

INNOVATION AT HUMAN RIGHTS FIRST

 Human Rights First
Innovation Lab



ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS FIRST

We work to create a just world in which every person's intrinsic human rights are respected and protected, to build societies that value and invest in all their people.

We inspire citizens, partners, and our institutions into action in four critical and growing areas:

- Systemic Injustice
- Authoritarianism
- Domestic Extremism
- The Use and Abuse of Technology



ABOUT THE LAB

The Innovation Lab was founded in 2019 to arm our sector with the technology tools, talent and understanding needed to protect human rights and democracy in the digital age.

Today, we have one of the most robust technology incubators in the field of human rights and have developed tools that have been used by dozens of leading civil society organizations around the world.



LAB LEADERSHIP



Perris Richter, Lab Director

Perris is a seasoned product and design strategist with expertise in social innovation. They are former Head of Design at MIT's Center for Constructive Communication, and received a Master's In Behavioral Science from London School of Economics.

Jason Long, Technical Director

Jason Long is a mission-driven software engineer, founder, and technology executive. He served as Chief Technology Officer for social technology startup Sevenstar and Senior Engineer for a start-up combatting recidivism, FreeWorld.



HOW WE WORK

Internal Dev Shop

We have a full-time team of designers, engineers, and strategists that design, build, and maintain technology for the field.

Innovation Cycles

We leverage a human-centered design based process to source challenge and co-design solutions with our program teams, partners, and end users.

Impactful Partnerships

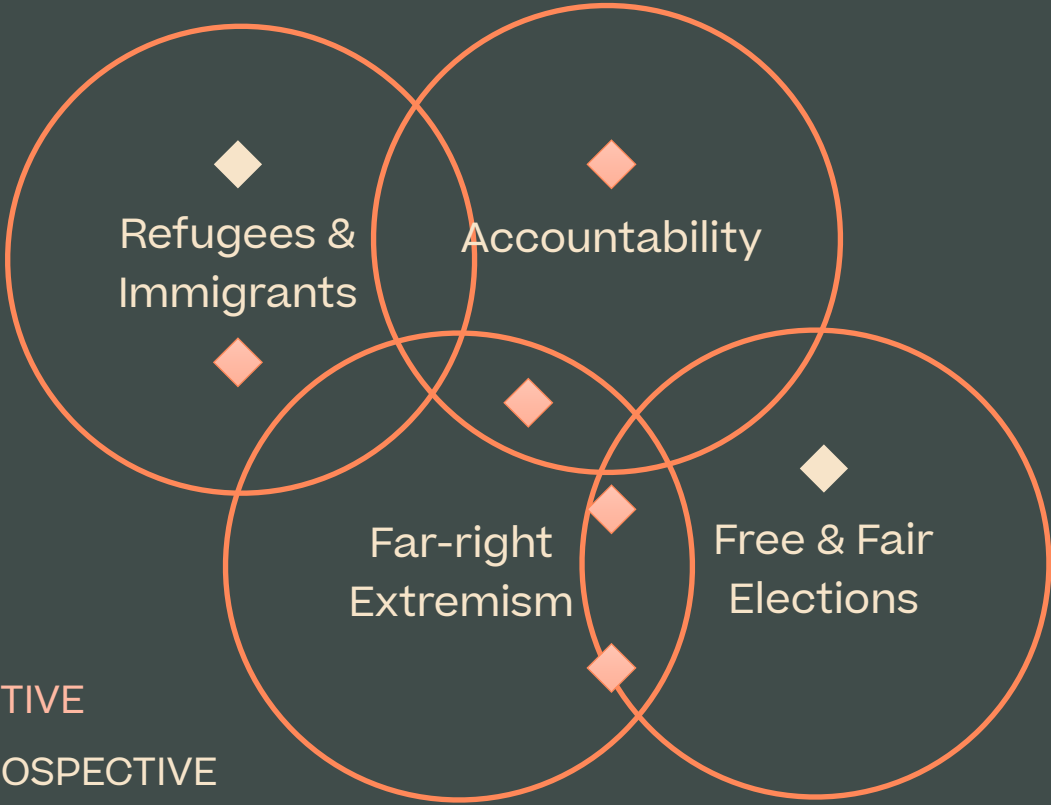
We engage private-sector partners in projects that scale our impact and activate external technologists into the field of human rights.



