

IDENTIFICATION AND NOTICE SOURCES

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Identification of content potentially illegal or violating company’s terms of service/community guidelines comes from a diversity of sources. This document intends to identify the different categories of such sources without assigning any value or hierarchy. The terms used are as neutral as possible and aim to include the terminology currently used in practice.

INDIVIDUALS	
Individual Notifiers	Any individual either directly targeted or flagging 3rd party content in their personal capacity.
Coordinated Individual Notifiers	Coordinated reporting/flagging by groups of individuals.
ORGANIZATIONS OTHER THAN PUBLIC AUTHORITIES	
Civil Society Organizations and Academia	<p>Various definitions may apply, for example: According to the UN, “Civil society is the “third sector” of society, along with government and business. It comprises civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations”.</p> <p>The World Bank refers to the “...wide array of non-governmental and not for profit organizations that have a presence in public life, express the interests and values of their members and others, based on ethical, cultural, political, scientific, religious or philanthropic considerations.”</p>
Press and Media	Private, public or community-based organizations having the scope to provide information to citizens with editorial responsibilities and subject to specific regulations.
Private Sector and Commercial Interest Groups	Industry associations, lobbying groups, organizations founded and/or funded by businesses that operate in a specific industry or hired/outsourced PR, marketing companies.
Political Parties	Political parties ¹ are associations that participate in the management of public affairs, including the presentation of candidates for elections.
TRUSTED NOTIFIERS/ FLAGGERS/PRIORITY FLAGGERS/REPORTERS/ REPORTING AGENCIES	
Trusted notifiers/ flaggers/priority flaggers/reporters/ reporting agencies ²	<p>Individuals or organisations that are given a special status or a special reporting channel by platforms, which might not be available to regular users. This does not confer on them any specific legal status and these entities usually notify a platform based on terms of service or community standards infringements.</p> <p>This term has widely variable usage, most often referring only to partnerships between companies and their users, and sometimes being invoked in notification processes that involve governments.</p>

¹ Similar definition by the Venice Commission and OSCE ODIHR accessible at: [https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/default.aspx?pdffile=CDL-AD\(2010\)024-e](https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/default.aspx?pdffile=CDL-AD(2010)024-e)

² Trusted Notifiers are transversal across this typology and can fall in multiple categories.

PLATFORMS	
Platform Staff	Staff members whose job description includes content moderation/management.
Sub-contractors	Companies or individuals hired to moderate content on behalf of internet platforms.
Non-compensated/ Volunteer moderator(s)	These actors may be granted administrator-type privileges over certain fora and can form part of the escalation chain in reporting content that violates TOS or the law. These moderators occupy a space in between individuals, trusted flaggers, and sub-contractors.
Proprietary AI Tools	Machine learning software for content moderation.
Mutualized Hash Database	A shared database of "hashes", i.e unique digital "fingerprints" of content, that is set up between concerned actors to prevent further uploads of previously removed content.
PUBLIC AUTHORITIES ³	
Government institutions (Ministries of Communication, Digital, Information...)	Executive organs of the State.
Regulators and other administrative Bodies	Regulators or agencies with a specific mandate to regulate online content.
Internet Referral Units	Specialist units most commonly established by police forces to liaise directly with internet platforms and service providers to alert them to potentially illegal content that contravenes the companies' ToS.
Law enforcement	Agencies mandated to enforce the law. Most commonly different police services.
National Courts	Legally binding court decisions issued by national courts.
INTERNATIONAL	
Regional & International Courts	Legally binding court decisions.
International Governmental Arrangements	International and Intergovernmental Organisations and other networks of governments (such as Christchurch call or Global Media Freedom Initiative).

³These categories often exist at the national/federal levels, as well as state/province and city/municipal levels.