Altitude

An open-source tool to help online platforms protect their communities from terrorist and violent extremist content

Altitude is the only free, open-source, on-premise tool to give online platforms a single elevated view of potential terrorist and violent extremist content (TVEC) on their sites. In a few clicks, moderators can view, review and remove content identified by trusted sources, enabling platforms to make clear and confident decisions.

Altitude was designed and developed by **Google Jigsaw** and **Tech Against Terrorism**, in partnership with the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT).

HOW IT WORKS

Altitude brings platforms relevant signals from two leading, rights-protecting databases. Both Tech Against Terrorism and GIFCT have been working to keep up with the spread of extremist content by developing robust databases of TVEC in direct dialogue with platforms, civil society, academia, and inter-governmental bodies.

Altitude integrates with both of these trusted databases, and consolidates their TVEC signals into one elevated view.

Tech Against Terrorism
Terrorist Content Analytics Platform (TCAP)

GIFCT Hash-Sharing Database (HSDB)

While the largest and best-resourced platforms have been able to leverage these databases for years, small-to-medium sized platforms' ability to incorporate these and other expert sources into their moderation workflows has been limited. That has left a gap where smaller platforms can be exploited by terrorists and other violent extremists.

Altitude helps moderators check whether any content on their platforms matches the flagged content from TCAP and HSDB, instead of checking each individual source separately. When there's a match that needs review, moderators can click for more detail and choose what action they want to take.



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To learn more, visit: https://techagainstterrorism.org/ altitude-content-moderation-tool







FEATURE SPOTLIGHT

Designing Altitude to meet content moderation needs of small to medium-sized platforms

Altitude meets platforms where they are and provides even the least resourced organizations with best-in-class preparedness and expertise.

Through interviews with founders, Trust and Safety leaders, and TVEC content reviewers at eleven platforms we identified the need for an accessible, dedicated tool for moderating TVEC that provided moderators with aggregate signals, rich context, bulk action taking, and image blurring.

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			Flagger priority ⑦	Views	Timestamp	Flagger
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		Image	Threat level or severity of content. O	Calculated from Ragger data.	Reported: 2 hrs ago	TCAP O
Entity:	IP Region:					GIFCT © Review_manually
		Image	Medium Priority	@ 74 views	P Reported: 16 hrs ago	TCAP ©
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		Image	Low Priority	© 32 views	P Reported: 8 hrs ago	TCAP Ø



Altitude interface showing high priority ► items flagged by TAT and GIFCT.

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RESEARCH INSIGHTS

What we heard from platforms and moderators

"TVEC is a high-impact, low-volume problem."	TVEC is important but rare compared to high volume categories like copyright infringement, spam, and child sexual abuse materials. The most time-sensitive incidents, like a livestream shooter attack, happen relatively rarely and are hard to predict. It can be hard to prioritize building dedicated tooling for something rare and abstract, especially over more pressing harms already affecting their platform.	Altitude is a single interface and makes it easy to get started and be prepared when it matters most.
"We don't have a way to measure uncaught badness."	Connections to sources of high-quality referrals of terrorist or violent extremist content was rare. Almost all platforms relied heavily on content directly reported by users, resulting in "noisy" signals. This reactive process left platforms vulnerable to missing content that hadn't been reported.	Altitude provides aggregated signals of violating content from two leading databases to help platforms identify TVEC more confidently and efficiently.
"I'm not an expert on terrorism."	Without dedicated counter-terrorism expertise in-house, it's difficult to act responsibly on a content type that can surge amid highly politicized geo-political conflicts. And, even as more regulation looms, platforms are uncertain of how to comply with existing legislation. Without more expertise and context, platforms have been unable to make informed decisions, often leading them to err towards over-enforcement.	Altitude provides contextual labels from two leading databases to give platforms a better understanding of the content they're reviewing. By partnering with Tech Against Terrorism directly, organizations can receive more customized consultations to address specific needs.
"People flood platforms with the same things we have to review again and again."	There is a mental toll from moderating the same types of images or videos again and again. This issue may become even more pressing as generative AI allows for the rapid generation of minor variations on extremist content, making it more likely they slip past hash-matching systems.	Altitude uses Meta's hashing and matching technology and allows both reviewing manually and taking bulk action on identical content.
"I have to be ready to fully engage with the content."	Addressing mental health concerns of reviewers in viewing potentially graphic and disturbing content is critical. Moderators need control to decide what they're ready for.	Altitude helps protect moderator mental health with image blurring by default to prevent immediate view of potentially graphic content, while providing easy controls to view

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PRODUCT FEATURES

underlying images when a reviewer hovers over them or clicks.