Hardly a day goes by without some new allegation that social media are undermining democracy. Actors across the political spectrum are \_\_\_\_\_\_ digital technologies to spread disinformation and \_\_\_\_\_\_ polarization. While “fake news” and hate speech \_\_\_\_\_\_ nothing new, the digital age has \_\_\_\_\_\_ , if unintentionally, an environment conducive to \_\_\_\_\_\_ . The potential of new technologies to \_\_\_\_\_\_ the human condition is beyond question, \_\_\_\_\_\_ the risks they pose to democracy \_\_\_\_\_\_ now increasingly apparent. Tech companies, governments, \_\_\_\_\_\_ citizens alike are grasping for solutions \_\_\_\_\_\_ a set of connected challenges. How \_\_\_\_\_\_ we deal with rapid online communication \_\_\_\_\_\_ makes well-timed disinformation easy to \_\_\_\_\_\_ and difficult to refute? How does \_\_\_\_\_\_ desire to create watchable content, which \_\_\_\_\_\_ often based on emotion and sensation \_\_\_\_\_\_ than evidence, fit with reasoned democratic \_\_\_\_\_\_ ? How do we identify the real \_\_\_\_\_ of information when the Internet’s anonymity \_\_\_\_\_ the origin of a post? And \_\_\_\_\_\_ the reach and market dominance of \_\_\_\_\_ and Facebook, are we, and \_\_\_\_\_ extension our political views and debates, captives \_\_\_\_\_\_ their algorithms? In one of his \_\_\_\_\_\_ initiatives before he passed away in \_\_\_\_\_\_ , former UN Secretary- General Kofi Annan \_\_\_\_\_\_ a Commission on Elections and Democracy \_\_\_\_\_\_ the Digital Age, which was launched \_\_\_\_\_\_ this month. In particular, Annan wanted \_\_\_\_\_\_ sound the alarm on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_ with few, if any, means to defend themselves against these twenty-first-century threats to the integrity of elections.

**AND -** **ARE - ARE - BOTH - BUT** – **BY - CONVENED - COUNTRIES - DEBATE - DISSEMINATE - DO- EARLIER - ENCOURAGE - EXPLOITING** - **GIVEN - GOOGLE - HIDES - IMPROVE – IN - IS - LAST - OF** - **PROVIDED** - **RATHER - SOURCES - THAT - THE -** **TO** - **TO -** **2016**

Hardly a day goes by without some new allegation that social media are undermining democracy. Actors across the political spectrum are **exploiting** digital technologies to spread disinformation and **encourage** polarization. While “fake news” and hate speech **are** nothing new, the digital age has **provided**, if unintentionally, an environment conducive to **both**. The potential of new technologies to **improve** the human condition is beyond question, **but** the risks they pose to democracy **are** now increasingly apparent. Tech companies, governments, **and** citizens alike are grasping for solutions **to** a set of connected challenges. How **do** we deal with rapid online communication **that** makes well-timed disinformation easy to **disseminate** and difficult to refute? How does **the** desire to create watchable content, which **is** often based on emotion and sensation **rather** than evidence, fit with reasoned democratic **debate**? How do we identify the real **sources** of information when the Internet’s anonymity **hides** the origin of a post? And **given** the reach and market dominance of **Google** and Facebook, are we, and **by** extension our political views and debates, captives **of** their algorithms? In one of his **last** initiatives before he passed away in **2016**, former UN Secretary- General Kofi Annan **convened** a Commission on Elections and Democracy **in** the Digital Age, which was launched **earlier** this month. In particular, Annan wanted **to** sound the alarm on behalf of **countries** with few, if any, means to defend themselves against these twenty-first-century threats to the integrity of elections.