



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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# Architectures of Technological Institutional Violence

Patterns of Amplification and Meaning-  
Making Disputes on X

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# Architectures of Technological Institutional Violence

Patterns of Amplification and Meaning-Making Disputes on X

Architectures of Technological Institutional Violence  
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## Accessible Version

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## MOVER COOPERATIVE

Mover is a worker cooperative dedicated to research, analysis, and advisory services from an intersectional and human rights perspective. Through a critical and community-based approach, it promotes projects focused on advocacy, training, and support for organizations, activist movements, and institutions.

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## **ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT**

This public document is an executive summary of the research conducted by Mover Cooperative on technological institutional violence on X. For ethical and safety reasons, it does not include detailed reconstructions of the situations analyzed, screenshots, direct quotations from attacks, or lists of participating accounts. Its purpose is to share the general architecture of the phenomenon without reproducing violent episodes or exposing targeted individuals once again.

# Introduction

In recent years, and with particular intensity since Javier Milei took office in December 2023, the Argentine public sphere has undergone a significant transformation in the ways public discourse is produced, circulated, and legitimized. Digital platforms—particularly X—have become central arenas for political contestation, meaning-making, and the exercise of power.

This process is part of a broader context marked by the rise of radical right-wing movements, in which political communication is increasingly organized around immediacy, spectacle, permanent confrontation, and moral simplification. **Within this ecosystem, platforms do not merely amplify discourse; they also reshape the conditions under which legitimacy, public authority, and social delegitimization are constructed.**

The emergence of these situations can be more clearly understood through the analysis of **a series of digital attacks that have taken place in Argentina since 2024**. These cases reveal the consolidation of a sustained pattern of state actors participating in digital attacks. In particular, it is significant that many of these incidents were initiated, amplified, or legitimized by accounts belonging to public officials and, in some cases, by the official account of the President of Argentina, Javier Milei himself. These public officials intervened in digital conversations by promoting harassment, disinformation, public discrediting, the use of manipulated images, the circulation of discriminatory content, and, in some cases, the use of artificial intelligence to produce or amplify false materials. These practices affected individuals from various sectors of public life, including culture, journalism, politics, activism, and human rights.

In February 2026, this process reached a new stage of institutionalization with the creation of the Official Response Office of the Argentine Republic on X, presented by the national government as a tool to “actively debunk falsehoods” and identify misinformation disseminated by media outlets and political actors. It is important to note that initiatives of this kind may lead to covert forms of harassment, restrictions on freedom of expression, or the persecution of political opponents, particularly when the State positions itself as the arbiter of truth within digital public discourse.

From this perspective, these attacks can be understood as expressions of **technological institutional violence**, insofar as actors holding public responsibilities intervene in circuits of harassment, disinformation, or social disciplining.

**This executive summary presents the main findings and contributions of a comparative research project conducted by Mover Cooperative on situations of digital harassment that occurred in Argentina during 2025.** The analysis was carried out using **RIZ**, a tool developed by Mover to collect, reconstruct, and interpret dynamics of digital violence on the platform X.

The full report will not be published openly because it contains sensitive information regarding incidents of digital harassment, affected individuals, participating accounts, and specific attack dynamics. For ethical and political reasons, producing evidence should not imply revictimizing those affected or facilitating the reproduction of violent content.

From this perspective, the document proposes a situated understanding of technological institutional violence as a contemporary form of institutional violence that unfolds in digital environments when actors with public responsibility enable, legitimize, amplify, or sustain dynamics of harassment, disinformation, or social disciplining.

# Scope and objective

The research analyzes a set of digital harassment incidents that took place in Argentina during 2025 on the platform X. The corpus was constructed through the reconstruction of digital conversations that unfolded following interventions by actors with public responsibilities and institutional influence.

## 01

### OBJETIVE

The objective of this report is to identify common patterns in the production, circulation, and amplification of digital attacks through a comparative analysis of four harassment incidents on X.

The report's central contribution is to propose a situated interpretation of **technological institutional violence**, understood as those dynamics in which actors linked to public office produce, legitimize, amplify, or enable forms of digital harassment, disinformation, social disciplining, or restrictions on public debate.



## 02

### UNIVERSE

The first comparative RIZ report analyzes four digital harassment incidents that occurred during 2025, involving public figures from different fields—including journalism, activism, politics, and culture.

## 03

### ANALYZED DATASET

Based on the processing of more than **40,000 interactions** on X and the identification of more than **20,000 accounts**, the report reconstructs circulation networks, identifies relevant actors, characterizes the types of participating accounts, analyzes anti-rights tactics, and examines the involvement of public officials and accounts with the capacity to exert institutional influence.

