

P R O G R A M M E

12.00
Light Networking Lunch

13.00
Welcome Remarks

13.05
***Opening Keynote Address
by Shada Islam***

13.15–14.00
***Contested Vocabularies.
Defining Violence in Language***

Hate speech is rarely straightforward. It is shaped by context, power relations and lived experience, and often hides behind ambiguity, irony or seemingly neutral language. How is hate produced and recognised through language and why do linguists, activists, platforms and legal systems so often struggle to align? Forensic linguistic analysis meets activist expertise to examine how harm is identified, how language precedes violence and what it means to respond to hate in a constantly evolving communicative landscape.

Debora Barletta, No Hate Speech Movement Italy
Tahmineh Tayebi, Aston University Institute for Forensic Linguistics

Moderated by **Nabeelah Shabbir**

14.00–14.45
***Feminist Terrains.
Architectures of Care and
Transformation***

When institutions fail to protect or represent all communities, feminist initiatives build their own spaces of care, resistance and transformation. Grassroots work functions as active infrastructure: reshaping narratives and accountability from the ground up. From transforming masculinities to creating queer archives, publications and cultural spaces, questions emerge about how feminist principles should be put into practice, how words can be reclaimed as tools for building rather than harming and what sustaining such work demands in terms of commitment and collective endurance.

Jessica Gysel, Girls Like Us & Kaaitheter
Hugo Mega, Liminal

Moderated by **Nabeelah Shabbir**

14.45–15.00
Coffee Break

15.00–15.45
***Remaking Masculinity.
The Manosphere as Radicalisation
Laboratory***

James Bloodworth takes audiences inside the hidden world of the manosphere, from pickup culture to incels, alpha coaches and online echo chambers. Drawing on his research and experiences documented in *Lost Boys: Undercover in the Manosphere*, he reveals how male anger is monetised, misogyny is disguised as aspiration and extremist ideas move from forums into real-life behaviour. The interview traces the radicalisation pipeline, the appeal of figures like Andrew Tate and the patterns that expose how young men are drawn into these spaces.

James Bloodworth, Journalist and Author

Interviewed by **Giada Santana**

15.45–16.30
***The Legitimation of Extremism.
Aesthetics, Politics and Power***

From tradwife influencers to elected officials, extremist ideas are moving from niche online spaces into everyday culture, politics and social life. How are gendered ideology, anti-gender rhetoric and far-right messaging normalised through lifestyle content, mainstream media and political platforms? An examination of the speed, warning signs and real-world consequences of online radicalisation reveals how extremism adapts, spreads and reaches across society.

Eviane Leidig, Centre for the Study of Organized Hate
Archibald Gustin, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Moderated by **Giada Santana**

16.30–16.50
Coffee Break

16.50–17.35
***Moderation and Meaning.
The Human Fabric of Online Safety***

Content moderation systematically fails to address gendered violence. Women in the Global South review extreme content for poverty wages whilst platforms under-resource teams deliberately. Automated systems miss context and patterns that human judgement detects, yet when capacity is overwhelmed gendered harm gets deprioritised. Evidence shows that centring safety over engagement builds trust, but this requires investment in fair labour conditions, specialised training and human rights frameworks. Why do platforms resist what works?

Asha Allen, Centre for Democracy and Technology
Ben Whitelaw, Everything in Moderation & Financial Times

Moderated by **Eliza Gkritsi**

17.35–18.20
***From Policy to Practice.
Digital Rights, Remedies and Reality***

When platforms fail to act on harmful content or wrongly remove posts, what can you do? The Digital Services Act gives users rights to explanations, appeals and escalation to regulators. The GDPR and AI Act add protections around data and automated decisions. Yet enforcement is slow, appeals are complex and platforms interpret obligations narrowly. What tools exist for citizens? When should you escalate? Examining EU regulation reveals what works, what's missing and tensions between speech, safety and corporate power. What does accountability look like in practice?

Maria Koomen, Democracy, Governance and Tech Analyst
Thomas Hughes, Appeals Centre Europe

Moderated by **Eliza Gkritsi**

18.20–18.30
***Closing Remarks with Paschalia
Leventi and Andreas Siafakas***

18.30–20.00
Drinks Reception