

Lesson 1.3
MDMH Techniques

Quote

Through a better understanding of their surroundings and the complex environments in which they operate, peacekeeping operations can better implement their mandate.

UN DPO, Under-Secretary-General
Forward to
Military Peacekeeping Intelligence Handbook, 2019

Learning Outcomes

- Understand MDMH techniques and tools.
- Explain real-time MDMH identification challenges, evolving techniques and digital impacts.
- Explain commonly used MDMH tools, techniques and procedures.

Lesson Contents

- Revise MDMH.
- MDMH techniques and tools.
- Limitations and challenges of identifying MDMH.

Revision

- Misinformation
- Disinformation
- Malinformation
- Hate speech

MDMH Techniques and Tools

- MDMH techniques: **methods** used either to create and spread MDMH.
- MDMH tools: **means** to implement the techniques.

MDMH Techniques (1)

- Fabrication: Making up stories or content that are not true.
- Manipulation: Changing real information or pictures to make them misleading.
- Emotional Appeal: Using strong feelings to spread false information or inflammatory words.

MDMH Techniques (2)

- Amplification: Increasing the spread of harmful content, often using automated programmes (bots) or groups working together.
- Contextual misrepresentation: Sharing true information in a way that is confusing or misleading.
- Impersonation: Acting like someone else to spread false information.

Applying MDMH techniques



(Fabrication, Manipulation, Contextual misrepresentation, Impersonation, Emotional appeal and Amplification.

MDMH Tools (1)

- Social media platforms
- Messaging apps
- Photo and video editing software
- Traditional media
- Word of mouth

MDMH Tools (2)

- Deepfake generators
- Websites and blogs
- Anonymous posting
- Automated bots

Challenges of Identifying MDMH

Based on what we have discussed in this lesson, what are some of the challenges you would have within your units?



Challenges of Identifying MDMH (2)

- Rapid evolution of techniques
- Context sensitivity
- Lack of contextual understanding
- Lack of local language skills amongst mission personnel
- Scale
- Encryption and anonymity

Challenges of Identifying MDMH (3)

- Deepfakes and synthetic media
- Viral nature of information
- Lack of ground truth data
- Ethics and privacy concerns
- Human review and heuristics
- Legal and regulatory

Interactive Activity

MDMH Quick-Map Challenge

The exercise is designed to enhance peacekeepers' understanding of the information landscape in which they operate. By identifying the different types of MDMH and their dissemination methods, peacekeepers can be better prepared to detect and assess potential threats to security and stability.

Take Aways

- Be familiar with the techniques and tools used for creating and spreading MDMH.
- Acknowledge challenges such as technological advancements (e.g., deepfakes), language barriers and cultural contexts.
- Apply critical thinking to assess information, considering source credibility and potential biases.

Questions