# An approach to technological institutional violence

Technological institutional violence provides a way to name **a contemporary form of institutional violence that unfolds through digital platforms, social networks, visibility metrics, algorithms, high-influence accounts, and artificial intelligence tools.**

Its novelty does not lie solely in the use of digital technologies, but in **the articulation between public authority, algorithmic circulation, and the production of harm.** In this report, the concept is used to analyze situations in which state actors or individuals holding public responsibilities intervene in digital environments in ways that contribute to enabling, amplifying, legitimizing, or sustaining dynamics of harassment.

This also occurs when **actors with public responsibilities** reproduce falsehoods, share hostile content, elevate violent framings, amplify discrediting campaigns, or participate in scenes of public humiliation from a privileged position of power.

Technological institutional violence should not be understood solely as a formal action of the State or as an intervention concentrated in verifiable institutional accounts. It may also unfold through personal, secondary, or affiliated accounts belonging to actors with public responsibilities. The institutional dimension is not limited to the formal status of a state account; it is expressed through the authority carried by those who intervene, their public position, the performative power of their speech, and the effects those interventions produce within digital conversations.



UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL VIOLENCE  
TODAY IS A TOOL FOR UNDERSTANDING  
CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

# What is RIZ?

**RIZ is a digital violence analysis software for X developed by Mover.**

It enables the reconstruction of digital attacks, the identification of actors, the analysis of amplification dynamics, and the transformation of dispersed interactions into systematized evidence.

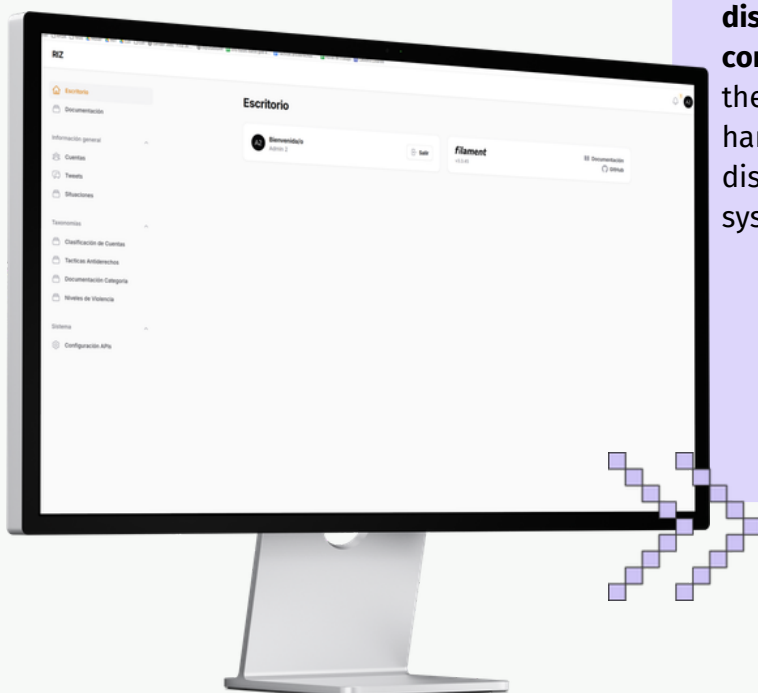
## WHAT DOES IT PRODUCE?

- **Analytical reports** on situations of digital violence.
- **Graphs and dashboards** to visualize actors, relationships, and amplification patterns.
- **Rankings of accounts** based on activity, reach, and impact.
- **Timelines** integrating interactions, media events, and institutional processes.
- **Exportable databases and contextual documentation.**

## CHALLENGE

Situations of digital violence often appear as fragmented, fast-moving conversations that are difficult to reconstruct. In a context of increasing platform opacity, identifying who participates, how an attack is amplified, which actors legitimize it, and which discursive repertoires sustain it becomes increasingly complex.

In response to this challenge, RIZ combines **data collection, network analysis, actor classification, discursive analysis, and political contextualization** to reconstruct the logic of each situation of digital harassment and transform dispersed interactions into systematized evidence.



