



EuroDIG

European Dialogue on Internet Governance

Messages 2021
Virtual meeting, 28–30 June

*Into Europe's
Digital Decade*

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About EuroDIG

Launched in 2008, EuroDIG, the European Dialogue on Internet Governance, is a unique annual event that brings together Internet stakeholders from throughout Europe (and beyond), and from across the spectrum of government, industry, civil society, academia and the technical community. Stakeholders and participants work over the course of each year to develop, in a bottom-up fashion, a dynamic agenda that explores the pressing issues surrounding how we develop, use, regulate and govern the Internet. EuroDIG participants come away with broader, more informed perspectives on these issues and new partners in responding to the challenges of the information society.

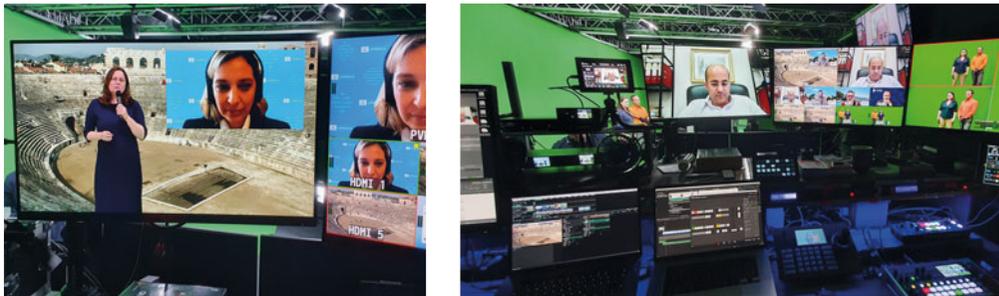
EuroDIG 2021 – Messages

Marcel Krummenauer, Sandra Hoferichter, Secretary General EuroDIG

EuroDIG 2021 was the second virtual edition under the limiting conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is one of the most drastic events of recent years, affecting globally all social groups and confronting them with incredible challenges.

Alongside the evident challenges in the public health system, as well as some serious societal developments, the pandemic also brings numerous Internet governance issues to the forefront – starting with the question of whether COVID-19 is ushering in a fundamental digital paradigm shift or merely a short-term societal incision.

Digitalisation is experiencing a true catalysation driven by the crisis. On the one hand, the great technological advances offer numerous new opportunities in re-



search, economy and society; on the other hand, certain groups are left behind. The digital divide in society and the economy is becoming increasingly clear.

At the same time, we need to address further fundamental challenges:

- How can we as a society achieve greater sustainability and security when shaping the digital environment?
- How do we reconcile tendencies towards digital interdependence with the calls for improved digital cooperation at the global level?
- How can we close the digital divide and guarantee access for everyone?
- What role Europe should play in the global disputes?
- What needs to be done in order to build a digitally literate society?

In the context of EuroDIG 2021, these questions, among others, were discussed, preliminary approaches were elaborated and will be pursued further in the course of the next year.

In this brochure you can read the key messages from the sessions, which were drafted in cooperation with the Geneva Internet Platform and the Org Team of each session.

Additional reports, transcripts, video records and further reading recommendations for each session can be found on the EuroDIG Wiki:

https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/EuroDIG_2021

Big thank to our teams in:



Studio Bruges (Belgium), powered by the United Nations University, Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)

Studio Belgrade (Serbia), powered by the Serbian National Internet Domain Registry Foundation (RNIDS)



Studio Trieste (Italy), powered by The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP)

EuroDIG 2021 – Programme

- Access & literacy
- Development of IG ecosystem
- Human rights
- Innovation and economic issues
- Media & content
- Security and crime
- Technical & operational issues
- Cross cutting / other issues

