



Belarus Internet Governance Forum-2016

Internet in Belarus:

An Open Dialogue About Its Progression

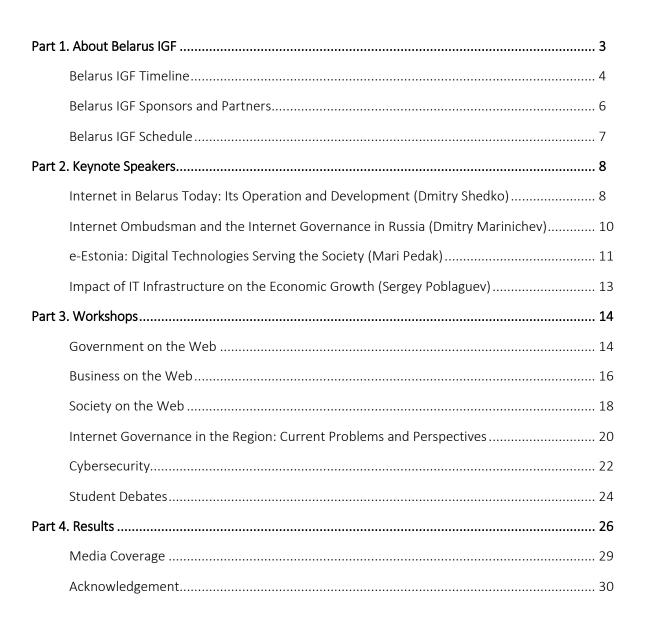
Minsk, Belarus 17 May 2016

Meeting Report

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About Belarus IGF



Belarus Internet Governance Forum –

is a national IGF initiative dedicated to encourage a multistakeholder dialogue aiming at finding the best ideas for the progression of the internet in Belarus.

Belarus IGF is aimed to establish:

Long-term stable constructive partnership between government, business, and civil society in the field of the internet governance and the internet development in Belarus.

The main objectives of the forum are:

- To create platform for the national dialogue on the internet governance;
- To encourage various stakeholder groups (including representatives of government, business, civil society, media, academic and technical communities) to contribute to the development of the internet in Belarus;
- To share the best ideas and practices in the internet governance and the internet development that may be used for the development of the internet in Belarus;
- To increase participation of Belarus in the global dialogue on internet governance.

The forum is organized by:

Multistakeholder Steering Committee which members were guided by the United Nation Internet Governance Forum principles in their dedicated work on organization of the Belarus IGF.

Members of the Steering Committee:

| Full name | Affiliation | Stakeholder group |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| Mr. Sergey Povalishev | Reliable Software, Ltd. | Business |
| Ms. Jevgenija Voronko | Reliable Software, Ltd. | Business |
| Mr. Kirill Mordan | Operative and Analytical Centre of the Republic of Belarus | Government |
| Mr. Sergey Prokopov | Operative and Analytical Centre of the Republic of Belarus | Government |
| Ms. Ludmila Chekina | Association of Organizations of Information and Communication Technologies "Belinfocom" | Civil society |
| Mr. Igor Sukach | Association of Organizations of Information and Communication Technologies "Belinfocom" | Civil society |

Secretary of the Steering Committee: Ms. Jevgenija Voronko

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Belarus IGF Timeline

November 2015-January 2016 Belarus National Internet Governance Forum Initiative Is Formed

The Belarus Internet Governance Forum is formed with the participation of representatives of government, business, and civil society sectors who take an active part in the development of the internet in Belarus. The Belarus IGF is supported by ICANN and RIPE NCC.

| January 2016 | Belarus IGF Joins the Global IGF's Network of National and Regional |
|--------------|---|
| | Initiatives |

After meeting all criteria, the Belarus IGF was accepted to the IGF network. Since then, Belarus IGF is represented in the IGF processes around the globe: both remotely (sending participants of virtual meetings) and personally (sending participants and speakers of Internet Governance Forums in different countries).

