

Youth IGF Project



The Youth IGF Project was created by Childnet to include the voice of children and young people at the Internet Governance Forum.



Five young people aged 15-17 years from across the UK attended the IGF 2013 and chaired their own workshop on [Online anonymity, freedom of expression and internet governance](#). They presented the results of their [global survey](#) into online anonymity of over 1,300 people from across 68 countries, and they led a wide-ranging discussion between youth, industry and civil society.

History of the project

The Youth IGF Project is now entering in its sixth year of amplifying the voice of youth in a meaningful way at the Internet Governance Forum.

Youth IGF Project Timeline: 2009 – 2014

2009: Workshop - Internet Governance, Activating and Listening to the Voice of Teens

This workshop led by Childnet featured a youth panel, and revealed the contradiction between young people's desire for freedom and the belief that they have an automatic right to be safe.

The workshop represented a mile-stone in including young people in the discussions at the IGF, but the Youth IGF Project proposed that this should just be the start in working towards the meaningful inclusion of young people in the IGF process.

www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=Workshopsreports2009View&curr=1&wr=33

2010: First time full Youth Delegation taken to IGF

The Youth IGF took a team of 7 young people to Vilnius and worked with them to support their participation in a range of access and diversity, and privacy, openness and security workshops. The youth team worked to develop a statement of belief and this was contributed in the main session on privacy openness and security.

www.childnet.com/ufiles/YIGF-2010-statement-of-beliefs.pdf

2011: Workshop - A global consideration of the challenges to access, and the opportunities that access affords, from a youth perspective.

Childnet led a workshop featuring eight UK youth delegates as participants, and the youth team contributed in other workshops as panellists.

www.intgovforum.org/cms/component/chronocontact/?chronoformname=Workshops2011View&wspid=76

2012: Youth chaired workshop – Social media, young people and freedom of expression

For the first time at the IGF young people chaired their own workshop and presented the results of this workshop in the main session. Further youth projects inspired by the Youth IGF Project meant that there were more young people from across the world than ever before present at the IGF. The young people were invited to be panellists in an additional 5 workshops.

<http://wsms1.intgovforum.org/content/no94-social-media-young-people-and-freedom-expression#report>

2013: Youth chaired workshop - Online anonymity, freedom of expression and internet governance (55)

The topic of anonymity was proposed by the young people in response to the discussions they engaged in at the IGF 2012 and their interest and experience. The workshop presented the results of a global youth survey which explored global attitudes and experiences of online anonymity.

http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/wks2013/workshop_2013_status_list_view.php?xpsltipq_je=55

2014: Plans for Istanbul

A group of young people from the UK will be attending the forum to take part in several workshops.

Monday 1 September

- **Pre-event:** Governance in a Mobile Social Web – Finding the Markers (3pm)

Wednesday 3 September

- **Workshop 1:** [Protecting Child Safety AND Child Rights](#) (9am)
- **Workshop 17:** [Privacy as Innovation II](#) (11am)

Thursday 4 September

- **Workshop 173:** [Youth involvement in the IGF – Mapping, outreach, cooperation](#) (9am)
- **Workshop 146:** [Anonymity by Design: Protecting While connected](#) (11am)
- **Workshop 19:** [Empowering Global Youth Through Digital Citizenship](#) (2.30pm)