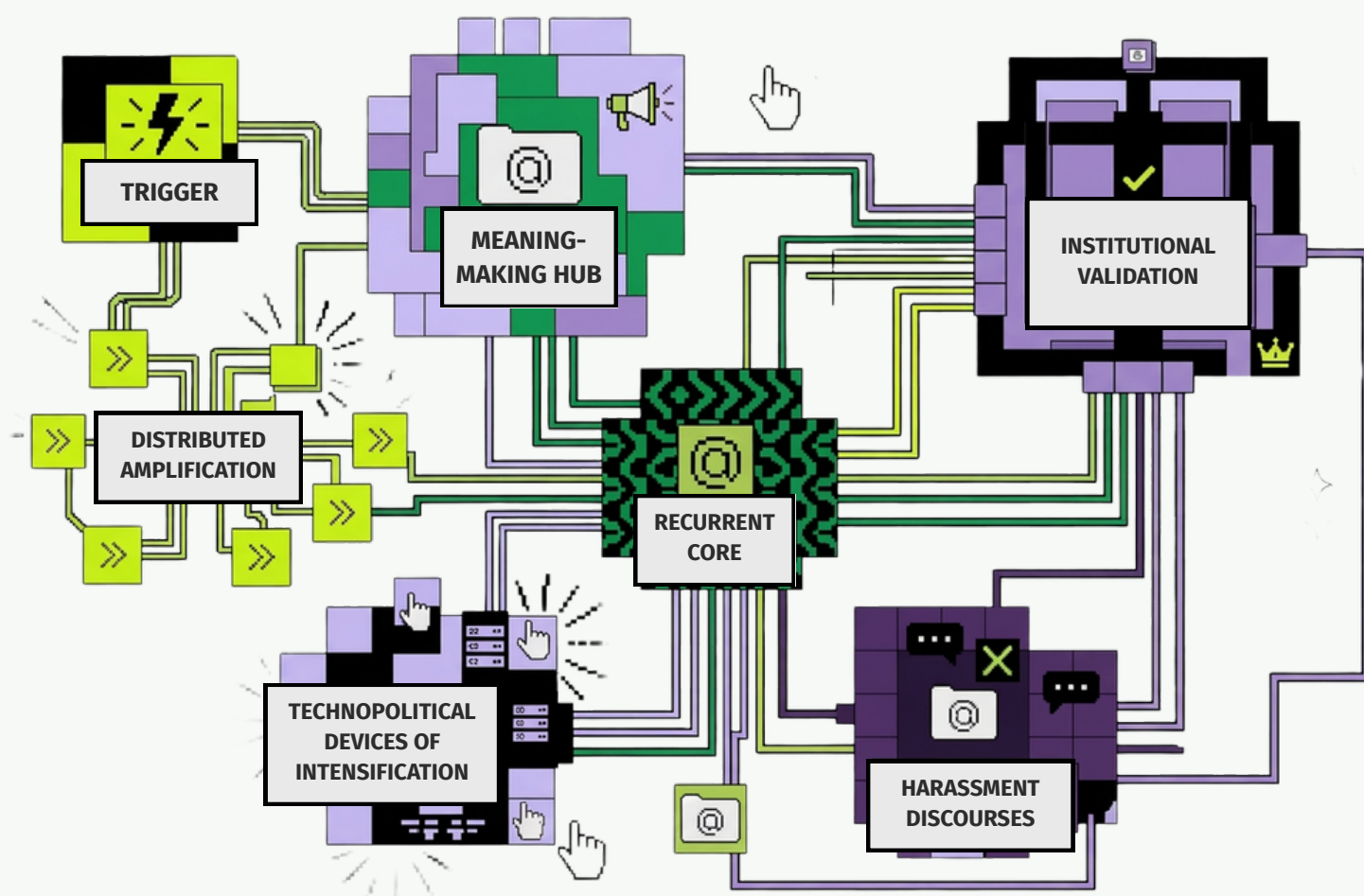
# RIZ<sup>X</sup>

# Technological institutional violence: A rhizomatic architecture of digital harassment

The analysis made it possible to identify a common operating architecture. This is not a set of linear stages or a fixed sequence, but rather a series of layers that may overlap within the same situation of harassment.

This architecture shifts the focus from the question of “who said what” toward a broader understanding of how an attack operates: what triggers it, who legitimizes it, how it is amplified, which discourses sustain it, which technologies intensify it, and what effects it produces on public conversation.

The following framework synthesizes these operational dimensions and makes it possible to locate how each contributes to the activation, circulation, legitimization, or intensification of digital harassment.



*The following sections develop each of these dimensions in order to understand the role they play within the architecture of digital harassment.*

## **Trigger**

Every attack is organized around a piece of content, event, or intervention that makes a conflict available for circulation. The trigger may be a public statement, a political event, an initial post, a fake news story, an accusation, a media framing, or a piece of content manipulated through artificial intelligence.

Its function is not to explain the attack on its own, but rather to open a zone of conflict: it identifies the targeted person, makes the conflict narratable, and enables its political reinterpretation.

At this stage, there is not necessarily large-scale participation, but the conditions are created for other actors to amplify, resignify, and direct the conversation.