WHAT WE WORK ON

The Lab partners closely with internal and external issue area experts to identify urgent human-rights related challenges that are ripe for innovation.

Our projects span a broad range human rights related issues that are aligned with the organization's strategic priorities.



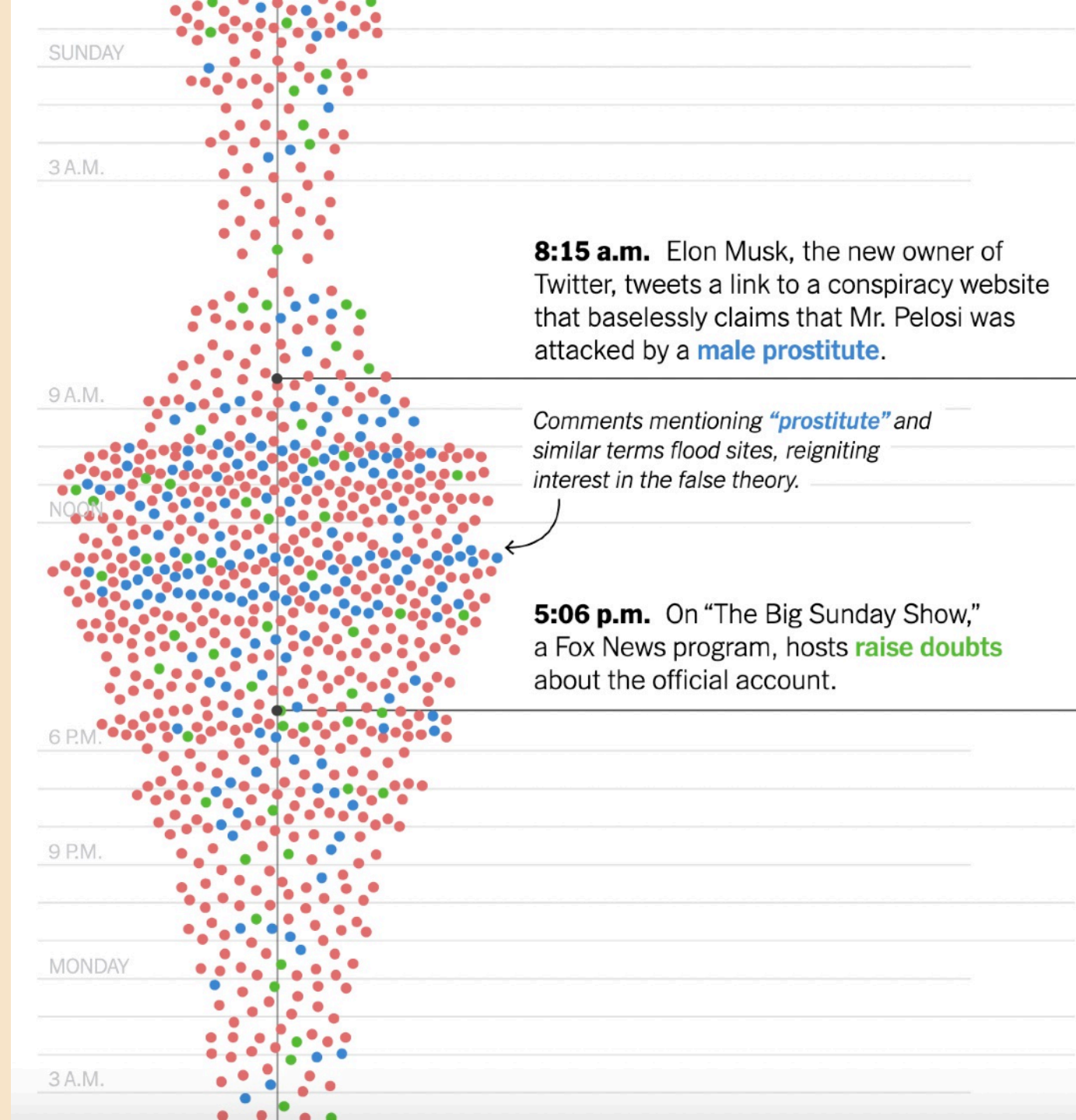
- ◆ ACTIVE
- ◆ PROSPECTIVE



PYRRA

Pyrra is a machine-powered tool that tracks threats and analyzes trends across over 20 alt social media platforms - ground zero for extremist content online.

