The speakers will present on existing gaps and challenges in countering disinformation; initiatives at the United Nations, and the way forward with recommendations.

Dr. Mariam Shaikh and Ms. Saima Saleem both played a lead role in Pakistan's landmark initiative of proposing a resolution in the General Assembly titled "Countering disinformation for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms." This resolution was adopted with consensus in November 2021 at the United Nations.

Dr. Shaikh is a Fulbright Ph.D. scholar in Communication and an alumna of Florida State. She is a career civil servant and is currently serving as Counselor, Press and Public Diplomacy at Pakistan's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York.

Ms. Saleem, the first Pakistani diplomat with visual impairment, is a career civil servant. She is currently serving as a Counselor at Pakistan's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York, dealing with human rights issues.