#DEFYHATENOW
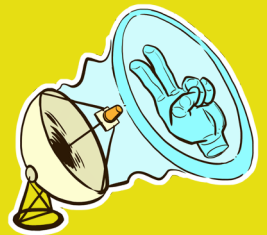
Digital Rights + Human Rights

DIGITAL RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

Access to Information | Freedom of Expression | Right to Privacy

"While social media have at times served as a level playing field for civic discussion, they are now tilting dangerously toward illiberalism, exposing citizens to an unprecedented crackdown on their fundamental freedoms" — Freedom on the Net: The Crisis of Social Media, Freedom House 2019

In this era of digital disruption, what are the most important challenges and opportunities for defending human rights, now and on the horizon?

CHALLENGES TO DIGITAL RIGHTS:

· Digital authoritarianism: surveillance, internet shutdowns

· Social networks offer 'free internet' owned by private corporations

· Attacks on freedom of the press, harassment of journalists

· Safety for women online, cyberbullying & sexual harassment

· Corporate/government misuse of our data, metadata and privacy.

DIGITAL AUTHORITARIANISM ON THE RISE

There is reason to be concerned about the implementation of hate speech laws, which can be used to silence criticism of those in power by citizens, and curtail freedom of expression by journalists and activists.

Who is working to protect our access to digital rights?

FREEDOM HOUSE: THE CRISIS OF SOCIAL MEDIA
https://freedomhouse.org/report-types/freedom-net

ARTICLE 19: GLOBAL FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION
https://www.article19.org/resources/global-expression-report-2018-19-global-freedom-of-expression-at-a-ten-year-low/