

Sommet pour l'information et la démocratie

24 septembre 2021

Summit for Information and Democracy

24 September 2021



Forum
Information
& Démocratie



English

Consulate General of France, New York

Summit for Information and Democracy

List of speakers by running order

9h - Introduction by Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs

- **Statement** by Christophe Deloire, Chair of the Forum on Information and Democracy and Secretary General of Reporters Without Borders, on the role of the Forum and the creation of an “International Observatory on Information and Democracy”

Round table 1

Misinformation and freedom of expression on social media How can democracies respond to infodemics?

Speakers:

1. Maria Ressa, co-Chair of the Forum on Information and Democracy infodemic working group
2. Věra Jourová, European Commission Vice-President for Values and Transparency
3. Mathias Cormann, Secretary General of OECD
4. Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Latvia
5. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia
6. Jeppe Kofod, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Denmark
7. Ann Linde, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden
8. Aurelien Abgenonci, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Benin
9. Sophie Wilmès, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belgium
10. Johannes Matyassy, Vice-Secretary of State, Switzerland

Round table 2:

**Sustainability of the media in the digital age
Do we need a New Deal for Journalism**

Speakers:

1. Rasmus Nielsen, Chair of the Forum on Information and Democracy sustainability of journalism working group
2. Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO
3. Ine Eriksen Søreide, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway
4. Scheetal Vyas, International Fund for Public Interest Media
5. Anurag Thakur, Minister for Sports, Youth Affairs, Minister for Information and Broadcasting of India
6. Ousseni Tamboura, Minister for Communication of Burkina Faso
7. Eva Maria Liimets, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Estonia
8. Tawfik Jelassi, Vice-Director General of UNESCO
9. Nikos Khristodoulidis, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus

Round table 3:

What specific management is needed for high-audience accounts

Speakers:

1. Nighat Dad, Executive Director of the Digital Rights Foundation, Vice-President of the Forum on Information and Democracy
2. Santiago Cafiero, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Argentina
3. Monique Meche, Vice-President of Twitter
4. Damian Collins, UK Member of Parliament and former Chair of the House Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee
5. Frank McCourt, McCourt Institute, founder of Project Liberty
6. Augusto Santos Silva, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Portugal

7. José Manuel Albares, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain
8. Adriana Bolaños, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica
9. Mantas Adomėnas, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania

11h - Conclusion

**What priorities for the International Partnership
for Information and Democracy?**

Why create an International Observatory on Information and Democracy?

by Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs

About the Summit for Information and Democracy

I. Background

The International Partnership for Information and Democracy was launched in New York on 26 September 2019, in the framework of the Alliance for Multilateralism. It has been signed to date by 43 States, and aims to promote freedom of opinion and expression and access to free, pluralistic and reliable information.

In order to implement the Partnership's principles, a Forum on Information and Democracy was created on 10 November 2019 by Reporters Without Borders and 10 independent civil society organizations. On 12 November 2020, the Forum published its first report on the fight against infodemics, followed on 16 June 2021 by its second report on the economic sustainability of journalism (entitled A New Deal for Journalism).

II. Objectives

The Summit will be an opportunity to focus on the following priorities:

1. **Defending and promoting access to free**, pluralistic and reliable information, an essential aspect of freedom of opinion and expression.
2. **Debating the Forum's recommendations**, fostering their implementation and supporting upcoming work.
3. **Considering the creation of an International Observatory on Information and Democracy** responsible for analysing global information trends and publishing a regular report for the Partnership's signatory States and civil society;
4. **Launching a civil society coalition** (around 50 NGOs) linked to the Forum, to promote the Partnership's principles with States and the public through awareness-raising and advocacy;
5. **Fostering ties between the International Partnership for Information and Democracy** and international organizations involved in issues around access to free, pluralistic and reliable information.

**The 43 States that have endorsed the
International Partnership for Information and Democracy**

1. Andorra
2. Argentina
3. Armenia
4. Australia
5. Austria
6. Belgium
7. Benin
8. Bulgaria
9. Canada
10. Chile
11. Costa Rica
12. Croatia
13. Cyprus
14. Czech Republic
15. Denmark
16. Estonia
17. Finland
18. France
19. Georgia
20. Germany
21. Greece
22. Iceland
23. India
24. Italy
25. Latvia
26. Lebanon
27. Liechtenstein
28. Lithuania
29. Luxembourg
30. Malta
31. Montenegro
32. Netherlands
33. Norway
34. Portugal
35. Republic of Korea
36. Senegal
37. Slovenia
38. South Africa
39. Spain
40. Sweden
41. Switzerland
42. Tunisia
43. United Kingdom