January 2016-February 2016 Draft of the Belarus IGF Schedule Is Released

The schedule was drafted in such way to encourage participation of as many stakeholder groups as possible (representatives of government, business, civil society, international organizations, technical and academic communities) in discussions during the forum and before it. It was achieved due to the fact that the draft of the schedule included six workshops without specific topics: "Government on the Web", "Business on the Web", "Society on the Web", "Internet Governance in the Region: Current Problems and Perspectives", "Cybersecurity", "Student Debates". People proposed their topics for discussions via email and social networks.

March 2016 The Belarus IGF website and Facebook Account Are Launched

All information about the forum is open to the public due to the forum's website <u>igf.by</u> and its Facebook accounts (<u>Event</u> that was used during the preparation process and <u>Page</u> that was released after the forum was conducted).

March 2016 The Belarus IGF PR and Marketing Campaigns Are Launched

The forum's PR and marketing campaign included promotion through social networks, publications in the largest national media, Radio and TV announcements, email marketing, and banner campaigns. Overall amount of contacts reached during the campaign – 3 870 100.

March 2016

The Belarus IGF Starts Attracting Sponsors and Partners

The Belarus IGF established partnership with CENTR, APTLD, beCloud (the first infrastructure operator in Belarus), Atlant Telecom (the largest private internet provider in Belarus), 1C-Bitrix (the largest private CMS developer in CIS countries) and other companies.

| April 18, 2016 | ICANN Vice-President Mr. Michael Yakushev Holds Public Lecture on | |
|----------------|---|--|
| | the Faculty of International Relations of the Belarusian State University | |

Michael Yakushev explained what is internet from the global and legal points of view, answered questions of the audience and invited them to participate in the Belarus IGF.

April 2016

The Belarus IGF Volunteer Team is Formed

More than 20 students of Belarusian universities were happy to become the volunteers of the forum.





May 17, 2016

The First Belarus IGF Is Held in Minsk

The forum attracted more than 350 participants representing various stakeholder groups (government, business, civil society, international organizations, academic and technical communities) and countries (Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Estonia, Georgia, Armenia, Moldova, and USA).





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Belarus IGF Schedule

| 09:00 - 10:00 | REGISTRATION, WELCOME COFFEE |
|---------------|---|
| 10:00 - 10:30 | FORUM'S OPENING Sergey Prokopov, the Operative and Analytical Centre of the Republic of Belarus Sergey Povalishev, CEO at hoster.by Michael Yakushev, ICANN Vice President |
| 10:30 - 11:00 | Dmitry Shedko, First Deputy Minister of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus Internet in Belarus Today: Its Operation and Development |
| 11:00 - 11:30 | Dmitry Marinichev, Russia's Internet Ombudsman Internet Ombudsman and the Internet Governance in Russia |
| 11:30 - 12:00 | COFFEE BREAK |
| 12:00 - 12:30 | Mari Pedak, Senior Consultant and eID Expert of Estonian e-Governance Academy e-Estonia: Digital Technologies Serving the Society |
| 12:30 - 13:00 | Sergey Poblaguev, CEO at becloud Impact of IT Infrastructure on the Economic Growth |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | LUNCH BREAK |
| 14:00 - 15:30 | WORKSHOPS Government on the Web Business on the Web Society on the Web |
| 15:30 - 16:00 | COFFEE BREAK |
| 16:00 - 17:30 | WORKSHOPS Internet Governance in the Region: Current Problems and Perspectives Cybersecurity Student Debates |
| 17:30 - 18:00 | CLOSING EVENT |
| 18:00 | FAREWELL COCTAILS |





Keynote Speakers

Internet in Belarus Today: Its Operation and Development

Dmitry Shedko, First Deputy Minister of Communications and Informatization of the Republic of Belarus



Key messages:

- Belarus is one of the leaders in the development of telecommunication infrastructure among the post-Soviet countries. Penetration of the mobile broadband internet connection in Belarus is 55%. During the next three years, optical fiber cables will be installed on the entire territory of the country.
- In the near future, the cost of the internet access in Belarus will stay at the same level while the speed of the internet connection will get higher.
- There are no any restrictions for giving users access to free public Wi-Fi in Belarus. Moreover, creation of public Wi-Fi spots is one of KPI for the national telecommunication operator Beltelecom. From the beginning of the year, there were more than 44,000 Wi-Fi spots installed in Minsk and region while their total amount by the end of April exceeded 423,000. By the end of 2016, more than 26,000 spots will be released that will add to the total amount of spots that are to reach 448,000.
- By 2020, 5G networks will be ready for usage in Belarus.



