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جامعة نازف العربيه
للعلوم الامنيه
NAIF ARAB UNIVERSITY
FOR SECURITY SCIENCES
تاسست ١٩٧٨ Est. 1978



Publishing & Security

The Role of the
Publishing Industry
in Promoting Societal
Awareness and
Intellectual Security



مركز الترجمة والنشر
Centre de Traduction et de Publication
Translation and Publishing Center



27-28 April 2026

ICESCO Headquarters - Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco



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Rationale

This Symposium comes as an urgent necessity in light of the accelerating challenges facing the Arab and Islamic world in the realm of intellectual and informational security. The publishing industry, both traditional and digital, has become a decisive tool in shaping public awareness and reinforcing or undermining values. At times, it has been exploited to spread hatred, extremism, and incitement.

Building on the objectives of the League of Arab States to strengthen cultural and intellectual coordination among Member States, the principles of ICESCO's Charter to advance educational, cultural, and scientific work in the Islamic world and to promote values of peace, security, tolerance, and moderation, and the commitment of ICESCO and Naif University to contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (notably Goal 4 on quality education and Goal 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions), this symposium marks a proactive effort to develop responsible publishing policies. Such policies aim to protect societies from extremist discourse, hatred, misinformation, and fake news, while strengthening individuals' resilience in facing digital and cultural challenges. The event also constitutes a model for integrating cultural and security perspectives into the joint Arab and Islamic action.

Background

Amid the escalating challenges facing intellectual security worldwide, due to disinformation campaigns and extremist and hate-driven discourse on digital media, the need arises to reassess the role played by the publishing industry (traditional and digital) in shaping public opinion, building societal awareness, and promoting concepts of cultural and knowledge security.

As publishing is an intellectual and cultural instrument no less important than education and the media, this symposium comes as an extension of a path initiated by ICESCO in partnership with Naif Arab University for Security Sciences through the Symposium on Translation and Security. It continues the scientific dialogue on the relationship between knowledge and security, highlighting publishing as a strategic field intersecting with security in all its dimensions.

Objectives

- Highlighting the role of publishing and editorial content in enhancing intellectual security and countering hate speech and extremism.
- Analyzing the risks of misinformation and fake news in both traditional and digital publishing.
- Discussing technical and security dimensions related to digital publishing and content rights.
- Reviewing institutional experiences in developing responsible publishing security that serves societal awareness.
- Exploring the role of libraries in supporting knowledge security and raising societal awareness.
- Producing applicable recommendations for drafting publishing policies that strengthen societies' resilience against extremist ideologies.



Target Audience

- Decision-makers in the ministries of culture, media, and education.
- Researchers and experts in publishing, content, and libraries.
- Representatives of security bodies and relevant academic institutions.
- Institutions and organizations concerned with intellectual security and digital content.
- Officials of national and digital libraries in Member States.
- Publishing houses and entities involved in formulating cultural and media policies.



Modalities of organization

The two-day symposium, due to be held in-person and remotely, will feature scientific sessions, research presentations, and training workshops, in addition to an exhibition of related publications. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, French, and English to ensure broader benefit and multicultural openness.

Side events

- Training workshop: Preparing editorial policies in security and educational institutions.
- Exhibition of publications by the two institutions and the partners.
- Closed roundtable: Toward a guide for responsible publishing.

Expected Outputs

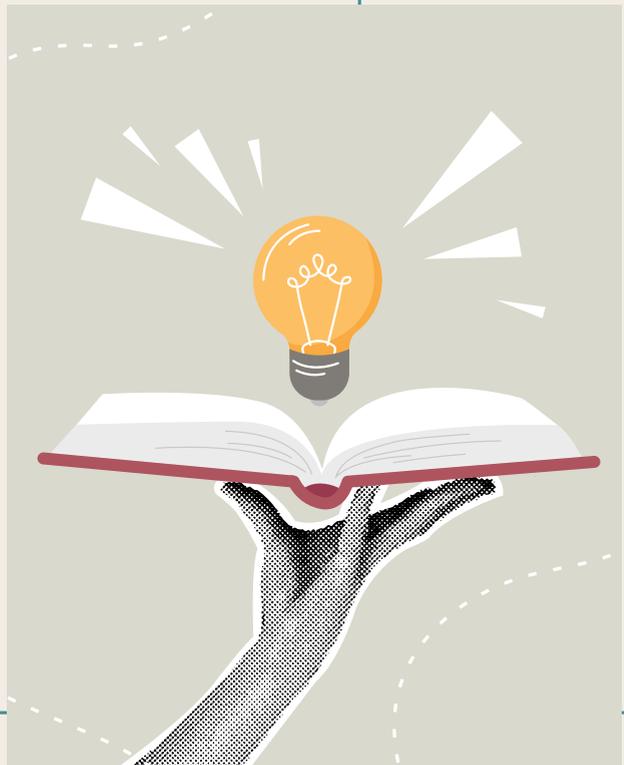
- Issuing actionable scientific and organizational recommendations.
- Launching a joint project: "Responsible Publishing Guidelines for Arab Institutions."
- Publishing the symposium proceedings (including papers and recommendations).
- Preparing a media report (visual and written) documenting the outcomes and distributing it to relevant stakeholders.

Post-Symposium

The symposium's outputs will serve as the basis for developing a roadmap to create tools for assessing and monitoring responsible publishing in Member States. The conclusions will also be presented at the periodic meetings of Ministers of Culture and Education in the Islamic world, and the recommendations will be submitted to the relevant parties to adopt knowledge-based policies in the field of publishing and intellectual security.

Scientific Themes

Topic	Description
Publishing and Intellectual Security	Publishing as a tool for awareness-raising and countering extremist and hate discourse
Publishing and Misinformation	How the publishing industry contributes to combating, or spreading, media misinformation
Digital Publishing and Information Security	Intellectual property rights, data leaks, open-content platforms
Institutional Publishing in the Security Context	National security experiences in developing code of professional conduct for society
Policies and Legislation	Toward legal and regulatory frameworks ensuring responsible publishing
The Role of Libraries in Knowledge Security	Libraries as platforms for protecting societal awareness from extremist ideologies and promoting responsible content
The Role of Security Bodies in Combating Misinformation and Fake News	The functions of cybersecurity and regulatory authorities in relation to publications and the tools used in this field





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