

**Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media
(DC-Sustainability)
2020 Annual Report**

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Like many other Dynamic Coalitions, 2020 marked a significantly challenging year for us given how many of our plans had to be changed or canceled altogether due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though we started the year strong by electing three co-coordinators for the 2020-2021 term and devising a robust action plan, our ability to convene our community at World Press Freedom Day and RightsCon to plan for our IGF activities had to be altered. At the same time, the pandemic made an already difficult situation for journalism and news media sustainability [even worse](#).

Given the extraordinary circumstances last year, we spent much of the year focusing on organising our community to prepare and ultimately [launch](#) our inaugural outcome document at IGF 2020 during [our DC session](#) on 5 November. This included communicating with authors to finalise their case studies and other additions to the report (seven in total), and working with the co-coordinators of the DC-Sustainability to ensure that the report was completed on time. The Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA) provided support for the editing and publication of the document.

We also participated in the DC main session at IGF 2020, specifically by authoring a [substantive paper](#) that was submitted to the IGF Secretariat ahead of the session, which focused on post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery within the journalism and news media sector.

In addition, we actively participated in the DC Coordination Group, and helped update the [DC guidelines](#).

We are also excited to announce that Courtney C. Radsch (Advocacy Director, Committee to Protect Journalists), one of the three co-coordinators of the DC-Sustainability, has been [appointed](#) to the MAG. This is a significant development that invites important advocacy opportunities for our community to set the agenda along with elevating journalism and news media issues within the MAG. It also constitutes the realisation of a key recommendation from our [2018 Issue Paper](#) that served as the basis for us to start this coalition.

Throughout this reporting period, our mailing list served as the primary space for our community to inform each other and exchange information about new developments and publications related to dis/misinformation, media sustainability, media pluralism, and more, along with calls for proposals and consultations. More than 140 topic threads were initiated over the list last year, with even more messages being exchanged by members of the group and new partnerships forged.

Last year also marked significant progress on building new alliances and collaborations with people and organisations from across the digital policy space. For instance, we hosted a webinar focusing on the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)'s recent review of digital platforms. During the webinar, Holly Raiche, Chair of the Policy Committee of Internet Australia (the Australian chapter of ISOC) and on the Executive Team of the At-Large Advisory Committee of ICANN was joined by GFMD Executive Director Mira Milosevic to discuss the review. Holly also discussed some of the new and ongoing developments as it relates to implementing the recommendations from the report (and the subsequent response from the platforms). The briefing also provided insights and recommendations for EU regulation as well. A report summarising the webinar is available [here](#).

Moving forward, we intend to build on our success from last year, and are in the process of developing our 2021 action plan. However, we are already working under the assumption that 2021 will be just as unpredictable as 2020 and that the journalism and news media sector will face even greater strain. Thus, working together in a concerted, multi-stakeholder way has never been more dire. By supporting policy and advocacy activities this year as we did last year with GFMD's [joint emergency appeal](#) for journalism and media support, we hope to continue to be a leader in ensuring the needs and voices of our community are heard within the IGF.

About the DC-Sustainability

Established in April 2019 the Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media (DC-Sustainability) is a multi-stakeholder initiative formally operating within the IGF that is meant to be a hub for the journalism, news media, press freedom, journalism support, and media development communities to engage with important Internet governance and digital policy matters. More information is available at: <https://groups.io/g/dc-sustainability>