YOUthDIG

Time (CEST)	Sessions
	YOU th DIG – Youth Dialogue on Internet Governance

Day 0 | 28 June 2021

Time (CEST)	Sessions		
	Studio Bruges	Studio Belgrade	Studio Trieste
09:00 - 10:00	Registration in the Gather space Parliamentarian track		
10:00 - 11:00	10:00 - 11:15 PRE 1: Maintaining a Unique Global Network	PRE 2: IoT Technologies and Standards Evolution and their impact on Core Internet Values	PRE 3: Implementing regulatory standards on combating hate speech (challenges and opportunities)
11:00 - 11:45	Break (15')	Break (45')	
11:45 - 12:45	11:30 - 12:45 PRE 4: Parliamentarian Round Table on Standardisation and Legislation (canceled)	PRE 11: Translation as Action – the IRPC Charter @ 10: Launching the Italian Booklet Edition	PRE 5: DNS Abuse mitigation in practice – effective actions to improve online trust.
12:45 - 13:30	Break (45')		
13:30 - 14:30		PRE 8: A workplan for greater online security and safety. The Dynamic Coalition Internet Standards Security and Safety.	PRE 9: NRI Assembly, Part 1 - 3: Digital Cooperation, ICANN, IGF-SA
15:15 - 16:15	PRE 10: Open mic: COVID-19 in retrospective.	PRE 6: Promoting and Assessing Internet Universality ROAM Principles and indicators in Europe and beyond	PRE 9: NRI Assembly, Part 4: Towards an innovative IGF 2021
16:15 - 17:00	Break (45')		
17:00 - 18:00	PRE 10 follow up: COVID-19 – THE Gamechanger?!	PRE 6 follow up: Promoting and Assessing Internet Universality ROAM Principles and indicators in Europe and beyond (continuation of the session)	PRE 12: Youth Guide to Smart Cities, the Environment, and the Internet

Day 1 | 29 June 2021

Time (CEST)	Sessions			
	Studio Bruges	Studio Belgrade	Studio Trieste	Amphitheatre
09:00 - 10:00	Registration in the Gather space and networking			
10:00 - 10:30	Welcome to the Studios <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Studio Trieste: Atish Dabholkar, Director, International Centre for Theoretical Physics (10') • Studio Belgrade: Tatjana Matić, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, Republic of Serbia (10') • Studio Bruges: Philippe de Lombaerde, Director Ad Interim of the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (10') 			
10:30 - 11:30	Focus Session 1: Greening Internet Governance, Part II – Enabling an Environmentally Sustainable Digital Transformation in Europe	WS 1: Digital services regulation – opportunities and challenges	WS 2: Benefits and challenges for unleashing potential of quantum technologies	
11:30 - 12:15		Break (45')		Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amali De Silva-Mitchell, Futurist
12:15 - 13:15		WS 1 – follow up: Digital services regulation – opportunities and challenges	WS 3: Data Sovereignty and Trusted Online Identity – COVID-19 Vaccination Data	
13:15 - 14:15	Break (60')			Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carl Gahnberg, ISOC
14:15 - 14:45	Keynote: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roberto Viola, Director General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission (15') • Patrick Penninckx, Head of information society department, Council of Europe (15') 			
14:45 - 15:45	Focus Session 2: Governing digital interdependence – the role of Europe	WS 4: New developments and prospects in data protection (with regard to AI).	WS 5: Crypto Wars 3.0 – can privacy, security and encryption co-exist?	WS 6: Copyright – Implementation of the EU directive
15:45 - 16:30		Break (45')		Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Prof. Em. University of Aarhus
16:30 - 17:30		WS 7: Human vs. algorithmic bias – is unbiased decision-making even a thing?	WS 13: Doing everything online – mental wellbeing vs. digital addiction effects on human interaction	WS 9: Content moderation on the Internet infrastructure level – Where does censorship begin?
17:30 - 18:00	Closing of the day			
18:00 - 18:15	Break (15')			
18:15 - 19:15				Social event Join us for a magical evening and get enchanted.

