Dynamic Coalition on Network Neutrality

2023 Annual Report

1. Background info about the DC

The IGF <u>Dynamic Coalition on Network Neutrality (DCNN)</u> is a component of the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and has been promoting Internet Openness since its inception, through a participatory multistakeholder process. The DCNN advocates for open and secure Internet, accessible to all people. The Coalition has been promoting Network Neutrality as this fundamental principle plays an instrumental role in preserving Internet openness, fostering the enjoyment of Internet users' human rights; promoting competition and equality of opportunity; safeguarding the generative peertopeer nature of the Internet; and spreading the benefits of the Internet to all people.

2. Activities conducted in the past year a. Activities within the IGF

a. Activities within the IGF

Over 2023, DCNN fostered a number of multistakeholder discussions on socalled "fair share debate" resulting in a <u>Global Civil Society Statement on</u> <u>Network Fees</u>, launched during the IGF 2023, in Kyoto, Japan.

The discussion formed the basis for the 2023 DCNN Session which was dedicated to <u>"(Un)Fair Share and Zero Rating: Who Pays for the Internet?</u>". The session discussed the so called "fair share" debate, which is rising in popularity especially in the European Union and South Korea and moving rapidly to Latin America. The session also addressed the connection between the fair share and zero-rating debates, especially from a Global South perspective. The aim of the session has been to adopt an evidence-based approach to discuss to what extent fair share and zero rating can be beneficial for the internet economy and to whether they contribute positively or negatively to the sustainability of the internet ecosystem. Furthermore, panellists explored how these two core issues connect with broader debate on Internet openness vs Internet fragmentation.

b. Activities beyond the IGF and outputs produced

Beyond the session, DCNN members have promoted and participated to several international <u>multistakeholder debates</u> dedicated to the fair share debate, culminating in the elaboration of the <u>Global Civil Society Statement on</u> <u>Network Fees</u>.

The Statement has been elaborated and signed by members of the DCNN together with some of the leading experts on internet governance and was published on the new <u>DCNN website</u>.

3. Updates on internal processes

During the IGF 2023, several DCNN members suggested the interest to alter the DCNN denomination into Dynamic Coalition on Internet Openness, to signify the increasing relevance of the interoperability and device neutrality debates, beyond the "classic" net neutrality, stressing the complementarity of these concepts in the overarching concept of Internet Openness.

4. Priorities/objectives for the following year

The Coalition plans explore a diverse range of Internet openness issues, beyond network neutrality, including interoperability and device neutrality.