SDPI

Sustainable Development Policy Institute

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

24 NOV 2026

ISLAMABAD MARRIOTT HOTEL

PROGRAMME OF WORK

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SEMINAR | CONCEPT NOTE

Organizer	Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
Date & Venue	Tuesday, 24 November 2026 | Marriott Hotel, Islamabad
Master of Ceremony	Ms Tanya Francis, Journalist Asia One News

Background

Social media has democratised public expression and political debate, while also accelerating the circulation of misleading, manipulated and inflammatory content. In the post-truth environment, the speed and reach of online narratives can undermine public trust and complicate efforts to protect social cohesion and state stability.

Pakistan has faced cross-border misinformation during periods of regional tension, alongside domestic challenges involving coordinated online campaigns, deep fakes, sectarian or ethnic incitement and extremist content. These developments have increased scrutiny of how digital platforms apply their community standards, respond to unlawful content and address the concerns of national authorities.

As global platforms operate across legal jurisdictions, consistent enforcement and effective redress require clearer responsibilities. The seminar will bring together policymakers, journalists, international experts and platform representatives to consider how cooperation with competent Pakistani authorities can be strengthened in a manner consistent with applicable law.

Objective

To build a credible international case for global social media platforms to comply with applicable Pakistani laws, provide effective remedies and cooperate with competent authorities.

Expected Outcome

A rapporteur's summary and actionable recommendations on platform accountability, responsible content enforcement, effective remedies and international cooperation to address disinformation and unlawful online activity.

Programme focus: Public trust and disinformation • Digital accountability and local laws • Information warfare and counterterrorism

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

REGISTRATION	09:30 – 10:20
OPENING SESSION	10:20 – 11:00
SESSION I	WHEN VIRALITY OUTRUNS TRUTH: DISINFORMATION, PUBLIC TRUST & POST TRUTH ERA 11:00 – 12:00
TEA BREAK	12:00 – 12:15
SESSION II	GLOBAL PLATFORMS & LOCAL LAWS: HOW TO ENSURE DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY 12:15 – 13:15
LUNCH BREAK	13:15 – 14:30
SESSION III	INFORMATION AS A WEAPON: MODERN CONFLICT AND COUNTERTERRORISM 14:30 – 15:40
CONCLUDING SESSION	15:40 – 16:00

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

OPENING SESSION



MASTER OF CEREMONY

Ms Tanya Francis

Journalist, Asia One News



WELCOME REMARKS

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri

Executive Director, SDPI



KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mr Azam Nazir Tarar

Federal Minister of Law and Justice

(The Rule of Law in the Digital Age: Rights, Responsibilities and Jurisdiction)

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

SESSION I

WHEN VIRALITY OUTRUNS TRUTH:

DISINFORMATION, PUBLIC TRUST & POST TRUTH ERA



MODERATOR

Mr Syed Talat Hussain

Senior Journalist



PANEL MEMBER

Mr Attaullah Tarar

Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting



PANEL MEMBER

Ms Maryam Aurangzeb

Senior Minister, Government of Punjab



PANEL MEMBER

Ms Shabnam Nasimi

Digital News Reporter, SEN

Q&A AND DISCUSSION

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

SESSION II

GLOBAL PLATFORMS & LOCAL LAWS:

HOW TO ENSURE DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY



MODERATOR

Mr Fahd Hussain

Senior Journalist



PANEL MEMBER

Ms Shaza Fatima Khawaja

Federal Minister of Information Technology & Telecommunication



PANEL MEMBER

Ms Tanya Goudsouzian

Senior Canadian Journalist



PANEL MEMBER

Ms Dania Mukhtar

Head Public Policy, Meta Pakistan



PANEL MEMBER

Mr Fahad Muhammad Khan Niazi

Head of Public Policy and Government Relations, Emerging Markets, ByteDance/TikTok

Q&A AND DISCUSSION

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

SESSION III

INFORMATION AS A WEAPON:

MODERN CONFLICT AND COUNTERTERRORISM



MODERATOR

Mr Umar Cheema

Senior Journalist



PANEL MEMBER

Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry HI(M), SBt

DG ISPR

Q&A AND DISCUSSION

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute

CONCLUDING SESSION



SEMINAR RAPPORTEUR

Ms Tanya Francis

Journalist, Asia One News

(Summary of Proceedings & Recommendations)



SPECIAL GUEST

Ms Natalie A. Baker

US Chargé d'Affaires to Pakistan

(Global Platforms, Local Responsibilities: The Role of International Cooperation in Upholding National Laws)



CLOSING ADDRESS

Mr Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi

Federal Minister of Interior and Narcotics Control

(From Policy to Enforcement: Pakistan's Roadmap for Platform Compliance)



NOTE OF THANKS

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri

Executive Director, SDPI

NOTES

NOTES

NOTES

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS (SMPs) AND POST TRUTH ERA

SDPI
Sustainable Development Policy Institute