- The Open Data Portal will be created in Belarus. This portal will be a key direction for the development of state information resources.
- The Internet of Things (IoT) is one of the direction of the state policy. The working group on promoting the concept of IoT is created in Belarus. There are some projects in this sphere already: one of them is a "Smart House" project released by the national telecommunication operator Beltelecom.

Presentation and video of this report can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).





Internet Ombudsman and the Internet Governance in Russia

Dmitry Marinichev, Russia's Internet Ombudsman



Key messages:

- The position of the Internet Ombudsman in Russia was created in 2012 with the aim of representing the rights of businessmen when they face problems in dealing with the government authorities and defending the interests of these businessmen. The Internet Ombudsman in Russia works with the following issues:
 - Problems of concrete entrepreneurs;
 - Problems of the whole industry;
 - Determining the strategic development of lawmaking and eliminating administrative barriers in interests of the representatives of the professional community.
- The reasons for the problem of the internet regulation in Russia are as follows:
 - Total misunderstanding of the technological nature of the internet;
 - Attempts to use the old-fashioned legislation in this sphere.
- The Internet Ombudsman in Russia deals with a lot of problems. The results of this work already have positive effect: for instance, cancel of licensing for hosting providers.

Video of this report can be downloaded on igf.by (in Russian only).





e-Estonia: Digital Technologies Serving the Society

Mari Pedak, Senior Consultant and eID Expert of Estonian e-Governance Academy



Key messages:

- In relation to the information society, there is a number of indicators (such as how many bank transfers are digital and how many time it takes to register a fully functioning CO) and three user categories: a citizen, an entrepreneur, and an official.
- Estonia became one of the leading information society in the world due to the well-structured coordination process put into the Estonian e-Government Strategy which included four stages: Organization process, Legal framework process, Fiscal framework process, and Technical architecture project.
- Estonian e-government infrastructure is based on four pillars:
 - Access (which is based on the Government Secure Network and Internet penetration),
 - Digitalized data,
 - Data exchange (which is based on the Bilateral agreements and X-road serving as a backbone of the Estonian government), and
 - Authentication system (which include ID card, Public Key Infrastructure).
- In working with data, there are the following principles in Estonia:
 - Once only. Citizens never have to provide the same information twice;
 - No duplicated data in the databases;
 - Clear data ownership;
 - Customer oriented;
 - No single point of failure;





- Personal data protection;
- Flexible;
- Efficiency by structured processes.
- Online operations save time and money. Due to 100 million digital signatures people and companies have saved more than 82,000,000 €.
- Digital revolution needs re-thinking and re-designing the way work is done.
- The practices that have proved to be the best ones in Estonia:
 - Simple solution;
 - Compulsory ID card;
 - Low state fee;
 - Public-private partnership;
 - Interoperable ICT architecture;
 - Usable in any relation: G2G, G2B, G2C, B2C, B2B, C2C.
- Future of mID is e-SIM 2017 mobile-ID without SIM-card based on cloud solutions and compatible for all types of smartphones. e-SIM 2017 is easier to implement than any other solutions.

Presentation and video of this report can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u>.



Impact of IT Infrastructure on the Economic Growth

Sergey Poblaguev, CEO at beCloud



Key messages:

- Drivers of the digital economy are as follows: Telecommunications (Mobility, Transmission speed), Computing resources (Cloud technologies, Infrastructure of the Data Processing Centers), and Information resources (Information systems, Digital services).
- Infrastructure LTE operator beCloud currently provides 4G network with speed of 300 Mbit/s. The company is about to release pilot 4,5G network with estimated speed up to 1 Gbit/s.
- The Republican Data Processing Center and the Republican Cloud Platform are built in Belarus.
- The Republican Cloud Platform provides a number of services including IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS.
- Core element of the digital economy in Belarus is E-commerce based on the Systems of Electronic Payments, Taxes and Accountability, and Ways and Systems of Identification.

