

The results of the IV Youth Russian Internet Governance Forum

On April 5 in one of the main cybersecurity hubs in Russia known as “Cyberdom” was held the IV Youth Russian Internet Governance Forum (Youth RIGF). The event brought together the most creative, talented and progressive members of youth, interested in the future of the Internet and development of digital technology. Approximately 300 young people took part in Youth RIGF on-site and several thousand more watched the Forum’s online broadcasts on the Russian social network – VKontakte. The event was organized by the Center for Global IT-Cooperation.

Forum was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Dmitry Chernyshenko, who in his welcoming address to the participants, emphasized that Russia faces large-scale technological tasks and challenges, and, of course, their implementation is impossible without the active digitalization of various areas and the participation of the new generation in shaping the digital future of the country.

During the opening ceremony of Youth RIGF was held an award ceremony of the Alliance for the Protection of Children in the Digital Environment “For a Safe Digital Childhood”. Laureates received memorable prizes from member companies of the Alliance – nine major Russian technological companies.

The business program of the Forum was quite eventful. The session “Education in the age of AI” was dedicated to the implementation of generative technologies in the educational process and the impact of AI on education. Whether cybersecurity will become an integral part of human existence due to the introduction of a brain-computer interface was discussed at the session “The Internet of bodies: the future of technology”. The question of inevitable changes in the labor market and solving the problem of personnel shortages through technological development was raised as part of the discussion “Human resources decide everything: automation and robotization”. And the session “Hard to be human: the digital age society” touched on aspects of the influence of the Internet on human perception of reality.

The final part of the program saw the session “How to build a successful IT business: the experience of young entrepreneurs” organized with the support of the Russian Association for Electronic Communications and the Coordination Center for TLD .RU/.РФ. Young IT entrepreneurs shared their experience with the participants, and also inspired some on the difficult and thorny, but very

interesting path of opening their own innovative business for the benefit of the development of the Runet.

In addition, the IV Youth Russian Internet Governance Forum became an international event, as representatives from 11 countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Serbia, Uganda, the Philippines and Nigeria – announced the launch of the Friends for Internet community in collaboration with a network of leaders and entrepreneurs from the following generation of “Friends for Leadership”. Friends for Internet intends to become the voice of the Global South on Internet governance issues, and raise the voice of the global majority in global decision-making, as well as promote the best practices and projects of participants to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals until 2030.

The organizers and participants expressed their desire to hold the Forum annually in order to meet again and provide an opportunity for dialogue and discussion of new ideas and implementation of projects for young people from Russia and around the world.

