

PRESS RELEASE
PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE
INVITATION FOR WRITTEN REPRESENTATIONS BY THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
DELIBERATE ONLINE FALSEHOODS – CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND COUNTERMEASURES

A Select Committee on Deliberate Online Falsehoods – Causes, Consequences and Countermeasures has been appointed by the Singapore Parliament with the following terms of reference:

To examine and report on:

- (a) the phenomenon of using digital technology to deliberately spread falsehoods online;
- (b) the motivations and reasons for the spreading of such falsehoods, and the types of individuals and entities, both local and foreign, which engage in such activity;
- (c) the consequences that the spread of online falsehoods can have on Singapore society, including to our institutions and democratic processes; and
- (d) how Singapore can prevent and combat online falsehoods, including:
 - (i) the principles that should guide Singapore's response; and
 - (ii) any specific measures, including legislation, that should be taken.

2 The Select Committee is chaired by Deputy Speaker Charles Chong and comprises the following members:

1. Ms Chia Yong Yong
2. Dr Janil Puthucheary
3. Mr Desmond Lee
4. Mr Pritam Singh
5. Ms Rahayu Mahzam
6. Mr Seah Kian Peng
7. Mr K Shanmugam
8. Ms Sun Xueling
9. Mr Edwin Tong Chun Fai

3 The Select Committee is inviting the general public to submit written representations on any matter falling within the Terms of Reference.

4 Written representations can be made in English, Chinese, Malay or Tamil and should include the following information:

- (i) the author's name, occupation, address, contact number, email address and NRIC/passport no.;
- (ii) a brief description of the organisation (if any) that the representation is made on behalf of;
- (iii) any financial or other interest that the author (and the organisation he represents) has in the subject matter of the Select Committee's inquiries; and

- (iv) whether the author is willing to appear before the Committee to give evidence if required.

5 Written representations should be sent to “The Clerk of Parliament, Parliament House, 1 Parliament Place, Singapore 178880” or emailed to “selectcommittee@parl.gov.sg”.

6 The closing date for written representations is **28 February 2018, 4.30 pm**.

7 The Select Committee may subsequently publish the written representations it receives. The Select Committee expects to hold public hearings in the second half of March 2018.

8 Information about the public consultation can also be found on Parliament’s website at www.parliament.gov.sg.

9 Deputy Speaker Charles Chong, Chairman of the Committee, said, “The Select Committee on Deliberate Online Falsehoods has agreed to start its public consultation exercise today. The Committee’s work will be assisted by hearing a wide range of views from the public. I encourage everyone with an interest in this subject to write in with their views and suggestions. I also asked Members of the Committee to help reach out to individuals and organisations who will add useful perspectives to our work.”

Office of the Clerk of Parliament
Singapore, 16 January 2018

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

For general queries, please contact:

Parliament Secretariat
Email: parl@parl.gov.sg
Tel: 63326666