Day 2 | 30 June 2021

Time (CEST)	Sessions			
	Studio Bruges	Studio Belgrade	Studio Trieste	Amphitheatre
09:00 - 10:00	Registration in the Gather space and networking			
10:00 - 10:30	Keynote and YouthDIG Messages 2021 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delphine Ernotte, Director General France Télévisions and President of EBU (15') YouthDIG Messages, presented by participants (15') 			
10:30 - 11:30	Focus Session 3: New European proposals – NIS2 and cybersecurity agenda	WS 10: Fake News – Dissolving Superstitions with Media Literacy	WS 11: Recent studies on accessing educational content	
11:30 - 12:15		Break (45')		Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mirja Hämmäläinen, advisor, digital well-being, Save the Children Finland
12:15 - 13:15		WS 12: Best practices of self- and co-regulation of platforms towards a legal framework	WS 8: International access to research content and sensitive data	
13:15 - 14:15	Break (60')			Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Riccardo Nanni, University of Bologna
14:15 - 14:45	Keynote / presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Science to leave no one behind, Ana Persic, UNESCO 			
14:45 - 15:45	Focus Session 4: European mediascape – How to (re)create a trusted public sphere?	WS 15: 5G User perspective and implementation	WS 14: Privacy impact of COVID19-related shift to online activities (payments, virtual meetings, e-commerce/e-banking)	
15:45 - 16:30		Break (45')		Big Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wolfgang Kleinwächter, Prof. Em. University of Aarhus
16:30 - 17:30		WS 17: Competition in the digital ecosystem – Europe and beyond	WS 16: Delay-Tolerant Network (DTN)	
17:30 - 18:00	Closing of the day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Krzysztof Szubert, High Representative of the Prime Minister for European Digital Policy, Poland, “Global Economic Recovery – Investing in Digital Transformation” (10') “We all live in digital world” IGF 2021 video (1'20) 			

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Atish Dabholkar

Director, International Centre for Theoretical Physics



If you want to achieve truly open science, open Internet is a condition and the principle, an ambitious principle based on availability of accessible Internet connectivity and making sure that this kind of connectivity can be sustained with good governance, EuroDIG particularly is becoming even more relevant given the pandemic..

Tatjana Matic

Minister of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, Republic of Serbia



Serbia recognizes for digital to bring social and economic benefits to all, we must also develop a well thought, truthfully discussed digital policy environment based on inputs of all stakeholders. ... We have been among the first countries in the world to organize national multistakeholder consultation on Internet governance soon after the United Nations started the global IGF in 2006 in Athens.

Philippe de Lombaerde

Director Ad Interim of the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies



We are struggling with finding the right balance between the public sphere, the private sphere, the national sphere, the international sphere, transnational sphere. ... this is at the core of all of these debates on digital governance.

Roberto Viola

Director General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission



In the Society of the Future, what really counts most is the physical distance or the digital distance? ... A distance-less society, it is a society when people decide to move when they like to move, a society where people are not obliged to move to work or obliged to move to study, people with equal opportunities, wherever they are, consequences of this new way of living, working together are really profound.

... one of our points of the digital decade, it is to make sure that every citizen, no matter where they live, no matter the economic condition, enjoys very good broadband connection to the Internet. This universal right of being connected with good quality is one of the fundamental pillars of the Digital Decade and of the European Society of the future.

You are the Internet governance community; you are the first defendant of the values around the world and these ideas. Of course, I mean, you are here to be vocal, to criticize when things are wrong, but I hope you will join us in defending this idea of the Digital Decade in the way we want to be living in the future a bit closer, to be digitally closer together, it also means being physically closer together.

Patrick Penninckx

Head of Information Society Department, Council of Europe



We understand from our side, social media service providers and other Internet intermediaries these days have a profound influence on public discourse and the formation of public opinion and with great power comes also great responsibility. We, therefore, promote the rule of law approach to the governance of the intermediaries with self-regulations as an important complimentary form of governance. There has to be an act acknowledging the curatorial and editorial roles and call on states to assign to them corresponding responsibilities.

Content moderation ... it is, of course, a necessary tool to procure the proliferation of issues and this pose as number of risks for the range of Human Rights, including freedom of thought, freedom of expression, the freedom of assembly and others. The guidance note provides for us a clear mapping and concrete guidelines for our Member States on developing the approaches to content moderation that are both Human Rights compatible and achieve public policy objectives.

Delphine Ernotte

Director General France Télévisions and President of EBU



Generally, media has been faced with an increasing amount of hostility and even violence when they just wanted to do their job. For example, reporting from demonstrations. Unfortunately, web media is targeted. In this way, citizens are of course looking for trustworthy information. The good news, most people know whom to trust. Our research found that almost half of Europeans have been using social networks for news about the pandemic only 14% and believe them to be the trusted source.

The EBU and members are contributing to well-informed citizenship which is important for our democracies. Large volumes of high-quality trust news that's easy to

access and find across all platforms is the best way to combat this information. We also deploy targeted initiatives to fight this information. It takes a click to spread this information but it takes a massive effort to tackle the fallout.

