

CALL TO ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

New Frontiers of Human Rights

The world wide web was envisaged as a public space where people could access and share information, form opinions, debate, and mobilise. But with its promise there is peril, too. **The more digital our lives become, the more vulnerable we are online.** Who hasn't experienced or witnessed bullying, harassment, hate speech or misinformation online? Women, people of colour, members of the LGBTQ+ community, religious minorities and people on the move are especially vulnerable to these kinds of harms.

Meanwhile, **users around the world face censorship, surveillance, intimidation, and other violations of their fundamental rights**, either at the hands of their own governments or by the technology companies they trust with their data.

AI-powered technologies are employed to determine whether you're eligible for a loan, how much you should pay for insurance, or even if you should be granted parole from prison. For too long, new technologies have been rolled out within limited governance frameworks, often with little concern for the safety or rights of the user – why should you risk having your identity stolen by uploading your photos or sharing your address to an app? Should your phone be listening to you all the time?

Of the many approaches to strengthen human rights in the digital space, the Call to Action focuses on three particular aspects:

1. **Guidance on human rights due diligence** to ensure that technology products, policies, practices and terms of service comply with human rights and are not used for surveillance, repression, censorship and online harassment.
2. **An online hub for human rights and digital technology** that provides all UN resources on human rights and new technology organised in different thematic areas.
3. **Advocacy for the promotion and protection of human rights** in the digital space.

