

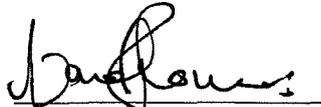
**Declaration to be signed at the third meeting of the International Grand Committee in Dublin, Ireland in November 2019**

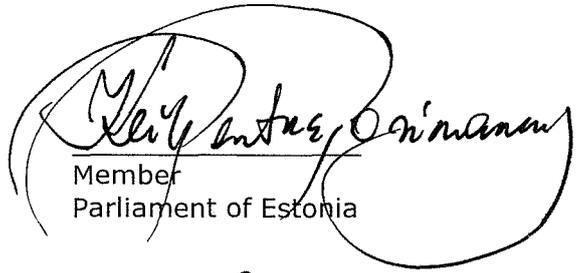
Continuing on from and building on the work done at the first and second meetings of the International Grand Committee the Members agreed the following set of principles in the interest of advancing international collaboration in the regulation of harmful content, hate speech and electoral interference online:

- Online harmful content and disinformation are complex problems which require political and civic collaboration to combat; left unchecked, these problems will undermine our civic space and democratic institutions;
- The work of the International Grand Committee has proven valuable in highlighting the issue of disinformation and desires this work to continue;
- The Committee continues to recognise the conflicting principles that sometimes apply to the regulation of the internet, including the aim to protect freedom of speech, in accordance with national laws, while, at the same time, countering abusive speech and disinformation;
- There is need for full transparency regarding the source, targeting methodology and levels of funding for all online political advertising but such controls should not be interpreted as a blanket ban on advertising relating to the political sphere;
- We believe that global technology firms cannot on their own be responsible in combatting harmful content, hate speech and electoral interference and that self-regulation is insufficient;
- Technology companies should be fully accountable and answerable to national legislatures and other organs of representative democracy;
- The internet is global and accordingly it is vital that an internationally collaborative approach is taken with regard to regulation;
- We recognise the initiatives taken by individual countries and non-governmental organisations in this space, but these require more co-ordination across national boundaries;
- We therefore recognise the need for a dedicated international space which provides such co-ordination of internet regulations and commit to work with governments and relevant multilateral organisations in the establishment of such governance structures.

All signatories agree to introduce or support legislation in their own parliaments to require disclosure and transparency of online political advertising whilst respecting the freedom of the cause or campaigning organisation to free speech but understanding that free speech also requires transparency of source and adherence to national laws.

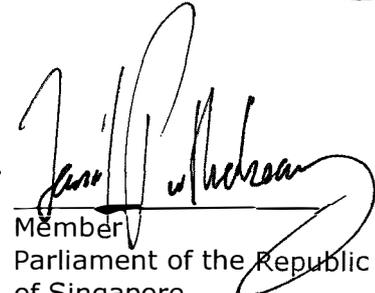
The following Parliamentarians signed the declaration:

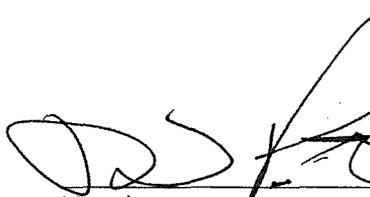
  
Member  
Parliament of Australia

  
Member  
Parliament of Estonia

  
Member  
Parliament of Finland

  
Member  
Parliament of Ireland

  
Member  
Parliament of the Republic  
of Singapore

  
Member  
House of Lords, United  
Kingdom

  
Member  
United States Congress