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Dr. Erin Saltman is the Interim Executive Director and Director of Programming at the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT). She was formerly Facebook's Head of Counterterrorism and Dangerous Organizations Policy for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. She has worked across sectors building out counterterrorism strategies and CVE programs internationally. Dr Saltman's background and expertise includes both white supremacy and Islamist extremist processes of radicalization within a range of regional and socio-political contexts. Her research and publications have focused on the evolving nature of online extremism and terrorism, gender dynamics within violent extremist organizations and youth radicalization.

Thank you to UN CTED for this convening and giving the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism the opportunity to give remarks.

GIFCT's mission is to prevent terrorists and violent extremists from exploiting digital platforms while respecting human rights.

Looking specifically at efforts to combat terrorist use of the Internet, we have come a long way in the last ten years. However, between the diversification of platform usage and the diversification of terrorist and violent extremist groups, we need to understand what roles each of our sectors – government, technology companies, and civil society – have to play in order to effectively counter the threat.

Online terrorism and violent extremism are cross-platform and transnational by nature. Each of us have a multitude of apps on our phone or laptops allowing us to operate

This can't be done through tech working in isolation. GIFCT was founded with a multi-stakeholder approach to its governance and its work. We have an Independent Advisory Committee made up of international bodies, such as UN CTED and the European Union, as well as states (the United States, France, Ghana, the United Kingdom, Japan, Canada) and expert civil society representatives.

What do we need to do to stay ahead of the threat?

First, we need to continue to share knowledge between sectors – and grow these efforts globally. The signal seen by law enforcement is different from the signal seen by a tech company safety investigator, or by a practitioner or researcher. GIFCT hosts regional workshops with our partner Tech Against Terrorism, and we annually convene five [Working Groups](#) with participation across sectors to tackle concrete issues and co-develop output on topics such as crisis response, transparency, safety-by-design, and strategic interventions.

Second, we must continue supporting and growing action-oriented feedback from international researchers for tech companies. GIFCT funds the [Global Network on Extremism and Technology](#) to ensure global experts can produce short insights for tech companies and the wider public. More than 245 experts from 25+ countries contribute trend analysis on everything from ISIS trends in Sub Sahara Africa to how decentralized web servers are affecting content moderation. This is the context that tech companies need to