

# About ISD

The Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD) is an independent, non-profit organisation dedicated to safeguarding human rights and reversing the rising tide of polarisation, extremism and disinformation worldwide. | ISD is uniquely able to turn research and analysis into evidence-based policy and action. Our research and insights shape our action programming on the front lines, and inform the training and policy advisory work we provide to central and local governments, civil society, front line practitioners and international organisations.

Since 2006, ISD has been at the forefront of analysing and responding to extremism in all its forms. Our global team of researchers, digital analysts, policy experts, frontline practitioners, technologists and activists have kept ISD’s work systematically ahead of the curve on this fast-evolving set of threats. We have innovated and scaled sector-leading policy and operational programmes – on- and offline – to push back the forces threatening democracy and cohesion around the world today.

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## Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)

### Description:

The Institute for Strategic Dialogue is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee (registered charity number 1141069, registered company number 06581421) and was established by a Memorandum of Association on 30 April 2008.

### Stakeholder(s):

#### ISD US :

*The Institute for Strategic Dialogue US (ISD US) is a non-political, not-for-profit corporation registered in the District of Columbia with 501(c)(3) status. It was formed with Articles of Incorporation on 19 August 2009. Whilst the two entities are legally separate, a majority of Board members sit on both boards so that decisions can be taken collectively. You can search for ISD US using tax identification number 27-1282489.*

#### ISD Germany :

*The Institute for Strategic Dialogue gGmbH (ISD Germany) is registered with the companies' registrar in Berlin, registration AG Berlin-Charlottenburg HRB 207 328B. It was formed on 19 February 2019 with a Deed and Articles of Association and began operations in 2020. The Managing Directors are Huberta von Voss and Sarah Kennedy.*

#### ISD France :

*The Institute for Strategic Dialogue France (ISD France) is a legal entity under the status of Association de loi 1901, a status granted to not-for-profit organisations across a range of sectors.*

#### The Trialogue Educational Trust :

*Until 2016, the Institute for Strategic Dialogue was operated through The Trialogue Educational Trust, a sister charity with registered charity number 1076660. Since 2017, all work relating to extremism, hate and disinformation has been delivered from the charitable company.*

#### ISD Board Members

##### ISD BOARD UK

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(Chair)

**Stuart Fiertz :**  
(Treasurer)

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**Dr. Serra Kirdar**

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(Chair, Policy Board)

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**Jytte Klausen**

**Hella Pick CBE**

**Magnus Ranstorp**

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*Stakeholders (continued)*

### **ISD Team**

**Sasha Havlicek :**

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**Sarah Kennedy :**

*Chief Operating Officer*

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*Managing Director*

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*Director of the Strong Cities Network*

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*Project Coordinator, Young Cities*

**Kathryn Morrison :**

*Programme Operations Coordinator*

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*Youth Civic Action Coordinator*

**Isel van Zyl :**

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**Krystalle Pinilla :**

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**Allison Small Castillo :**

*Research Intern*

**ISD Fellows & Advisors**

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*Fellow*

**Jonathan Birdwell :**

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**Iris Boyer :**

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**Julia Ebner :**

*Senior Research Fellow*

**Dilwar Hussain :**

*Fellow*

**Alex Krasodonski-Jones :**

*Fellow*

**Hadiya Masieh :**

*Fellow*

**Zeenat Rahman :**

*Fellow*

**Louis Reynolds :**

*Fellow*

**Erin Saltman :**

*Fellow*

**ISD Partners :**

*ISD partners with governments, cities, businesses and communities, working to deliver solutions at all levels of society, to empower those that can really impact change. We are headquartered in London with a global footprint that includes teams in Washington DC, Berlin, Amman, Nairobi and Paris.*

**Governments**

**Cities**

**Businesses**

**Communities**

**ISD Institutional Partners**

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*Stakeholders (continued)*

**Anti-Defamation League (ADL)**  
**ARENA @ Johns Hopkins University**  
**B'nai B'rith International**  
**Cardiff University**  
**Centre for the Analysis of Social Media (CASM)**  
**Combating Terrorism Center at West Point**  
**Deakin University**  
**Demos**  
**Fair Fight Action**  
**Geneva Center for Security Sector Governance (DCAF)**  
**German Marshall Fund Alliance for Securing Democracy**  
**Global Center on Cooperative Security**  
**Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF)**  
**Global Disinformation Index**  
**Hans-Bredow Institute**  
**Harvard Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society**  
**Institut Montaigne**  
**Institute for Economics and Peace**  
**McCain Institute**  
**MIT Media Cloud**  
**Ontario Tech University**  
**Sussex University Computer Science Department**  
**United Nations Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate (UNCTED)**  
**Victoria University**  
**West Asia-North Africa (WANA) Institute**  
**ISD Funders :**  
*(2018 – Present)*  
**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**  
**British Council**  
**Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)**  
**Europäisches Forum Alpbach**  
**Gemeinnützige Hertie Stiftung**  
**Gen Next Foundation**  
**Hirondelle Foundation**  
**International Republican Institute (IRI)**  
**Mercator Stiftung Germany**  
**Mercator Stiftung Switzerland**  
**National Democratic Institute**  
**Omidyar Group**  
**Open Society Foundations**  
**Robert Bosch Stiftung**  
**United States Institute for Peace**  
**Judith Neilson Institute**  
**Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and trade (DFAT)**  
**Australian Department for Home Affairs**  
**Centre for Research and Evidence on Security Threats (CREST)**  
**Council of Europe**  
**Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs**  
**Danish Ministry of Immigration and Integration**  
**Victoria, Australia :**  
*Department of Premier & Cabinet*  
**Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs**  
**Dutch Ministry of the Interior**  
**European Commission**  
**Finnish Interior Ministry**  
**German Federal Agency for Civic Engagement**  
**German Federal Foreign Office :**  
*(Auswaertiges-Amt)*  
**German Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (BMJV)**  
**Global Affairs Canada**  
**Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS**  
**International Organization for Migration (IOM)**

