

# POLICY FORUM

∞ Meta

December 5, 2023

# **Policy Recommendation: Delisting Dangerous Organizations and Individuals**

Core Policy Team

# Issue Statement

We know how we add groups to our list. How do we remove them once they're no longer active or engaged in the same activity?

# Problem Analysis



## Research

- The promise of delisting is unlikely to influence an entity's future behavior: academic research shows that listed entities have already demonstrated their intransigence in the face of sanctions.
- Nonetheless, other governments, unlike Meta, have established protocol for delisting *already-reformed* entities (albeit in small numbers).
  - Delisting may occur after peace agreements, a group becoming defunct, or the imprisonment/death of group leaders.
- It may be difficult to make accurate assessments about whether a previously designated entity will advocate for hate or violence in the future.
  - Participants in hate groups that publicly renounce violence or hatred do not necessarily stop engaging in those behaviors given the strength of their prior affiliations.

## External Engagement

- Connected with 43 stakeholders from 35 organizations from NORAM, Europe, MENA, SSA, and APAC
- Experts underscored importance of delisting:
  - Acknowledge entities change
  - Give opportunity to live normal lives
  - Allow them to inspire others to move away from DOI activities
- Most experts also agreed on & recommended the following but differed on the nuances:
  - Both online & offline signals are equally important but no consensus on signals
  - Process to delist organizations vis-à-vis individuals should be different. However, they couldn't agree on the process
  - When delisting, safety measures such as a probationary monitoring period and/or product limitations are necessary but no agreement on what qualified as commensurate measures

## Policy Development Insights

We need a comprehensive delisting policy that is:

1. Applicable to all DOI types
2. Rigorous
3. Has clear and objective signals
4. Takes into account off- and on-platform signals for a defined period of time
5. Has a robust sign off process

**Recommendation**

# Recommendation

## Phase 1

**Baseline  
Conditions**

*Once met proceed  
to Path 1, 2, or 3*

## Phase 2

**Path 1: Peace Process**

**Path 2: Disengaged from Hate or Violence**

**Path 3: Defunct, Dissolved or Deceased**

# Phase 1

*The following conditions must be met:*

## Current Designations

1. Entity does not meet the designation threshold under any DOI type based on signals drawn from at least the last 3 years **AND**

## Compliance

2. Entity is not subject to Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions under the Specially Designated Narcotics Trafficking Kingpin (SDNTK), Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) or Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT) lists **AND**

## Legal Proceedings

3. Entity has not been found guilty and is not currently the subject of prosecution or known investigation for DOI related activities by an international court or tribunal that meets international standards of due process or fair trial standards

# Phase 2

**Path 1**  
**Peace Process**

**or**

**Path 2:**  
**Disengagement from Hate**  
**or Violence**

**or**

**Path 3:**  
**Defunct, Dissolved, or**  
**Deceased**



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