Ana Persic

UNESCO



... making an open science kind of a new paradigm for science, it is something important. We see it as a real tool and to fulfil the Human Rights of science going forward. ... we have seen open science and opening of scientific data and information happening across the world in different scientific communities, but not only scientific communities also the communities of innovators, software, codes, hardware, et cetera. The question is really not whether open science will happen, the question is how will it happen and how we can ensure that it benefits to everybody and that everyone can enjoy from the benefits of the conditions of open science.

In this context, UNESCO, the U.N. agency for science, education and culture decided that there is need for a global international standard setting instrument for open science and that's in this form of this recommendation on open science. Our Member States of UNESCO asked the organization in develop this instrument, to develop this recommendation of open science for adoption in November, 2021.

Krzysztof Szubert

High Representative of the Prime Minister for European Digital Policy, Poland on
“Global Economic Recovery – Investing in Digital Transformation”



I would like to take this opportunity to mention that United Nations Internet Governance Forum 2021 Poland will host from 6 to 10 December. ... We decided that this year's edition will be Internet United, the Internet where users can exercise their rights without having their privacy violated which is something that Poland strongly supports. We want the IGF2021 to remain an open global meeting covering all aspects of Digital Transformation, with people from all over the world.

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Green IG

Over the past year, the EuroDIG community has been addressing information and communications technology (ICT) sustainability and the crucial role of the Internet governance community in ensuring that environmental sustainability is at the heart of ICTs throughout their lifecycle. We are at a critical junction given the urgency of the topic coupled with a policy and regulatory environment that recognises the need for more concerted action vis-a-vis digitisation and sustainability – from the European Green Deal and the Sustainable Development Agenda, to the post-COVID recovery plans and the UN’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation.

This session built on EuroDIG 2020 Plenary 4: Greening Internet Governance to review the progress made since EuroDIG 2020 and examine concrete achievements and feasible action plans for a sustainable ICT environment in the future, particularly over the next decade in-line with the EU’s digital action plan and Green Deal strategies. It also constitutes the launch of the EuroDIG intersessional project, Greening Internet Governance, which will draw on the discussions had during this session to elaborate upon via concrete actions and recommendations over the coming period.

Greening Internet Governance, Part II – Enabling an Environmentally Sustainable Digital Transformation in Europe

Rapporteur: Vesna Manojlovic, RIPE NCC

- The implementation of regulatory frameworks that are practical, effective and incentive-based is necessary to promote the environmental sustainability of the ICT sector, measure its impact on the environment, ensure transparency and corporate accountability, increase circular production and consumption, discourage illegitimate exports of e-waste, and to promote material efficiency by increasing the reuse and reparability of devices.
- Standardised methodology and indicators are imperative. Increased cooperation, data sharing, and external auditing are crucial to assess and monitor the environmental impact of the ICT sector, avoid greenwashing, and to promote transparency in data and algorithms and enhance the “de facto” sustainability

of the digital world. This would possibly imply different governance structures to provide access to this data.

- Education is a crucial tool for sustainability. On one hand, both academic and practical exchanges of young people are essential for the development of (new) sustainable business models, on the other hand only awareness and transparency can counteract the ever-increasing levels of consumption and lead to informed choices that will help consumers shape their relationship with technological devices.
- More support and inclusion of smaller actors (small and medium-sized enterprises) is key. Decentralization needs to be promoted to limit the strain of energy and resources.



- Sustainability needs to go hand-in-hand with access, as it’s crucial to bridge the digital divide and decrease inequality by developing not only models of ownership, but also models of access.
- In order to maximise benefits from the upcoming “right to repair” legislation, there are needs for improvements on every level: users need to be educated in repair skills, manufacturers need to provide both modular designs, product life-cycle support, and data about every phase; and procuring organisations – public and private sector – need incentives and know-how to choose the products and technologies that initially might require larger investment in both money and skills, but may have larger return on investment over longer time periods.

Governing digital interdependence – the role of Europe

Rapporteur: Jamal Shahin, Vrije Universiteit Brussel and UNU-CRIS



What does all this mean for the global nature of the internet and the future of our digitally interdependent world?

