



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!

**FEMINIST TECH  
DEEP-DIVE:  
MISINFORMATION/  
DISINFORMATION**

PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF THE  
**OUR VOICES OUR FUTURES CONSORTIUM:**  
CREA AND  
ASSOCIATION FOR PROGRESSIVE  
COMMUNICATIONS


**A HOPE-DRIVEN CALL TO ACTION:  
LEARN TO EFFECTIVELY DEFEND, EXPAND AND  
OCCUPY CIVIC SPACE!**

**APPLY TODAY!**



## WHAT?

A 3-day deep-dive, conducted virtually, a hope-driven call to action, which invites the participants not only to understand and critique, but occupy and expand digital spaces for democratic engagement.



Participants will be given feminist frameworks and tools with which to critically examine their own advocacy strategies and the rights-based claims, in relation to online space and digital rights, and encourage participants to see how disinformation and misinformation are used to structurally silence certain groups of people. The deep-dive will deepen participants' understanding of the concepts of disinformation and misinformation, and the actors involved, and interrogate gaps in common human rights interventions which aim to respond to disinformation and misinformation.

## FOR WHOM?


Individuals who meet the criteria below should apply. Organizations should encourage their members / employees to apply, but cannot apply as organizations.

It is for **activists, researchers, human rights practitioners, media practitioners, and artists**, working on issues of **gender and sexuality**, on the rights of **lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex rights, sexual rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, rights of persons with disabilities, HIV and AIDS, violence against women or gender-based violence**; or working on issues of **democracy, civic space, freedom of expression, assembly and association, dissent and protest, digital rights**, and who want to expand their theoretical knowledge of civic space, human rights and technology, through a feminist perspective.



Participants should be embedded in human rights / feminist movements, civil society, or working closely with civil society and movements to advance their goals. **The deep-dive is not for full-time students.**

**We especially encourage individuals from the global South** to apply. We also **invite members of structurally excluded\* groups in the global North** to apply.



## WHY?

In recent years, we have seen how actors who are opposed to agendas of human rights and social justice – states, corporations and ordinary citizens – create or weaponize misinformation / disinformation campaigns to deliberately mislead, discredit, delegitimize or silence those who are acting to advance or defend human rights and democracy. Domains of civic space (both online and off) are targeted by campaigns of ‘fake news’, and smear campaigns, which push citizens and movements advocating for change, to disengage from these spaces, a phenomenon called ‘civic disengagement’. This pushes already structurally silenced women and people further away from crucial decision-making spaces.


The complexities of 'digital information' in particular bring contemporary challenges, because while neither mis/dis information are new, they are being crafted anew in digital online space.

The risks of mis/dis information are increasingly acknowledged. Unfortunately, policy responses to these issues often bring increased regulation of the internet, and increased criminalization and penalization, the impact of which is often disproportionately felt by LGBTIQ people, women, and human rights defenders. And because online mis/dis information campaigns often weaponize ‘gender’ as a conceptual framework, feminist movements and human rights activists often respond to anti-gender and anti-democracy actors in reactionary ways, with little to no effect. This cycle quickly exhausts movement and individual resources.

Activists and practitioners can feel overwhelmed and discouraged by these issues; actors on the ‘other side’ are extremely powerful and well-resourced, and movements and movement-actors are experiencing unprecedented levels of crackdown on civic space, and are fatigued.



## BY WHOM?




The 3-day deep-dive is hosted by **Our Voices Our Futures** consortium, a global South-feminist led consortium dedicated to amplifying the voices of structurally silenced women in all domains of civic space, including online space. It is presented by Dr Nishant Shah, and is co-created and conducted by consortium members CREA and the Association for Progressive Communications.


**CREA** is a global feminist human rights organization led by feminists in the global South; CREA works to build feminist leadership, expand sexual and reproductive freedoms, and advance human rights of all people. The **Association for Progressive Communications'** focus is to create a just and sustainable world by harnessing the collective power of activists, organisations, excluded groups, communities and social movements, to challenge existing power structures and ensure that the internet is developed and governed as a global public good.

**INCLUSION:** We hope to create something which is meaningful and inclusive, for diverse participants, especially structurally excluded\* people -- such as those who are women's human rights defenders, trans, intersex, nonbinary, lesbian, bisexual or gay people, disabled people, people living with HIV, and sex workers.

\*CREA uses the term '**structurally excluded**' to draw attention to the ways in which societal architecture prevents certain people from enjoying the full spectrum of rights and from meaningfully and effectively participating in their communities and decision-making spaces.




**ACCESSIBILITY and LANGUAGE:** We will provide reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities and provide interpretation in some languages, including sign language interpretation and closed captioning (more details on this to follow!).





## WHEN AND WHERE

The deep-dive is scheduled for 1, 2 and 3 February 2022.



The deep-dive will be conducted virtually, with attention paid to confidentiality, privacy and security.

## HOW TO APPLY

Application deadline is 31 December 2021.  
Please apply by filling out [this form](#)!

We will be in touch with those who are selected to attend only.

We hope to select approximately 35 applicants to attend!

Please write to [subha@creaworld.org](mailto:subha@creaworld.org) if you have any questions!

