

Title: Sampling and demographics appendix for “Structured expert elicitation on disinformation, misinformation, and malign influence: Barriers, strategies, and opportunities”

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Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

Appendix A: Sampling and demographics

The initial invite list of 304 potential participants was generated using purposeful sampling strategies, in particular, reputational sampling and snowball sampling. Reputational sampling strategies seek to identify participants who have in-depth knowledge (by reputation) of the topic (Patton, 2014). To identify such expert participants, we used targeted conference and institutional mailing lists, professional networks, and authorship in relevant publications. We then sent those experts an invitation to participate, along with instructions to forward the invitation to other relevant experts in the topic, which is known as snowball or chain sampling (Patton, 2014).

Our demographic questions were optional, and data from participants who did answer the questions revealed our panel was geographically diverse, with a bias towards Western liberal democratic nations. Experts were from Australia (15), United Kingdom (7), United States of America (5), Belgium (3), Philippines (2), Poland (2), Bulgaria (1), Canada (1), Czech Republic (1), Germany (1), Italy (1), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (1), and Spain (1).

Our panel of experts represented a wide range of disciplines and professions. Academic experts (24) represented the disciplines of psychology (8), computer science (4), accounting (1), anthropology (1), international relations (2), information science (1), political science (1), philosophy (1), sociology (1), and behavioral science (1). Professional experts (20) represented non-profits (3), policy analysis (3), journalism (3), education (3), media (2), national security (2), chaplaincy (1), fact checking (1), public relations (1), and consultancy (1).