- The autonomy can help to prevent dominance of a few big platforms that may very well be a great threat to the global nature and interdependency
- Users may benefit from more choices assured by autonomous underlying infrastructures
- At the same time, Europe does not become fully dependent on non-European infrastructure and software.

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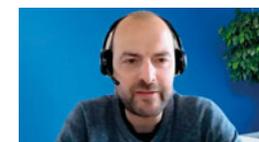


- The EU's strength lies in its focus on a human-centric, collaborative approach to the internet.
- European values can be promoted through development of open and interdependent standards within and outside Europe.
- Specific and targeted regulation is necessary, but too much emphasis on the EU's regulatory power is counter-productive.
- Digital Sovereignty is not about isolation but about accountability mechanisms.
- Frictionless data portability is a functional requirement for end-users to benefit from individual digital sovereignty.
- Risk management, security technology, and legal instruments are building blocks for trust.

New European proposals – NIS2 and cybersecurity agenda

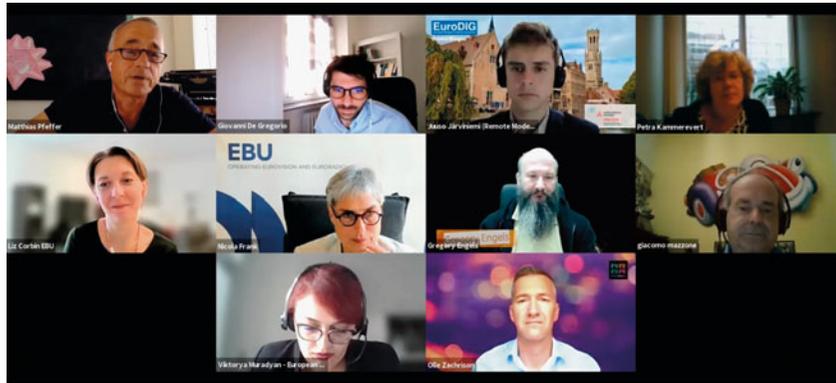
Rapporteur: Peter Van Roste, CENTR

- FYI: companies outside EU have to choose a representative in EU (DNS, cloud, data centre, search engine)
- Might be worth to further look into or discuss horizontal vs vertical approaches when defining scope and seeking alignment between NIS2 and other instruments (e.g. EEECC)
- Multistakeholder bodies rely on multilateral bodies for their support, rather than trying to immediately seek multi-lateral solutions
- Need to educate companies on what is applicable to them, help them and guide them into compliance
- Concerning registration data, GDPR defines the principles that data controllers should follow. NIS2 is compliant with these principles.
- There are existing policies within European ccTLDs to ensure registration data accuracy, dependent on national laws and availability of eID solutions.
- More clarity is needed on accountability and the roles of different entities under the scope of NIS2.



European mediascape – How to (re)create a trusted public sphere?