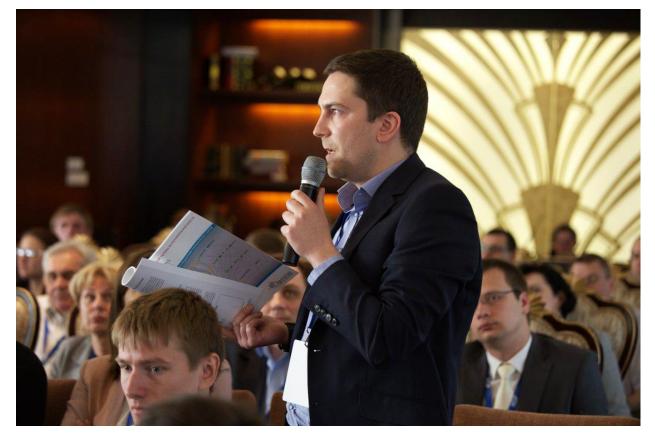
Presentation and video of this report can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).



Workshops



Government on the Web



People:

Moderator: Aleksandr Nikolaichuk, Regional Editor at Digital.Report

Key participants:

- Vitaly Novitsky, Press Secretary of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus Activities of the Press Service of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus
- Alexey Pashkevich, CO at the Military Information Agency "Vayar"

Agency's projects

• Aleksandr Pesetsky, Deputy Chief Director of the Main Direction of Online Broadcasting of Belteleradiocompany

Electronic Resources of Belteleradiocompany on the Web

• Oleg Sedelnik, Director of the Centre of Information Technologies of the Minsk City Executive Committee

Project "115.БЕЛ"

• Mary Penyaz, Junior Research Associate of the Internet Resources Department of the National Centre of Legal Information

Pravo.by and other Centre's Internet Resources



All people attended the workshop (moderator, key participants, and audience) participated in the discussion as equals. They actively asked questions and shared their opinion with each other.

Issue discussed:

• Transparency of government on the web.

Key messages:

- State authorities and organizations are motivated to be more transparent on the web.
- There are a number of state web-projects that caused effective cooperation between government and society. As example may be used project "<u>115.6E/J</u>".
- At the same time, there are still some things that may be improved. Participant of the discussion mention public access to legal information as one of these things.

Video and presentations that were shown during this workshop can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).



Business on the Web





People:

Moderator: Ludmila Chekina, Director General at "Reliable Software", Ltd., lawyer

Key participants:

- **Tatyana Lappo**, Chief State Tax Inspector of the Department of the Tax and Duties Ministry of the Republic of Belarus
- Violetta Brezovskaya, Head of the Department of Trade and Services Organization of the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Belarus
- Larisa Ermachenok, Deputy Director of the Trademarks Department of the National Center of Intellectual Property
- Tatiana Ignatovskaya, Attorney at Law, Partner, Attorneys at Law "Stepanovski, Papakul & partners"
- Dmitry Suslov, CEO at "1C-Bitrix" in Belarus and Russia
- Andrey Grinevich, Founder and CEO at OZ.by
- Yuri Goncharuk, Manager at UANIC

All people attended the workshop (moderator, key participants, and audience) participated in the discussion as equals. They actively asked questions and shared their opinion with each other.

Issue discussed:



• The most important aspects of Belarusian legislation that have influence on the online activities of Belarusian business.

Key messages:

Participants of the workshop with the help of the representatives of the related government authorities have clarified the issues of Belarus legislation that are essential for doing business online. These issues had caused a lot of questions before the workshop and firstly were made clear during the workshop. These issues are as follows:

- Some peculiarities of tax legislation for owners of the web-sites;
- Legal definition of internet store and indicators for web-sites to be considered as an internet store;
- Rules of holding contests on social networks.

Video of this workshop can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).



