



Centre for Democracy & Development

Centre pour la démocratie et le développement

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Press Release

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DEMOCRACY AND DISINFORMATION: HOW FAKE NEWS THREATENS OUR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN NIGERIA

The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), with support from Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) and MacArthur Foundation, will organize a 2-day international conference themed: *Democracy and Disinformation: How Fake News Threatens our Freedom and Democracy in Nigeria* on the 7th and 8th of August 2018 at Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Ladi Kwali Way, Wuse 2, FCT-Abuja.

In explaining the importance of the conference, the Director of CDD, Idayat Hassan, posits that: Nigeria's political landscape is tense, and given the increasing security threats in different parts of the country, perceived marginalization, anger, confusion and economic challenges, there is a tendency that political actors can take advantage of these gaps either to misinform, disinform, promote apathy or skew voting choices for the forthcoming

elections. Therefore, the conference is timely as it will facilitate discussion around fake news, misinformation and disinformation, their effects on Nigeria's democracy, and how it could be mitigated.

Experts, renowned journalists, civil society actors, academia, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and government officials will participate in the 2-day conference. The timing of this conference is crucial especially as our elections are fast approaching and it is essential to prevent the circulation of fake news and disinformation.

The event will be streamed live on the Centre's facebook and twitter page. People can also follow the event live by following #FakeNewsConf2018.

For further details, please contact Alhassan Ibrahim via aibrahim@cddwestafrica.org. There is also more information available on the CDD website: <http://cddwestafrica.org>

Signed:

Idayat Hassan
Director