Rapporteur: Yrjö Lämsipuro, EuroDIG

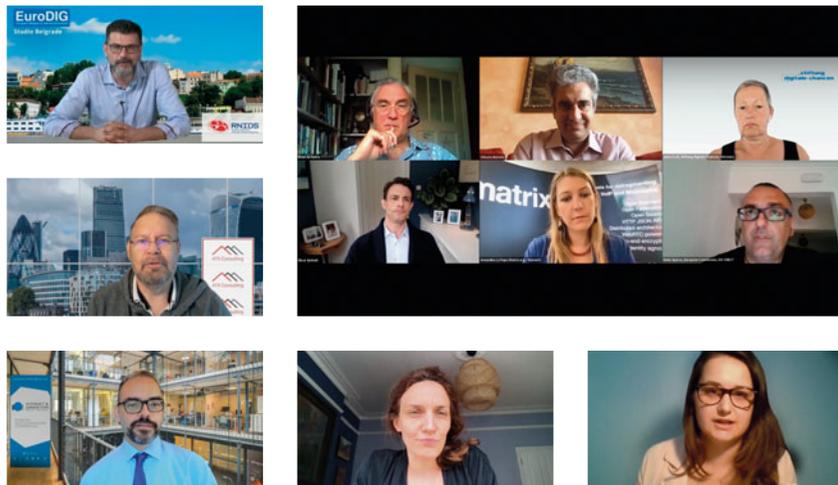


- Support was expressed for innovative efforts to create trusted European media space, by all relevant actors, from EP to media organizations as the EBU
- DSA, DMA are the first step to deal with the existing dominance of platforms. But all regulation (incl. copyright-related) should avoid causing unintended consequences and respect human rights and fundamental values
- One institution alone cannot solve the problem. Multistakeholder approach is needed to build a harmonious system where elements of hard and soft regulation are in balance, within their respective boundaries, mandates and accountability mechanism. Platforms, in particular, have a big stake in the functioning of the system, and should be required to develop transparent self/co-regulation.
- In the last line of defense are individual users, each of them perceiving content within their own context. Those defenses should be strengthened by media education.

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Digital services regulation – opportunities and challenges

Rapporteur: Marília Maciel, Geneva Internet Platform

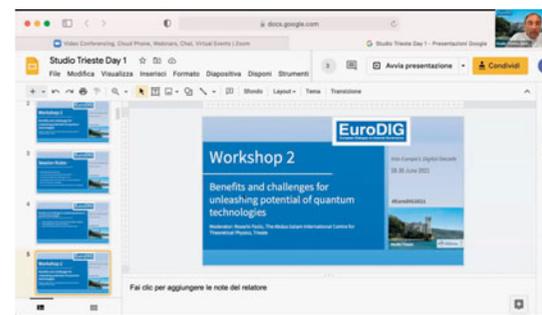


- The Digital Services Act package should support an open, diverse, and competitive ecosystem in which small players and European entrepreneurs in particular are capable of thriving.
- The Digital Services Act package should be granular and clear enough so actors can both understand and comply with the regulations, but it also needs to be flexible, and open to revision and updates based on evidence and market response.
- Product design is an important step in achieving norm compliance. Product design should be mindful of existing regulations and, to the extent possible, help to fulfill policy objectives.
- The design of the Digital Services Act package should tackle specific issues such as enhancing clarity of some obligations (including of due diligence obligations), of its geographical application and extraterritorial effects, and of content moderation provisions in the Digital Services Act that could potentially have ‘chilling effects’.

Benefits and challenges for unleashing potential of quantum technologies

Rapporteur: Vladimir Radunovic, Geneva Internet Platform

- Quantum technology will allow us to solve very complex problems. Possible applications include optimisation of operations, simulations in chemistry, biology and physics, design of advanced materials, machine learning, and complex quantum networks (‘quantum internet’), as well as breaking (traditional) encryption.
- There is increasing global competition and investment in developing quantum computing for practical use. Current state of the art technology is still very limited and there are no broadly useful applications yet.
- Classical machine learning can help solve complex quantum problems and describe quantum systems. Future steps could include hybrid quantum-classical machine learning, as well as quantum machine learning. Yet quantum supremacy is not so likely soon; to avoid quantum bubble burst (quantum hype), we need to identify the real areas where quantum machine learning outperforms classical machine learning.
- Social challenges due to quantum computing include geopolitical misuse and some sort of ‘armed race’, endangering privacy (due to high ability to break traditional encryption) and disrupting the job market. Society should ‘democratise’ access to quantum technology by all.



Data Sovereignty and Trusted Online Identity – COVID-19 Vaccination Data

Rapporteur: Ilona Stadnik, Geneva Internet Platform

- The use of data and authentication methods are proliferating, but legal frameworks for data governance need to rapidly address the concerns of the governments, private sector, and citizens.
- Privacy, security, and sovereignty concerns are moving to the background of COVID-19 vaccination certification process.



- In designing authentication frameworks we should bring to the table all proposals from both the public and private sectors, and from citizens themselves.
- It is important for a citizen to know how their data is used, stored, and secured: what are the stages, who has access at each particular point.
- Citizens should have a choice to control how their data is used by different entities in a centralised or a decentralised manner.
- Both the public and private sectors should work to develop a better visualisation of authentication frameworks comprehensible by citizens.
- In developing innovative identification and authentication governance frameworks, we should keep in mind interoperability issues in order to ensure consistency in technology standards for the normalisation of data, while including consented use of such data.