Society on the Web





People:

Moderator: Aleksandr Skrabovsky, Co-organizer of Contest of Social Projects Social Weekend

Key participants:

- Irina Sidorova, CEO at Ulej.by
- Ivan Vedenin, Creative Director at Talaka.by
- Denis Kondratovich, CEO and Co-founder at Crowdfunding Platform MaeSens.by
- Alena Sheremet (Andreeva), Editor of Video Department at Belarusian Portal TUT.BY
- Yasia Karalevich-Kartel, Editor at Citydog.by
- Anton Motolko, Blogger

All people attended the workshop (moderator, key participants, and audience) participated in the discussion as equals. They actively asked questions and shared their opinion with each other.

Issue discussed:

• How internet may be used to help turning idea into reality and leading positive changes in society.

Key messages:

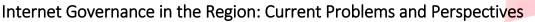
• The internet provides new opportunities for communication and makes it easier to communicate. But it doesn't cancel the necessity to create content.



- Civil society and internet have changed attitude to it in Belarus: the content that is published online is read either by offline media, or government authorities. They not only read this content but react to it helping to solve many important problems.
- It is not enough only to speak about the problems on the internet. The problems must be solved offline that always depends on concrete people who strength enough to take the responsibility.

Video of this workshop can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).







People:

Moderator: Michael Yakushev, ICANN Vice President

Key participants:

- Dmitry Marinichev, Russia's Internet Ombudsman
- Andrey Vorobyev, CEO at Coordination Center for TLD .RU/.PΦ
- **Sergey Voitovskiy**, Deputy Head of International Cooperation and European Integration Directorate of the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications of the Republic of Moldova
- Yuri Kargapolov, Member of the Coordination Council of UANIC
- Igor Sukach, CEO at Atlant Telecom

All people attended the workshop (moderator, key participants, and audience) participated in the discussion as equals. They actively asked questions and shared their opinion with each other.

Issue discussed:

• Internet governance in the region of Eastern Europe from the point of view of the problems that are relevant for the whole region and the ways to solve them.

Key messages:



- Belarus made significant progress in the development of telecommunication technologies. The country takes the 36th place in the Information and Communication Technology Index which is the highest result among all neighboring countries.
- The structure of the telecommunication market in Belarus in comparison with other countries with government operator is disproportional: 80% of market share belongs to government operator while only 5% to its next competitor. In other countries this proportion is different: government operator has 40-60%, its next competitor 20-30%.
- Raising the level of competition among internet operators in Belarus will allow to attract serious investments in this sector.
- Future internet development trends for the countries of Eastern Europe are as follows:
 - Internes access becomes available whenever and wherever people want to use it;
 - Global development of internet technologies leads to erasing state borders, globalization of information resources and communication technologies.

Video of this workshop can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).





Cybersecurity



People:

Moderator: Leonid Todorov, General Manager at APTLD

Key participants:

- Anatoliy Matveev, Chief of the Department of the Operative and Analytical Centre of the Republic of Belarus, CO at the National Computer Emergency Response Team of the Republic of Belarus
- Aleksandr Sushko, Chief of the Cyber and Intellectual Property Crimes Investigation Department of the Main Investigate Office of the Investigate Committee of the Republic of Belarus
- Patrick L. Jones, ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement Senior Director
- Alexandra Kulikova, ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- Sergey Lozhkin, Senior Antivirus Expert at Kaspersky Lab

All people attended the workshop (moderator, key participants, and audience) participated in the discussion as equals. They actively asked questions and shared their opinion with each other.

Issue discussed:

• Cybersecurity challenges in Belarus and throughout the world.

Key messages:



- Participants of the workshop touched upon the most debated issues in the cybersecurity area including:
 - The concept of the critical infrastructure of the internet and its security, as well as how it is understood in the "East" and in the "West";
 - Avenues of international cooperation to enable a global consensus in the country and society on cybersecurity agenda, as well as on the government's role in shaping the public policy and its interaction with key stakeholders.
- Participants of the workshop also emphasized importance of international cooperation to avoid a potential threat of the internet fragmentation.

Video of this workshop can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).



Student Debates





Month prior to the Belarus Internet Governance Forum, organizers started to look for participants of debates through:

- Publications on the websites of universities;
- Publications on social networks;
- Personal meetings with students.

