



Press Corps/Le Monde

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Topic: UNODC / Addressing Cyber Crime to Protect Election Legitimacy

The topic of Addressing Cyber Crime to Protect Election Legitimacy is one that is not as noticed in the UN. With a global pandemic, many countries are starting to lean towards online or virtual voting during the elections. Going into the conference Le Monde saw many smaller countries say they have not yet gone into online voting. So Le Monde's question is why?

During the conference they started to edit their subtopics and I went into the subtopic of Effects of media influence/ monitoring information/ failure to monitor websites. They start to talk about how different companies and media sites can secure what people are seeing so people know the truth. They also brought up how they wanted people to know the understanding of reliable sources vs. unreliable sources. Madagascar also was reaching for a global database that can help people recognize misleading information.

Le Monde went into the first interview with Madagascar. Le Monde asked what steps Madagascar was going to take for this topic. They said that in Madagascar they have brought an observer group to watch over the elections to make sure they stay legitimate. Le Monde was informed that they do offer a new online voting system but most of the country still uses physical polling systems. Their opinion on the matter was: "since cybersecurity is a new issue...we need to make change now."

Le Monde also interviewed Moldova and they said they have goals for the future decade to bring in better online systems to make sure everything is legitimate. They have all of the necessary technology and a reliable voter list, which they described as a system which monitors voter ID, and they do not allow any falsified information into their system. Moldova states, "It's better to have a plan for things you don't encounter." They continue on to say that this is what Moldova stands for, and this is how they plan for the future.

To conclude this topic, the countries were all for the same regulations and how to keep elections safe and legitimate, but many countries had many different approaches to solving this problem globally.