

WELCOME!

Online course on hate speech for journalists

MODULE 1: What is hate speech?

In this module...

1. What do we mean by hate speech
2. Main elements and neighboring areas
3. Freedom of expression: balancing rights and potential harms

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Stricter,
legal
definitons

Broader
defintions,
capturing harm

Legal definition

“**public incitement to violence or hatred** directed against a group of persons or a member of such a group defined on the basis of race, colour, descent, religion or belief, or national or ethnic origin”

including

“**publicly condoning, denying or grossly trivialising crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes**”

(EU Framework decision 2008/913/JHA)

Tip: Report what is illegal



Remember this definition!

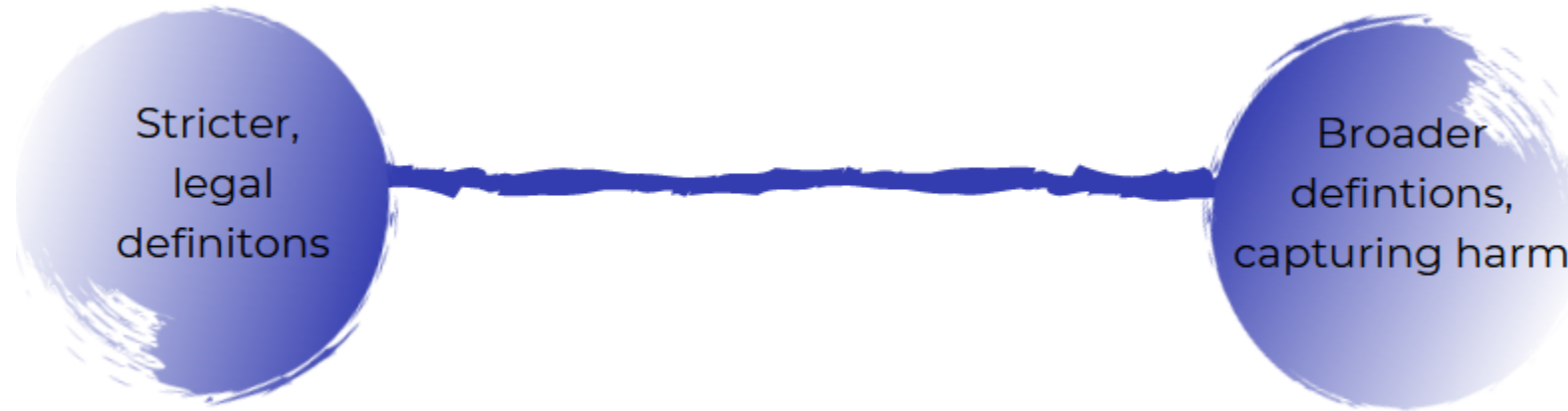
Social media companies must remove illegal hate speech.

Tip: Know your legislation



Research your local legislation on hate speech to give your reports more weight!

Terms and definitions II.