As a result of this work, team of 17 motivated, proactive, and intelligent students was formed. They represented 9 faculties of 4 Belarusian universities:

- Belarus State University (Minsk);
- Belarus State University of Information Technologies (Minsk);
- Gomel State University named after Francisk Skorina (Gomel);
- Minsk State Linguistic University (Minsk).

On May 6, they attended specially organized training where they met each other and practiced debates.

The next time, they met during the Belarus IGF. Two hours before the debates started, participants had time to prepare to it.

Debates started from the resolution:

Internet should penetrate all spheres of life.

The Proposition Team represented argument affirming the resolution while the Opposition Team represented arguments rejecting the resolution. Both sides were given the opportunity to directly question the opposing team.

The debates were judged by 4 judges:



- Maxim Burtikov, External Relations Officer (Eastern Europe and Central Asia) at the RIPE NCC
- Ludmila Chekina, Director General at "Reliable Software", Ltd., lawyer
- Aleksandr Gradushko, Candidate of Philosophical Sciences, Professor, Curator of the Specialty "Journalism (Web Journalism)" of the Institute of Journalism of the Belarusian State University
- Jevgenija Voronko, PR Manager at hoster.by

(Moderator of the debates was Mikhail Liakh, CEO at ties.by)

They estimated team's persuasiveness taking into account such criteria like Argument Strength, Performance Logic, Performance Structure, Performance Style, and Questions and Answers.

After analyzing protocols of all judges, a winning team was determined. Debates were won by the Opposition Team.

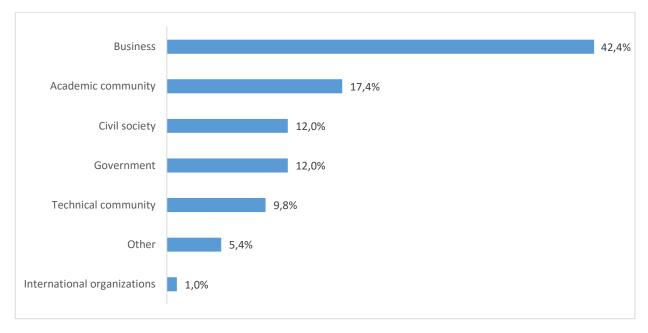
"It was my big dream to organize debates during this forum. Thanks a lot to all participants for turning this dream into reality. It was very hard to determine the winning team because you all presented very strong and clear arguments.

You shouldn't concentrate on whether your team won or not. The thing I want you to remember about this moment is that you all did a great job and impressed judges", said one of the forum's organizers Ms. Jevgenija Voronko to participants of the debates.

Video of the student debates can be downloaded on <u>igf.by</u> (in Russian only).

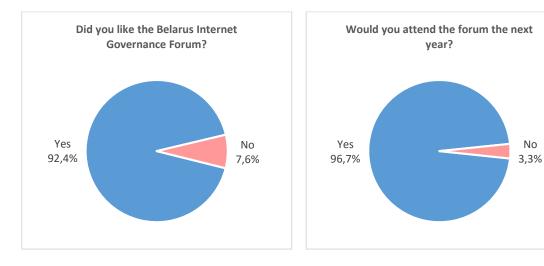


Results



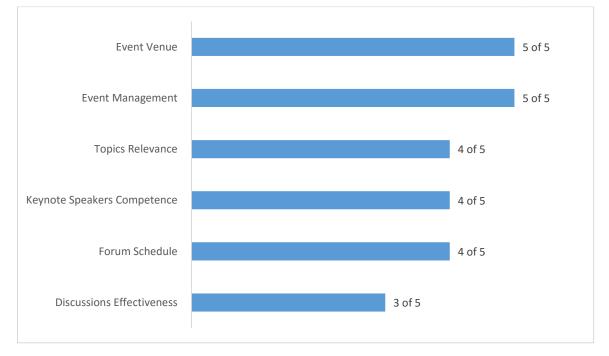
The fist Belarus Internet Governance Forum was attended by more than 350 participants representing 8 countries (Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Estonia, Georgia, Armenia, and USA) and 7 stakeholder groups.

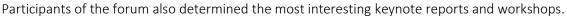
92,4 % of them answered that they liked the Belarus Internet Governance Forum. 96,7% said that they would like to attend it the next year.