Pyrra was incubated at the Lab before spinning out into a venture-backed started up in late 2021.



VFAI CHAPTER MOBILIZATION

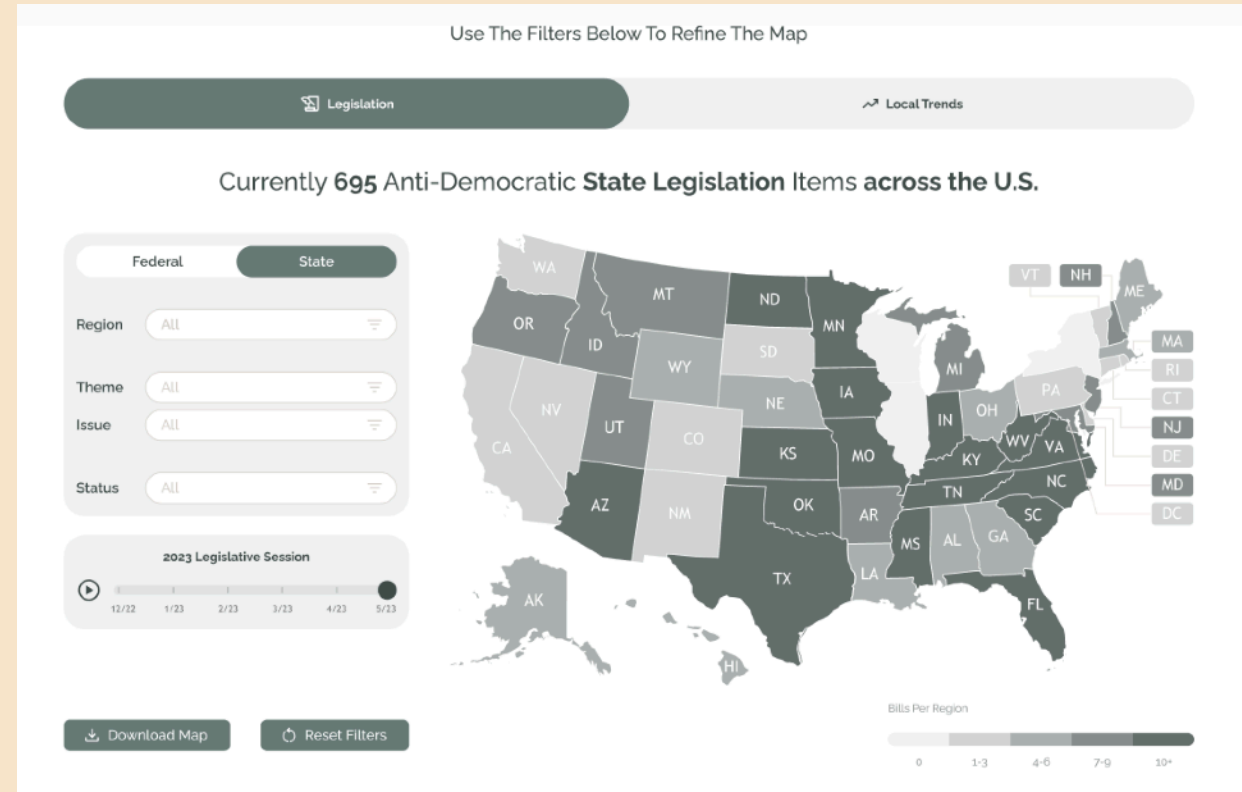
The Innovation Lab is partnering closely with our Vets for American Ideals (VFAI) program team to design a new engagement model and set of enabling technologies that empower VFAI members to effectively push back against extremism and protect democracy on the state and local level.



ANTI-DEMOCRACY SPOTLIGHT

The Innovation Lab, in partnership with our Extremism Program, is developing a public-facing, AI-powered web tool that tracks and maps the wave of far-right, anti-democratic legislation and activity taking our country by storm.

This critical resource will empower advocates, policy makers, and the public to better understand and respond to this growing threat.



DRONES FOR NGO'S

The Lab is partnering with professional drone provider, Skydio, to equip and train human rights defenders in Ukraine with a fleet of drones for the purpose of capturing forensic architecture evidence to fuel war crimes investigations.





THANK YOU