



GIFCT

Global Internet Forum
to Counter Terrorism

HSDB Taxonomy

v1.0



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General Inclusion Parameters

Any hashes in the HSDB must be associated with:

- A terrorist entity on the [United Nations Security Council's Consolidated Sanctions List](#)

OR

- Content created by a perpetrator or accomplice of an attack that leads to the activation of the GIFCT [Incident Response Framework](#)

OR

- Be aligned with [Behavioral Inclusion Parameters](#)

UN National Security Council's Consolidated Sanctions List

Content produced by any terrorist entity on the [United Nations Security Council's Consolidated Sanctions List](#) is eligible for inclusion in HSDB.

Incident Response Framework

Content created by a perpetrator or accomplice of an attack that leads to the activation of the Content Incident Protocol (CIP) or Content Incident (CI) levels of GIFCT's Incident Response Framework (IRF) are eligible for inclusion in HSDB.

Behavioral Inclusion Parameters

At a minimum, any hashes included in the HSDB as a result of the behavioral inclusion parameters must:

1. **Be a non-governmental entity:** The organization producing the content associated with a hash is not an official government body, such as the state or national military.
2. **Have a violent extremist identifier:** There has to be a distinguishable visual or textual demarcation to signify organizational or ideological affiliation within the content. This could include having a unique logo, slogan, code, or iconography used to demarcate affiliation with or membership of a hate based violent organization, movement, ideology or group.
3. **Have a core hate-based ideology:** The group or movement producing the content, as a core tenant to its organizational values, advocates hate towards another group or individual(s) based on universally protected categories of people.



- a. These categories include discrimination based solely on: race, sex, gender identity, language, nationality, religion, status as an indigenous person, migrants, country-specific minorities, people with disabilities, and sexual orientation.
4. **Advocate for/call to violence:** The content itself, advocates for civilian and vigilante violence in order to further its ideological hate-based mission.

In addition, hashes in the HSDB must fall into one of the taxonomic categories:

Attacker Manifestos

There have been numerous cases of attackers that have posted their manifestos online in advance of carrying out attacks. Rarely are these individuals formally members of a known terrorist organization, but their manifestos are shared widely online by those praising, supporting, and inciting further hate-based violence. Researchers of white supremacy and neo-Nazi organizations have cited the proliferation of these documents and how they serve as a beacon to sympathizers of the attackers. Hashed images and hashed text extracted from PDFs of violent extremist and terrorist attacker manifestos will be included within the database. This will allow GIFCT to expand beyond lists in a deliberate manner with well-defined parameters.

GIFCT has worked with leading experts to identify a number of attacker manifestos for inclusion. These manifestos take into consideration the authors' motivations to ensure the manifesto and ideological reasoning for the real-world violence are in line with GIFCT violent extremist parameters.

Branded Terrorist Publications

Branded content offers tech companies clear indicators that an image or video is in fact terrorist content. These publications are also developed with the specific aim of reaching wider audiences online – communicating with existing members and recruiting new members. Hashes associated with branded terrorist that match the inclusion parameters above are eligible to be included in HSDB.

In order to ensure that branded publications can include the number of identified neo-Nazi and white supremacy publications that clearly violate terrorist and/or violent extremist parameters GIFCT has worked with two leading experts to identify a number of publications for inclusion. These publications are clearly branded with an organization marker and are clearly tied to overt violent extremist groups who have carried out attacks offline. The publications also clearly advocate for and call for others to carry out violence based on hate-based ideological frameworks.



TCAP URLs

At the end of 2020 Tech Against Terrorism (TAT) launched TCAP. As part of its TCAP efforts, TAT flags URLs relating to terrorist content to the tech company that hosts the infrastructure being used, similar to an Internet Referral Unit.

TAT are clear about which designated terrorist groups are included in their efforts, incorporating ISIS and Al-Qaeda organizations and affiliates as well as Five Eyes designated far-right terrorist organizations.

As indicated by many GIFCT member companies, URLs are a key signal for companies. Terrorist content is often hosted on one platform and amplified on another. In an effort to build on the utility and impact of TCAP efforts, GIFCT will include hashes of URLs that TCAP has flagged to tech companies that also align with the above inclusion parameters.

By hashing the URLs, GIFCT can ensure that no personally identifiable information is hosted or shared by GIFCT while allowing hashes of URLs to be shared as a signal to all GIFCT members.

More details of terrorist entities included can be found in the TCAP [inclusion policy](#).