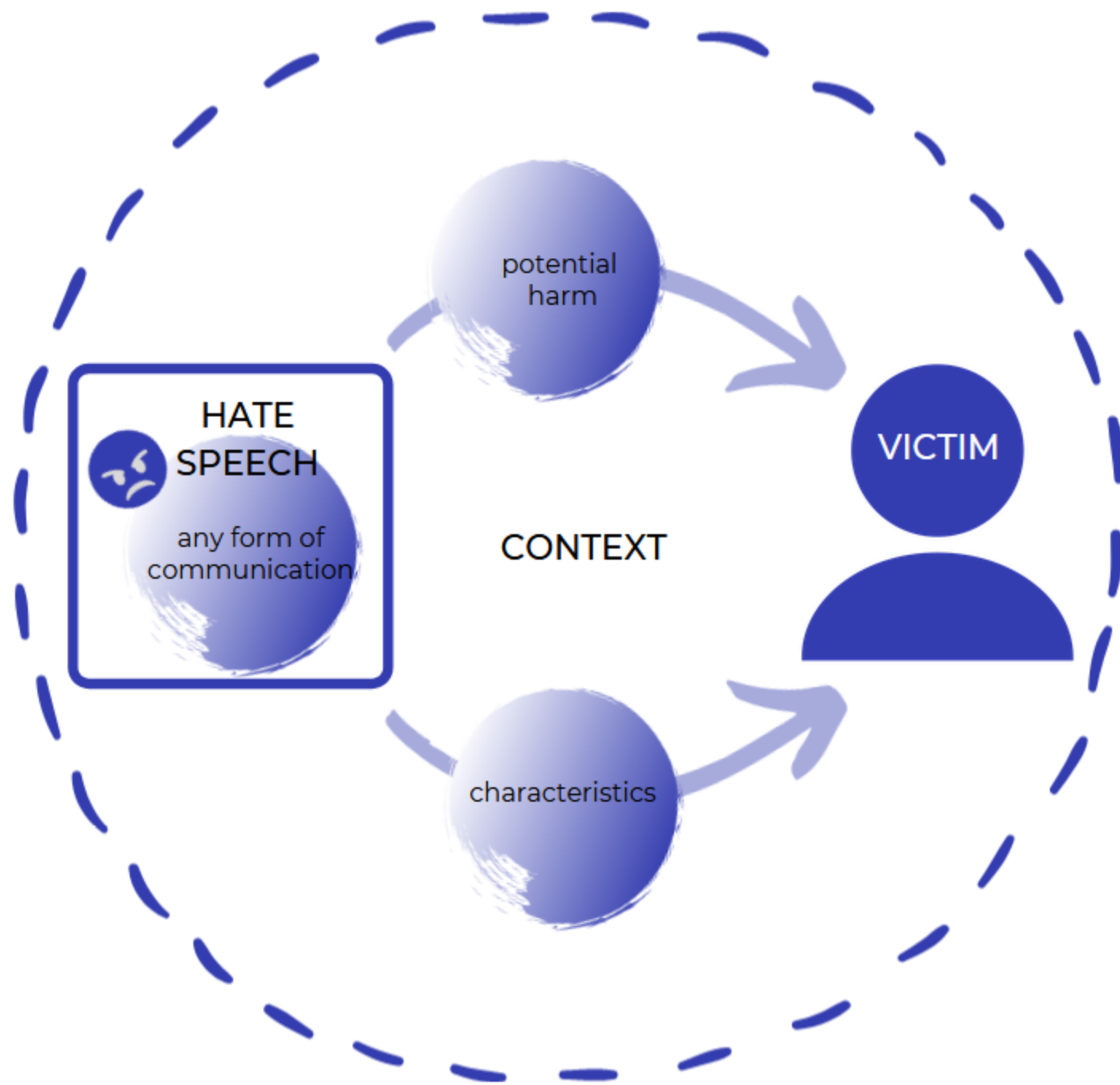


Broader definition

“We understand hate speech to be **any communication** which is **potentially harmful** in a **given context** to an individual or group based on one or more of their **characteristics**. It may be illegal or legal according to local laws.”

(Facing Facts definition)

MAIN ELEMENTS & NEIGHBOURING AREAS



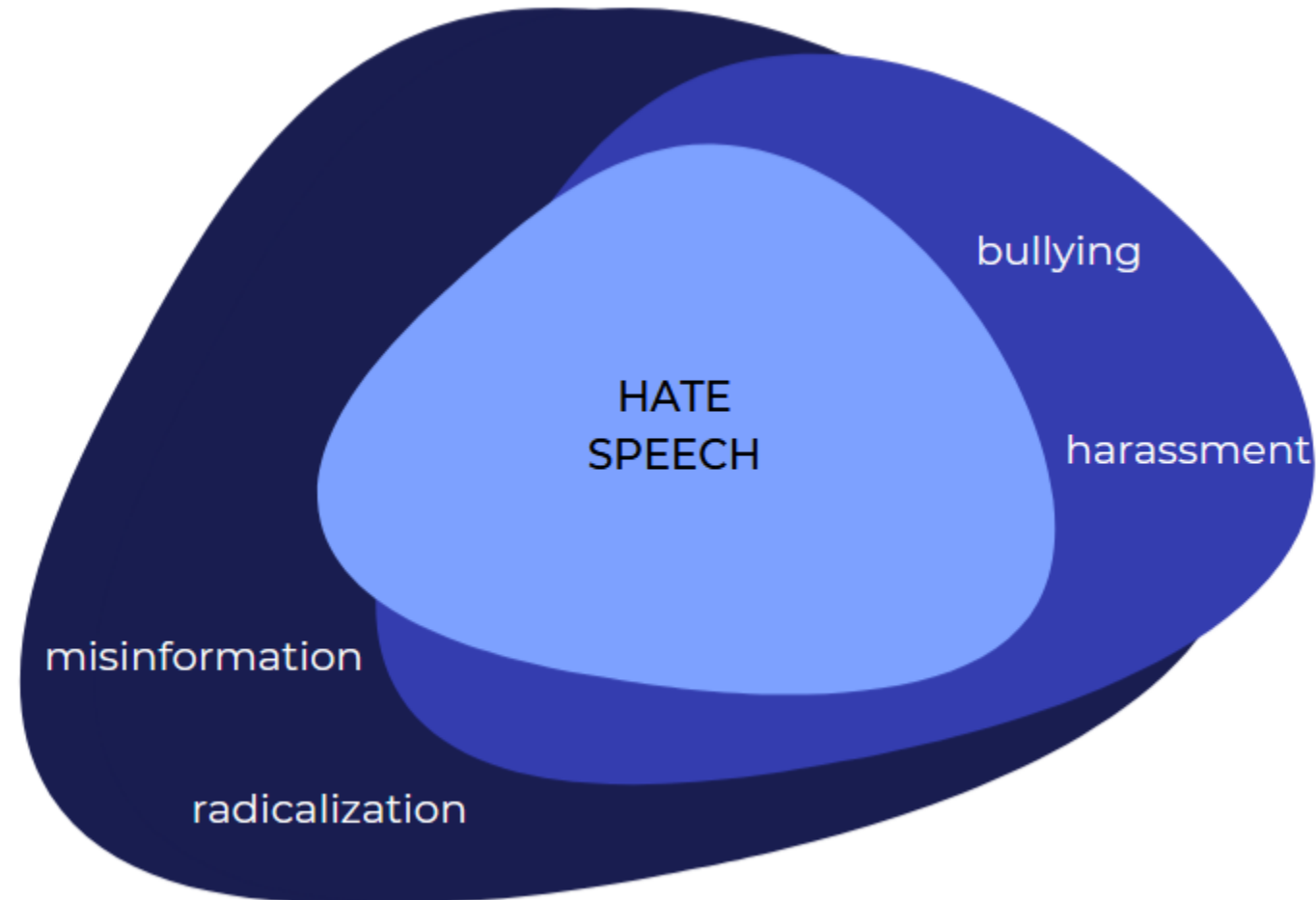
Elements of hate speech

- Any communication
- Potentially harmful
- Characteristics
- Context

No need to drink it if you don't want it



Neighbouring areas



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Rights and limits

Article 17 of the European Convention of Human Rights “prohibits any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights in the Convention. This may include extreme cases of hate speech”.

“Anyone calling for violent action against certain groups will not be able to appeal to the right to freedom of expression. There is no right to be able to call for people to be attacked or killed” (Bookmarks, 2016).

Hate speech reduces free speech

- Leads to online exclusion
- Reduces diversity of voices
- Results in self-censorship