## **Meaning-Making Hub**

Once the conflict has been activated, accounts or mechanisms with the capacity to make that content relevant, visible, or authoritative within a community intervene. At this stage, the trigger is transformed into a politically and emotionally shareable narrative.

The meaning-making hub defines what is said, how it is said, which emotions are mobilized, and what types of responses are enabled. This role may be played by institutional actors, militant accounts, high-impact trolls, media outlets, accounts with large followings, or tools associated with technical authority.

The legitimization of an attack does not stem from a single source. It may be institutional, when actors with public responsibilities intervene; political-community based, when militant or high-impact accounts organize conversations among aligned audiences; media-based, when news outlets or websites amplify specific framings; or technical, when tools associated with artificial intelligence introduce an appearance of verification, explanation, or authority.

## Distributed Amplification

The amplification base is composed of accounts that sustain the distributed circulation of the attack. Their relevance does not necessarily derive from their individual reach, but from their aggregate volume, repetition, and willingness to intervene.

Distributed amplification transforms content into a climate. It does not require each account to have high visibility; its power emerges through accumulation, repetition, and the sustained occupation of public conversation.

In this way, content that was initially localized can become an extended scene of harassment.

## Recurrent Core

The analysis identifies the existence of recurrent clusters of accounts that participate in more than one harassment incident. This recurrence does not, by itself, allow for claims of direct coordination, but it does reveal a cross-cutting availability to intervene in, amplify, or sustain digital attacks across different contexts.

The recurrent core performs a function of persistence: it shows that certain accounts, communities, or circuits remain available to intervene consistently across different hostile conversations.

This makes it possible to understand that some attacks cannot be explained solely as spontaneous reactions from circumstantial audiences, but also by the existence of profiles and networks that repeatedly participate in dynamics of digital harassment.

## Institutional Validation

Technological institutional violence runs through the entire architecture of the attack. It does not appear only when an official account initiates an act of aggression, but also when actors with public responsibilities participate in, amplify, legitimize, or elevate hostile content within a conversation.

Its significance does not depend on these actors producing the largest number of posts, but on the position they occupy within the network, the public authority they carry, and their capacity to make hostile content more visible, more legitimate, or more shareable.

In this sense, technological institutional violence is organized not only through quantity, but through position and function within the network. What matters is not only who intervenes, but what role they play within the circuit: activating, legitimizing, prioritizing, amplifying, repeating, harming, falsifying, technifying, or institutionalizing the attack.

## Harassment Discourses

The architecture of an attack is not defined solely by circulation and reach. It is also organized through violent discursive repertoires that produce symbolic, psychosocial, and political harm.

Harassment discourses should not be understood merely as offensive content or individual expressions of language. They function as discursive practices that produce common sense: they establish ways of naming, construct threatening or contemptible figures, shape the emotional order of the digital scene, and define which forms of violence become normalized within public conversation.

Their effectiveness lies not only in harming a specific individual, but in producing interpretive frameworks that make harassment socially replicable and politically intelligible.

## Technopolitical Devices of Intensification

Digital attacks are sustained by a platform infrastructure. Interaction metrics, reach, retweets, quote posts, algorithmic visibility, automated accounts, and artificial intelligence tools are not external elements to the attack; they are part of its conditions of circulation.

This dimension encompasses the devices that accelerate, distort, technify, or amplify the circulation of harm. Artificial intelligence, manipulated images, automated responses, and platform-specific visibility logics can make attacks faster, more credible, and more damaging.

Technology does not replace the social dynamics of harassment, but it can intensify them, expand their reach, provide them with a technical appearance, and increase their capacity to cause harm.

# Contributions and future directions of the report

This work seeks to provide tools for organizations, institutions, and actors in the human rights field engaged in the prevention, documentation, response, and advocacy efforts related to digital violence.

Its central contribution is to offer a situated methodology for understanding how digital attacks are organized and what conditions enable them to escalate. This perspective can contribute to the design of strategies for monitoring, documentation, strategic litigation, support for affected individuals, public advocacy, and the development of rights-protection policies in digital environments.

In a context of increasing platform opacity and the expansion of new forms of digital political violence, RIZ proposes an independent, rigorous, and situated tool for understanding how violence is organized in digital environments and what effects it produces on democratic life.

## Request the full report

This work is part of a broader research and action agenda aimed at understanding and addressing the various forms of digital violence that affect democratic participation and the exercise of rights. We are interested in building networks of exchange, collaboration, and learning with organizations, academic institutions, journalists, activists, and public institutions working on these issues.

[REQUEST FULL REPORT](#)



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