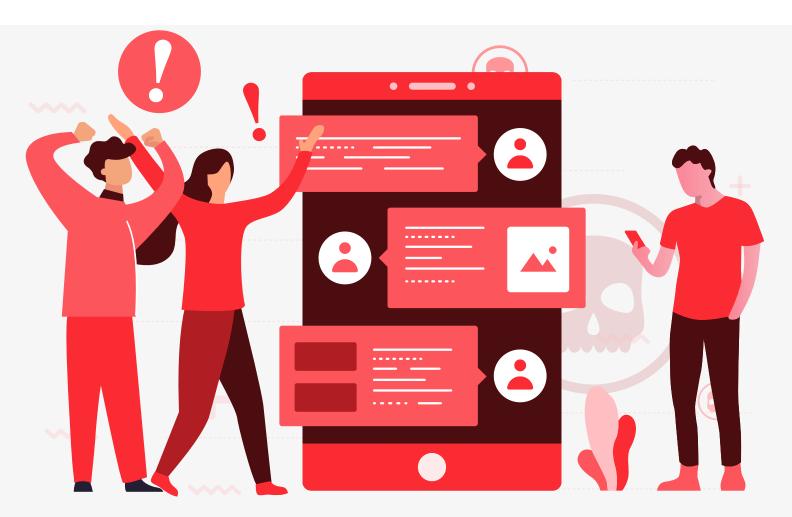# Young People Challenging Violent Extremism Online: Insights from Asia

By Primitivo III Cabanes Ragandang,
Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology, Philippines

Global Network
on Extremism & Technology

This report examines online youth-led initiatives involved in challenging violent extremism (CVE). It focuses on the 2013–2023 online presence of 13 youth organisations. Based on data scraped from more than 130 social media posts, the report highlights the dynamics of youth-led CVE efforts online, and discusses at strategic planning, content creation and organisational challenges.

The study identifies the dual approach of young people in CVE work across both online and offline spaces. The predominant use of digital platforms to document offline activities suggests that for many, the online platform is secondary, pointing to the challenges of internet access in certain regions of Asia.

In some initiatives, young people directly condemn violent forms and acts of extremism. Other initiatives advocate social change in a preventive sense, with young people addressing factors that contribute to violence and extremist ideas.

The report shows that online youth-led CVE initiatives in Asia are not explicitly labelled as CVE. They have a variety of names but all are geared towards challenging ideas and acts that are violent and extreme in nature.

This report recommends that CVE youth organisations be given more training in online content creation and social media literacy. It suggests prioritising and supporting offline activities to improve sustainability and proposes collaborative online spaces to boost engagement. The report also recommends that tech companies broaden their existing community systems to amplify and lend credibility to CVE-related content on social media platforms.