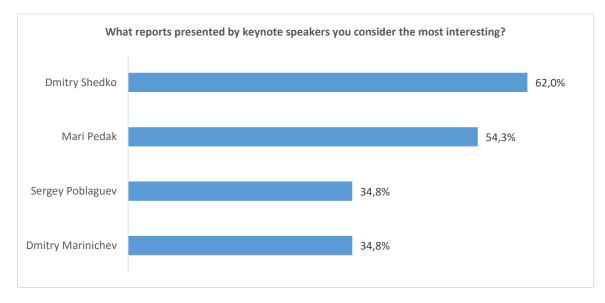




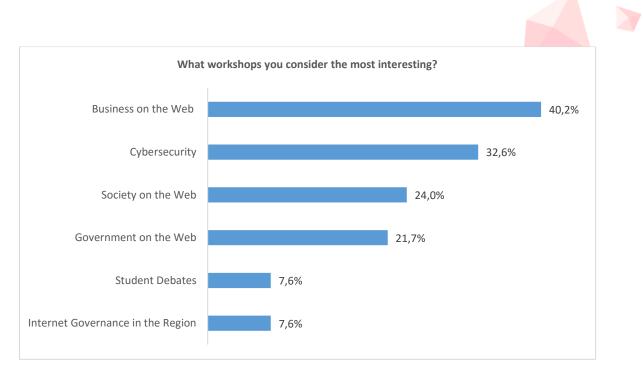
Participants of the forum highly rated key forum's aspects.











"I believe that the Internet Governance Forum in Minsk was very successful. Firstly, I would like to notice the high level of reports, professionalism of all speakers, sincere interest of audience to all topics, as well as its active involvement in the discussions. Secondly, it was a great pleasure to meet in Minsk those persons whom I've knew from the past events in Minks, as well as those who had come to attend the forum from many neighboring countries. Third, it was a pleasant surprise to realize that the representatives of Belarusian state authorities who showed excellent level or professionalism had become equal participants of almost all forum's discussions. Special acknowledgement to the forum's organizers for their huge preparatory work. The way the forum was organized and conducted, as many other participants also noticed, will become an example for our colleagues", said ICANN Vice President Mr. Michael Yakushev.





Media Coverage

The Belarus Internet Governance Forum attracted 26 journalists representing TV, radio, newspapers, and internet resources. They published more than 20 materials including (in Russian only):

- <u>http://42.tut.by/496559</u>
- http://42.tut.by/496819
- http://42.tut.by/496983
- <u>https://digital.report/igf-belarus2016/</u>
- <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x99_HUqImMs</u>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQSLMZbwvKo
- http://pravo.by/main.aspx?guid=213943
- https://baj.by/ru/node/5359
- <u>http://www.belta.by/tech/view/atlant-telekom-obsudil-s-ekspertami-problemy-i-perspektivy-razvitija-interneta-193791-2016/</u>
- <u>http://www.belta.by/photonews/view/forum-po-upravleniju-internetom-vpervye-prohodit-v-belarusi-3300/</u>
- <u>http://www.belta.by/tech/view/oats-v-belarusi-sozdany-uslovija-dlja-polnotsennogo-razvitija-interneta-193573-2016/</u>
- <u>http://www.belta.by/tech/view/minsvjazi-schitaet-portal-otkrytyh-dannyh-odnim-iz-kljuchevyh-napravlenij-razvitija-gosinformresursov-193565-2016/</u>
- <u>http://www.belta.by/tech/view/optovolokonnye-kabeli-dlja-dostupa-v-internet-planiruetsja-provesti-po-vsej-belarusi-za-tri-goda-193559-2016/</u>
- <u>http://www.tvr.by/videogallery/ekonomicheskie/sfera-interesov/internet-spetsialisty-govorili-v-minske-o-realnykh-zadachakh-virtualnoy-seti/</u>
- <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=54fsYXNM-Z4</u>
- http://mir24.tv/news/society/14417891





Acknowledgement

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Together we made the first Belarus IGF happen:







Let's keep in touch!



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