The Internet Rights and Principles Coalition at IGF 2018
UNESCO, Paris, 12 - 14 November 2018

The Internet Rights and Principles Dynamic Coalition (IRPC) is working to uphold human rights on the internet and to root internet governance processes and systems in human rights standards.

The dynamic coalition sets out to promote, and provide a space for multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration. We also aim to be an umbrella platform for facilitating collaboration on human rights issues in the Internet Governance Forum process.

Members of the coalition work individually and in partnership to promote processes and instruments to frame and enforce rights on the Internet. More specifically, the coalition aims to:

- Raise awareness of fundamental human rights and what they mean on the Internet.
- Discuss and anchor global public policy principles to preserve the openness of the Internet and ensure that its continued evolution is framed by the public interest, through open and extensive stakeholder involvement.
- Encourage all stakeholders to address issues of human and civil rights in policy-making, contributing to a people-centric discourse and policy formulation in the Internet governance space.
- Identify ways in which human rights can be applied to the Internet and other ICT technologies, and evaluate the applicability of existing formal and informal guidelines and regulatory frameworks.
- Identify measures for the protection and enforcement of human rights on the Internet, while pushing for people-centric issues and public interest based Internet governance policy-making.
- Describe the duties and responsibilities of Internet users and other stakeholders, which, together with their rights, will serve to preserve and promote the public interest on the Internet.

The IRPC was formed during the Hyderabad IGF in 2008, following a decision to merge the Internet Bill of Rights and Framework of Principles for the Internet coalitions and joined later by the Freedom of Expression Coalition.

Contact us:
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About
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Get involved
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Date / Time / Room TBC  please check the IGF schedule
It is estimated that today over 65 million people are refugees or internally displaced people (United Nations High Commission for Refugees). A recent report from the UNHCR: Connecting Refugees: How Internet and Mobile Connectivity Can Improve Refugee Well-being and Transform Humanitarian Action, found that Internet access has become “as vital to them as food, water, or shelter”.

The “Refugee crisis” highlighted connectivity and accountability issues and over the last few years we have seen international organisations, civil society, private sector and members of the technical community working on refugee camps developing digital tools that collect Refugees’ data to help respond to the daily needs of the growing community. These tools, which may lead to positive outcomes on the life of refugees also impose new challenges and risks as the digital storage of private information brings the responsibility of ensuring the rights to privacy and data protection, otherwise risking the exposure of the most vulnerable populations.

As we look into connecting the next billion (UN SDGs) it is imperative that we take an inclusive approach to ensure refugees’ rights to access and protection in the online environment.

The session will discuss what has been done to ensure equal access and full participation in the online environment for this large community of over 65 millions of refugees, whether the technologies used to collect data are following the necessary factors that contribute to global warming and local environmental degradation such as carbon emissions, toxic waste, and water pollution.

As the UN SDGs look to connect the next billion the relationship between recognition of emerging rights such as that of internet access and existing rights (e.g. the right to information, education) and the environmental burden of cloud computing services and data-processing requires our attention. Internet access as a sustainable development goal implies research into, and development of equipment, architectures, and services that are also environmentally sustainable in light of undertakings around Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals. These concerns are also integral to the future of digital/smarty city developments that aim to include human rights and principles as integral to decisions where internet design, access, and use are linked to the built environment, and implications for natural resources and rural areas. The technical community and private sector have in this regard a key role in terms of where they choose to invest in data-centres, and other large infrastructures when working with both vulnerable communities and in environmentally sensitive areas.

**Introductory Comment**
Marianne Franklin, co-Chair IRPC – CS/ Academic

**Roundtable Discussants**
Deepthi Bhatnagar, ITforChange - CS
Tamas Erkelen, - Governmental, NL
Ephraim Percy Kenyanito, Article 19/Youth Dynamic Coalition - CS
Pua Hunter, Cook Islands Government – Governmental
Maureen Hilyard, Cook Islands Internet Action Group - CS
Michael Oghia – Youth DC - CS
Jim Puckett - Basel Action Network - CS

**Moderator:** Minda Moreira, co-Chair IRPC

**Rapporteur:** Minda Moreira, co-Chair IRPC

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**IRPC Meeting**

**Sustainable Futures: The Internet, Human Rights and Environmental Issues**

Mon 12 Nov, 11.20 - Room XII

Data-Gathering and cross-border information-sharing are increasingly central to international consensus-building around climate change and approaches to tackle specific technologies used to collect data issues and over the last few years we have seen international organisations, civil society, private sector and members of the technical community working on refugee camps developing digital tools that collect Refugees’ data to help respond to the daily needs of the growing community. These tools, which may lead to positive outcomes on the life of refugees also impose new challenges and risks as the digital storage of private information brings the responsibility of ensuring the rights to privacy and data protection, otherwise risking the exposure of the most vulnerable populations.

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**Speakers:**
Valentina Pellizzer (APC Women), civil society
Jean Guo (Konesio), civil society
Private sector representative (invited)
Eimear Farrell (Amnesty International), civil society
Andrew Toft (Department for International Development, UK), government

**Moderator:** Marianne Franklin, co-Chair IRPC

**Rapporteur:** Minda Moreira, co-Chair IRPC

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**DCs Main Session**

**Effective Policies for Inclusive and Prosperous Digital Transformation: What’s Needed?**

Tue 13 Nov, 15.00 - Room I

Information and communications technologies (ICTs), including the Internet, and emerging technologies have the potential to act as catalysts for the UN 2030 Agenda and help advance all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and constituent targets. At the same time, rapid technological change poses new challenges and can have unintended consequences.

In order to fully harness and benefit from these technologies and address challenges, sustainable, flexible, globally-minded, inclusive and sensible policies are essential. Inappropriate and restrictive regulation (which can be well intentioned as well) can stifle the very innovation on which the growth of the digital economy depends.

Convening leading experts from diverse and relevant stakeholder groups and communities, this main session will explore policy considerations and approaches needed to leverage the Internet and ICTs to facilitate common development goals.

The work of the IGF’s Dynamic Coalitions (DCs), which each focusing on a particular Internet governance issue through a mix of multistakeholder discussion, research, analysis and activism, are well represented in the wide spectrum of policy areas covered by the SDGs. A matrix of SDGs and DCs highlights their strong convergence, particularly on targets related to Quality Education (SDG 4); Gender Equality (SDG 5); Decent Work & Economic Growth (SDG 8); Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure (SDG 9); Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10); Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions (SDG 16); and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).

**Lightning Session**

**Emerging Technologies and Human Rights**

**Date | Time and room TBC**

The specific policy question session will address is what is the impact of emerging technologies namely Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, data mining and Blockchain on individual rights and how do we frame the debate on rights’ future considering technological advancement?