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*Stakeholders (continued)*

**London Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC)**

**Ministry of Justice and Security :**  
*The Netherlands*

**New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs (DIA)**

**Norwegian Ministry of Children & Families (MCF)**

**Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

**Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security**

**Ofcom**

**Public Safety Canada**

**Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)**

**Swedish Ministry of Integration**

**Swedish Ministry of Justice**

**Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)**

**UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)**

**UK Home Office**

**United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

**UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)**

**United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**

**US Department for Homeland Security (DHS)**

**US State Department**

**Audible**

**Facebook**

**GIFCT**

**Google**

**Google.org**

**Jigsaw**

**Microsoft**

**Spotify Safety Advisory Council**

**YouTube**

## Vision

Democracy and cohesion prevail

## Mission

To safeguard human rights and reverse the rising tide of polarisation, extremism and disinformation worldwide

## Values

**Independence:**

We are always independent and maintain the highest standards of integrity.

**Integrity**

**Democracy**

**Cohesion**

## 1. Analysis

*Identify and track online manipulation, disinformation, hate and extremism*

### Stakeholder(s)

**Central Governments**

**Front-Line Practitioners**

**Local Governments**

**International Organisations**

**Civil Society**

We combine sector-leading expertise and research in global extremist movements with an advanced digital analysis capability. With this, we identify and track online manipulation, disinformation, hate and extremism in real time.

### 1.1. Insights

*Provide insights into the evolving actors, tactics, technologies and audiences involved in proliferating hate, disinformation and extremism online*

#### Stakeholder(s):

##### **ISD Digital Analysis Unit :**

*Our Digital Analysis Unit has built proprietary tools delivering social science standards of data. This provides ISD and our partners with granular insights*

*into the evolving actors, tactics, technologies and audiences involved in proliferating hate, disinformation and extremism online.*

### 1.2. Malicious Accounts

*Prompt the removal of malicious accounts*

Thousands of white supremacist, Islamist and covert disinformation Twitter accounts, Telegram channels and Facebook pages, groups and accounts have been removed as a result of ISD's digital analysis and advocacy.



## 2. Action

*Design and deliver programmes that empower cities, practitioners and civil society around the world to mitigate hate, polarisation and disinformation*

### Stakeholder(s)

#### Cities

#### Practitioners

#### Civil Society

#### Community Networks :

*Our policy and community networks make ISD uniquely equipped to scale proven solutions and programmes.*

We design and deliver programmes that empower cities, practitioners and civil society around the world to mitigate hate, polarisation and disinformation...

Our counter-extremism and digital citizenship education programmes have been rolled out in 12 countries...

### 2.1. Practitioner Training

*Deliver training to practitioners around the world*

#### Stakeholder(s):

#### Strong Cities Network :

*Our Strong Cities Network (SCN) has delivered training to 5,000 practitioners (police officers, teachers and youth workers) around the world.*

#### Police Officers

#### Teachers

#### Youth Workers

### 2.2. Resilience

*Build the resilience of young people to hate speech, misinformation and extremism on and offline*

#### Stakeholder(s):

#### Schools :

*From the first multi-media counter-extremism educational resources for schools, to our cutting edge digital citizenship programmes, our work builds the*

*resilience of young people to hate speech, misinformation and extremism on and offline.*

#### Young People

### 2.3. Community Influencers

*Foster networks of community influencers*

#### Stakeholder(s):

#### Civil Society :

*Crucially, we work to empower civil society, fostering networks of community influencers – including the first and largest global network of former extremists –*

*that have the credibility to reach hard-to-reach target audiences.*

#### Community Influencers

### 2.4. Activist Training

*Train activists and social influencers*

#### Stakeholder(s):

#### Activists :

*We have trained over 32,000 activists and social influencers around the world, and have pioneered first of their kind intervention models across different online spaces – gaming, social media, alt-tech plat-*

*forms – reaching over 100 million targeted users online to date.*

#### Social Influencers

### 3. Policy

*Formulate and advocate policy solutions*

**Stakeholder(s)**

**Strong Cities Network :**

*We launched the Strong Cities Network, at the UN General Assembly in 2015 as part of our strategic support to the White House’s countering violent extremism agenda.*

**United Nations**

**White House**

We formulate and advocate policy solutions, and provide local authorities, central governments and multilateral institutions with the data, expertise and technical support to deliver evidence-based policy and programming.

#### 3.1. Data & Expertise

*Provide data, expertise and technical support to deliver evidence-based policy and programming*

**Stakeholder(s):**

**Local Authorities**

**Multilateral Institutions**

**Central Governments**

#### 3.2. Support & Training

*Provide policy support and training*

**Stakeholder(s):**

**Governments :**

*ISD has provided policy support and training to over 40 governments and 150 cities worldwide.*

**Cities**

#### 3.3. Counter-Extremism & Digital Regulation

*Spearhead and lead inter-governmental initiatives in the domains of counter-extremism and digital regulation*

Beyond partnerships with institutions like the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum, ISD has spearheaded and led inter-governmental initiatives in the domains of counter-extremism and digital regulation.

**Stakeholder(s):**

**Global Counter-Terrorism Forum**

*platform governance, a vital aspect to our work on safeguarding democracy.*

**ISD Digital Policy Lab :**

*ISD’s Digital Policy Lab brings 12 governments and regulators together to chart the path forward on*

## Administrative Information

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**End Date:**

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