

Safer Internet Lab (SAIL) Dialogue on Internet Safety

June 3rd, 2024

Background

The Safer Internet Lab, a joint initiative between CSIS and Google Indonesia to combat information disorders, held a high-level dialogue titled “SAIL Dialogue on Internet Safety” at Thamrin Nine, Central Jakarta on June 3rd 2024.

This event aimed to present SAIL’s research findings on information disorder in Indonesia and SAIL’s roadmap for the future, and also provide a platform for various stakeholders to collaborate in addressing the crisis of information disorder. Additionally, this dialogue marked one year of SAIL’s journey in understanding and tackling information disorders.

Keynote Speech



From left to right: Miklos Gaspar (UN Information Centre), Philips J. Vermonte (CSIS Indonesia), Ida Rumondang H. Sipahutar (OJK Institute), Putri Alam (Google), Yose Rizal Damuri (CSIS Indonesia), Mira Tayyiba (Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Indonesia), Karan Bhatia (Google), Andrew Ure (Google), Medelina K. Hendytio (CSIS Indonesia), Jonathan Tan Ghee Tiong (ASEAN Secretariat), Jean Jacques (Google)

The event commenced with keynote speeches from distinguished figures such as Yose Rizal Damuri (CSIS Indonesia), Mira Tayyiba (ICT Ministry), Karan Bhatia (Google), and Ida Rumondang (OJK Institute).



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In his opening remarks, CSIS Executive Director **Yose Rizal Damuri** stated that over the past year, SAIL has undertaken various efforts, from strengthening the information environment during the 2024 General Election to actively contributing to national and international discourses. Continuing its initiative, SAIL will try to expand the research stream, positioning internet safety in Asia-Pacific as an umbrella for issues such as deepfakes on online fraud, information manipulation and interference, and disinformation and democratic resilience.

On this occasion, Dr Yose also announced that SAIL is now part of the Network of Centers, a global collaboration initiative connecting reputable academic institutions focusing on interdisciplinary research related to the internet. Through this collaboration, SAIL hopes to expand the reach of its collective work while playing its role as one of the "sensory systems" in Indonesia for internet and society issues worldwide.

Meanwhile, **Mira Tayyiba**, Secretary General of the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Indonesia emphasized the need for concerted effort from all stakeholders at all levels.

Also in attendance **Karan Bhatia**, Global Head of Government Affairs & Public Policy at Google, who highlighted that, as a technology platform, Google takes the rising online threats very seriously.

Presentation on Research Paper Findings

Following the keynotes, there were presentations on research paper findings by Rifqi Rachman, Sherly Haristya, and Noory Okthariza, showcasing their latest insights.



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Rifqi Rachman, SAIL associate researcher, highlights the resurgence of influence operations in Indonesia's election year, driven by evolving social media habits and the exploitation of regulatory and sociotechnical gaps. To counteract these issues, it is recommended to equip electoral bodies with the necessary resources and technology, educate constituents on influence operations tactics, and urge the government to amend election regulations to address ambiguities.



Furthermore, SAIL associate researcher, **Sherly Haristya**, emphasized the need for collaboration built on transparency, accountability, and balancing rights to enhance coordination. This can prevent overlaps and misalignments in combating disinformation. As a result, the collaborative efforts created can be more effective in addressing information disorder issues in Indonesia.



Additionally, **Noory Okthariza**, a researcher from the Department of Politics and Social Change at CSIS Indonesia, highlights the critical vulnerabilities and impacts of information disorder in Indonesia. The study reveals that people with higher vulnerability to information disorder tend to question election integrity more; they tend to have lower trust in election-management bodies (KPU and Bawaslu); and they also tend to have lower support for democracy in general. These findings underscore the urgent need for collaborative efforts to improve public verification practices and expand information literacy initiatives to address public vulnerability. On this occasion, Oktha also announced that the full-length research will be published by Kompas Gramedia.

Panel Discussion



From left to right: Philips J. Vermonte (CSIS Indonesia), Jonathan Tan Ghee Tiong (ASEAN Secretariat), Yoga Sangkan Prasetya (ICT Ministry), Jean Jacques (Google), Miklos Gaspar (UN Information Centre), Anita Wahid (Public Research Virtue Institute), Prasetya Dwicahya (Think Policy)

The dialogue also included an engaging panel session with six prominent speakers: Jonathan Tan Ghee Tiong (ASEAN Secretariat), Yoga Sangkan Prasetya (ICT Ministry), Jean Jaques (Google), Miklos Gaspar (UN Information Centre), Anita Wahid (Public Research Virtue Institute), and Prasetya Dwicahya (Think Policy). Additionally, Endy Bayuni contributed as a discussant, enriching the dialogue with his perspectives. The panel discussion stressed issues, such as inclusive regional collaboration to combat disinformation, public-private partnership, and AI utilization to achieve effective information governance.