

IRPC Steering Committee Meeting Report

7 March 2019, 13.00 UTC

Attending: current co-chair Minda Moreira, 2017/19 co-chair and SC member Marianne Franklin, continuing SC members Hanane Boujemi, Robert Bodle and Sahajman Shrestha, new SC members: June Parris, Mohamed Farahad and Rigobert Kenmogne
Minutes: Robert Bodle

Agenda and outcomes:

1) Introductions

New and continuing members had the chance to introduce themselves and to get to know a bit more of each one's background and add value to the Coalition.

2) Current projects

Thoughts on IRPC activities from Steering Committee members and updates on current projects:

- Translations of the Charter - after the Russian and French translations the SC will be working to get the French and Russian translations available on booklet format, as well getting the funds together to reprint current published translations.

The meeting continued with updates on current projects :

- the Educational Resources Guide – Robert debriefed the group on the Resource Guide project which is still in its design stages and how this project can be a valuable document for outreach.
- The partnership with the Digital Cities Coalition, launched in November last year with the cities of Barcelona, Amsterdam and New York and based its principles on the Charter.
- Council of Europe CDMSI Observership - The IRPC has been an observer for a few years now and the SC discussed ways to become more actively involved. Marianne stressed the importance of the IRPC role as observer at the Council of Europe's CDMSI and the SC noted that in the current mandate the IRPC would aim to have more active input, not only by giving feedback to the documents reviewed, but also by attending the annual meetings. The next meeting will be in June 4-6 and Minda will be attending.
- Updates on EuroDIG 2019 - The IRPC will be participating in this year's EuroDIG in the Hague, 19-20 June. The Coalition will be hosting a flash session on Environment and is also involved in the GDPR workshop, where we tried to include a reference to Refugees and newcomers. The coalition is also interested in joining Workshop 9 on Sustainable Cities and may join the organising team.

3) Future objectives and contributions

The SC discussed the focus of the Coalition's work this mandate. With a call for workshops the for IGF19 already open the SC also discussed the preparations for the IGF19. The SC agreed on carrying on last year's work and to built on the workshops held at IGF18 in Paris on refugees rights, new technologies and smart/digital city

environments and rights issues, and to keep the human rights concerns for emerging technologies on the agenda.

The SC also agreed that the consolidation of our current themes should extend beyond the IGF annual meeting to other national and regional projects (national IGF's, other Internet Governance discussing platforms etc).

The IRPC SC accepted Hanane's suggestion that more work could be done in the regions represented by the new SC members following the strategy of previous projects such as the IRPC Educational Resource Guide or the Hivos Click Rights Campaign.

4) Reaching out to the wider IGF community and other groups

The members of the IRPC SC discussed how they could reach out and create synergies with others to advance the rights and principles promoted by the Charter, from working together with other DCs to establishing partnerships with civil society groups and academic institutions and to reaching out to governments and the technical community.

The regional diversity of the SC was welcomed by its members and there was agreement that a focus on regional initiatives would benefit the outreach work of the Coalition in regions like Africa, and South/Asia, Caribbean. From reaching out through the African Civil Society on information Society (ACSIS) which have national and regional coordinators that covered all Africa countries, getting other regions like the Caribbean more involved in the work of the Charter to addressing emerging cross-cutting issues such as the environment.

5) IRPC organization & funding of IRPC activities

- The SC followed last year discussion on how to streamline the SC work to provide focus and structure by introducing specific roles for all SC members, such as the role of Secretary, Regional experts (covering each area and participating in local and regional activities), Communications coordinator, Partnerships and outreach facilitators and CoE CDMSI observership coordination.

It was agreed that members would take this roles and that an evaluation of the new structure could take place at the end of the year.

- The SC also discussed the idea of open IRPC meetings. At the moment the IRPC hosts one annual meeting at the IGF and several SC meetings throughout the year. It was agreed that SC meetings should be kept open to elected SC members only, but that other participants could be able to join parts of a meeting to discuss specific points on the agenda. Other ideas discussed were the possibility of organising one virtual meeting year, in addition to the face-to-face annual meeting, or to try to organise another IRPC face to face meeting during events (MAG meetings, Regional IGF's, etc). The IRPC SC will continue to discuss this point.

- IRPC funding was another matter addressed, more specifically ideas on how to get structural funding for some of the activities, including maintaining the Coalition's web

presence. The SC agreed that funding is an issue and that it is urgent to raise funds for translations, booklet printing etc.

6) AOB

The IRPC SC agreed that points that need further discussion such as IRPC observer ship, funding of activities will be carried over to the next meeting.

ACTION POINTS:

IGF 19

Coordination of each workshop

Mohamed, Marianne, Hanane.

Workshops proposals first draft ready by March 25 and shared with the SC for collaboration

EuroDIG 19

Marianne to coordinate

SC roles

Minda to send an email with roles and descriptions (some need to be created), what needs to be done, and SC members can volunteer.

DC Coordination meetings

If possible more than one person should attend so that the coalition is always represented

CDMSI Council of Europe

Minda will attend the next meeting in June

Educational Resources Guide

Robert to coordinate