

8IGF 2017 WS #193 Youth Engagement in Internet Governance Ecosystem: Current Scenario, Controversies and Future Action

Session Title	Youth Engagement in Internet Governance Ecosystem: Current Scenario, Controversies and Future Action
Date	December, 19th 2017
Time	10:10 - 11:40
Session Organizers	Bruna Santos, Youth Observatory Sze Ming Tan, Sinar Project / Youth for Rights (Y4R)
Onsite Moderator	Paula Côte Real, Youth Observatory
Online Moderator	Élisson Diones, Youth Observatory
Rapporteur	Verónica Arroyo, Youth Observatory / Embajadores de Internet Project
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Elisabeth Schaueremann; Internet Society IGF Ambassador Jianne Soriano, Net Mission Ambassador Bruna Santos, Youth Observatory David Morar, Schar School Of Policy and Government
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	Education on “internet governance” is crucial and should be part of the curricula. Youth participation in IGFs and youth engagement on internet governance discussions always face barriers of language, funding and technology. Youth awareness on internet governance issues is still a problem since there is a lack of information and opportunities, that makes them think that internet governance problems do not affect them.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation	There were four presentation. Each speaker had two questions to answer. The following paragraphs summarize their answers: Elisabeth Schaueremann, Internet Society IGF Ambassador, was asked: What are the barriers encountered by youngsters when entering the Internet Governance

	<p>Ecosystem? How can we prospect the youth to engage with IG? She mentioned that some of the barriers she faced was:(i) the lack of education and information about Internet Governance, (ii) lack of funding, (iii) lack of time since youths also do other activities as: internships, jobs, studies, and so on.</p> <p>Bruna Santos, Youth Observatory member, was asked: Is there any ideal model of Youth engagement program? What do you think are the key elements to any of them ? It is ideal to have a proper mentoring. funding. She answered that there is no an ideal youth program yet, but there are really good programs outside, each of them has its own particularities. She added that an ideal program needs to have a proper level of mentoring, funding, and a good level of networking.</p> <p>David Morar, Schar School Of Policy and Government representative, was asked: Talking about the need of a forum or a line of action that would conjoint the ideas and practices of these newly engaged individuals, do you think that there should be a Youth Agenda for Internet Governance? Or a Best Practice youth Forum within the IGF? He answered that there is a need to have a unified voice of youths. Moreover, he mentioned that there should be a legitimate Internet Governance institution that represents youth, and that age difference should be considered as a type of diversity.</p> <p>Jianne Soriano, Net Mission Ambassador, was asked: Considering the amount of Youth movements around the globe, how can we represent the diversity of realities and youths in order to legitimately represent their claims? How do you think those initiatives could work together in order to exchange experiences, best practices and regional backgrounds? She mentioned three points that help to understand why diversity is so important. (i) She encouraged all the attendees to share back to their local</p>
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	<p>communities all the knowledge they got from international event. (ii) She asked for more outreach programs that works with capacity building. (iii) She mentioned that all stakeholders should focus more on end users.</p>
<p>Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>After the four presentations, the audience was divided into four small groups to discuss: barriers, youth programs, best practices, and diversity. Each speaker played the role of a moderator in each group. After a 30 minute discussion, the four speakers reported the following:</p> <p>The group that talked about barriers concluded that there are communities that does not have internet access, and that schools and universities should include internet governance into the curricula. Internet Society resources were mentioned as an example. On the other side of the room, the group that talked about youth programs concluded that countries and companies should exchange experiences about their programs. They also mentioned that a way to promote and advertise programs is by talking with our peers. The group also encouraged the audience to get in touch with their local internet governance community. Moreover, they suggested that youth programs should have mentoring opportunities.</p> <p>The third group discussed about best practices. They mentioned that there are more national youth IGFs than before. However youth participation is still a problem. Also, they recommended the audience to share back to their community all the knowledge they got in the IGF. Finally, the last group discussed about diversity and concluded that there is still a language barrier. They pointed out that the vast majority of the young population does not have interest on internet governance issues, and even if they have interest they do not know how they can be part of it. They added that old generations and young generations do not share the same view</p>

	<p>about internet. They also repeated how important is to teach about internet governance in schools and to have youth references.</p>
<p>Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>There is a need to improve online participation, so online participants do not feel themselves as second class participants. Also we should take into account that not all online participants can follow the conversation because of language problems or technical issues.</p> <p>Global south countries have their own problems that cannot be compared to the ones that happen in developed countries. Two attendees asked for a Global South IGF.</p> <p>Schools and Universities need to add “internet Governance” into their curricula.</p>

Gender Reporting

<p>Estimate the overall number of the participant present at the session</p>	<p>There were approximately 60 people</p>
<p>Estimate the overall number of women present at the session</p>	<p>There were approximately 30 women in the room.</p>
<p>To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women’s empowerment?</p>	<p>Gender equality was not discussed.</p>
<p>If the session addressed issues related to gender equality and/or women’s empowerment, please provide a brief summary of the discussion</p>	<p>–</p>

