, preventing its potential misuse by terrorists and violent extremists? ▪ What are potential human rights violations that we may face as we develop measures to protect the Metaverse from potential misuse, and how can we mitigate against them? <p>○ <i>Mr. Christian Schwieter, Project Manager, Policy & Research, Institute for Strategic Dialogue</i></p> <p>○ <i>Ms. Kavya Pearlman, Founder and CEO of XR Safety Initiative</i></p> <p>○ <i>Dr. Hoda Al Khzaimi, Director of Center of Cybersecurity at NYU Abu Dhabi</i></p> <p>○ <i>Mr. Irakli Beridze, Head of Centre for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, UNICRI</i></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Moderator: Dr. Eviane Leidig, Associate Fellow, Current and Emerging Threats programme, ICCT, Associate Fellow, Global Network on Extremism & Technology (GNET)</i>
10:15-10:45	<p>Session 3 – Exploring Opportunities for CT/PCVE in the Metaverse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How can the Metaverse be incorporated in a multistakeholder approach to current and future CT and P/CVE efforts? ▪ How can the UN employ immersive technology for CT and P/CVE purposes? How will the Metaverse enhance these efforts? ▪ What lessons learned from CT and P/CVE initiatives in digital spaces, such as video games or AR/VR technology, can be applied to the Metaverse? How has the UN included these considerations in its programmatic work? ▪ How could the Metaverse enhance digital CT and P/CVE capacity-building efforts? ▪ Considering the evolving nature of the Metaverse and the overarching impact it will have on society, how can CT and P/CVE practitioners adapt effectively to this environment? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ms. Hala V. Furst, Associate Director, Strategic Engagement Section, The Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3), Homeland Security o Mr. Christopher Church, Senior Digital Forensic Specialist, Global Cyber Complex for Innovation, INTERPOL o Mr. Ross Frenett, Co-Founder of Moonshot CVE o Ms. Phenicia Baatout, Advisor to the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, Council of the European Union <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Moderator: Mr. Tom Thorley, Director of Technology at Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)</i>
10:45-10:55	<p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Moderator: Mr. Tom Thorley, Director of Technology at Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT)</i>
10:55-11:00	<p>Concluding Remarks and Way Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Mr. Mauro Miedico, Deputy Director & Chief of Special Projects and Innovation Branch, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) (5 min)</i>