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RUSSIAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

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APRIL 6, 2021

We, the participants of the first Youth Russian Internet Governance Forum, are confident in the creative power of joint action by government, business, science and civil society to improve Internet governance, especially in the light of global challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

We see the Internet as a safe and friendly environment where everyone can be assured of their right to privacy.

We see the Internet as a space of opportunities, where everyone can decide who he or she wants to be, learn a new profession, receive and impart new knowledge.
We see the Internet as a space of freedom of speech, a place of universal equality and the priority of universal values, in which technological advances contribute to the preservation of our diversity.

We advocate for minimizing the harmful effects of modern technology on the environment and human health.

We recognize that the future of the global network is in our hands, and in the spirit of UN principles, we **call on all stakeholders to take decisive action in the following areas:**

Bridging the Digital Divide

Ensure equal access to the Internet and digital technology for users worldwide. Discrimination on the Internet is unacceptable. The Internet cannot be shut down for political reasons. The Internet is an international community asset.

Guarantee respect for human rights online as much as offline. Develop and implement institutions for the protection of human rights in the virtual environment.

Constantly improve the quality of teaching IT disciplines in secondary and higher education.

Create platforms for volunteers to help the elderly and other vulnerable groups to improve their digital literacy.

Digital Economy and Labor Market Transformation

Ensure that the processes of digital transformation of the economy are inclusive and promote the role of young people in these processes.

Organize training and retraining courses for specialists whose professions may be in danger of disappearing from the labor market in the conditions of digital transformation.

Create favorable conditions and motivation systems to attract young people to the IT industry.

Develop a set of measures to support young developers and entrepreneurs in the IT industry.

Create "social elevators" and provide for measures of state support and preferential regimes for young IT start-ups.

Digital Ethics and Digital Hygiene

Provide extensive and ongoing education about digital hygiene and digital culture on the Internet, especially for children and youth. Emphasize the development of critical thinking and the observance of precautionary measures in virtual space.

Avoid destructive impact of the Internet on the psychology of the young generation, create regulatory and other mechanisms of protection against online insults, manipulation of consciousness, and blackmail.

Identify and prevent the risks of developing digital addiction among the younger generation. In this regard, we appeal to the global community with the initiative to hold a regular campaign "Digital Detox Hour".

Data and Content

Personal data protection in the Internet is an absolute priority for all data operators with the possibility for users to withdraw their data at any moment.

Increase the social responsibility of businesses to users for the content they post on their platforms. Take measures to timely restrict access to destructive content and remove it.

Ensure the accuracy of information published on the World Wide Web.

Promote positive content that is conducive to the development of useful skills and the acquisition of new knowledge.

Create cross-university social networks to generate and promote positive content.

Trust and Safety

Create an open, stable, non-discriminatory online environment with clear roles and responsibilities for all stakeholders.

Ensure the safety of children and youth in the Internet environment, shielding the young generation as much as possible from illegal actions.

Take measures to combat the shadow segment of the Internet.

Ensure global Internet companies' compliance with the laws of the countries in whose jurisdictions they operate, as well as their respect for the historical, cultural and spiritual traditions, values and mentality of the population of these countries.

Knowledge Society and Values

Develop an information society based on knowledge, reliable and scientifically verified information, including modern digital technologies.

Preserve in virtual space the world's cultural, historical and linguistic heritage, including endangered languages and languages of small peoples.

Create, under the UN aegis, a global digital repository of such heritage of member states.

Take a value-based and ethical approach to the development and deployment of digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, recognizing the human right to override machine decisions at any stage.

Develop codes of ethics and standards for digital technology.

Proceed from the fact that technology should work to develop human creativity without degrading the human brain.

Involve Young People in Internet Governance.

Promote development of volunteer movement in the sphere of IT and Internet governance.

Unite efforts of Youth Internet Governance Forums in order to form a positive agenda within the UN global movement in this area.

We welcome the idea of creating a Youth Digital Ombudsperson institution in Russia and urge UN member states to create similar institutions and hold the World Youth Digital Ombudsperson Forum in 2022.