New developments and prospects in data protection (with regard to AI)

Rapporteur: Katarina Andjelkovic, Geneva Internet Platform

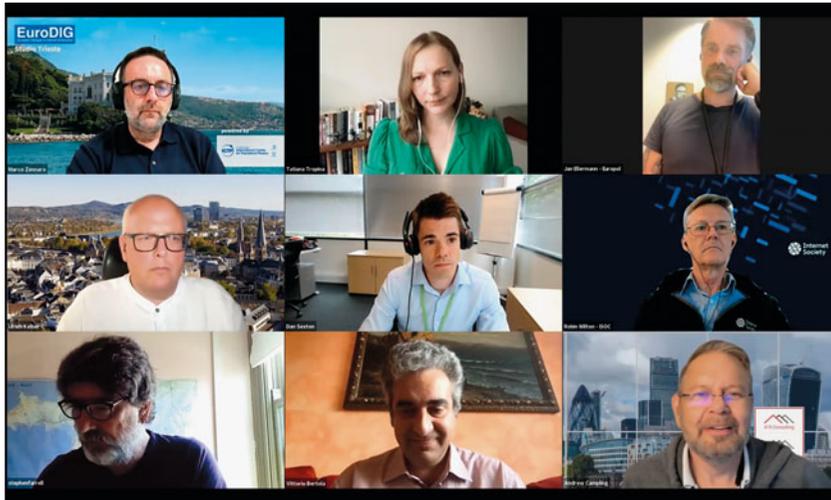


- AI has added a new layer to issues of privacy, data protection, and other human rights and freedoms. In this sense, the focus on data is no longer enough in order to address all of the issues. The proposed regulations, therefore, intend to go beyond data protection and to consider the potential consequences and negative impacts of the use of AI.
- The development of AI requires a paradigm shift. There is a need to move from a human-centred approach to a planet-centred approach and use AI technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.
- The main problem is that users do not usually know what data they share on the internet on a daily basis and how this data is used. Therefore, investment in educational programs and raising awareness is key to help users understand AI technologies, their benefits as well as their risks.



Crypto Wars 3.0 – can privacy, security and encryption co-exist?

Rapporteur: Boris Ohanyan, Geneva Internet Platform

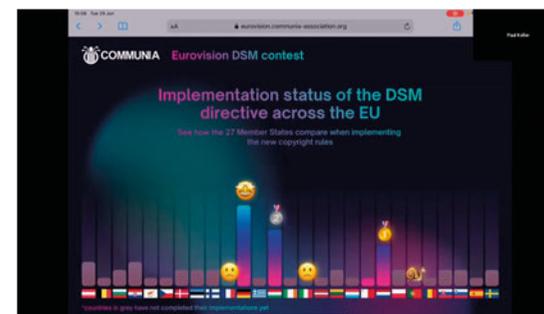


- Trust in encrypted communication is necessary in a democratic society, but this trust will be undermined by simple access of authorities to encrypted messages. This would be the end of free communication: it will not prevent criminals from encrypting their communication in an unbreakable way, but it will weaken everybody's encryption. Solution thus cannot be worse than the problem.
- The focus should shift from generic regulations on allowing law enforcement to break encryption to open discussions with law enforcement agencies on the requirements for when and how to do so.
- False framings and false dichotomies around encryption, privacy, and security should be avoided. Terms and concepts need to be better specified to avoid misunderstanding and inconsistency around their use.
- Better multistakeholder engagement to consider the consequences of technological advances is necessary. At the EU level, concrete actions need to be taken to ensure formal structures for such engagement and to overcome the existing divide of frameworks and scattered discussions and debates.

Copyright – Implementation of the EU directive

Rapporteur: Natasa Perucica, Geneva Internet Platform

- Copyright can contribute to negative trends such as surveillance and control on the internet. There is therefore the need to combat such a practice and the idea that machines can govern what we can see or read on the internet.
- On copyright infringement: Whereas filters are designed to identify matches between different sources, they are not designed to recognise context.
- Content control requires supervision to make sure that the impact on different stakeholders is proportionate. An institutional mediator needs to be established or an existing actor should be given legitimacy to deal with content control.



Human vs. algorithmic bias – is unbiased decision-making even a thing?

Rapporteur: Katharina Hone, Geneva Internet Platform



- Algorithmic bias is a particular concern regarding sensitive decisions with human rights implications. Ultimately, the outcomes of machine learning should be seen as only one input into decisions eventually taken by humans.
- A broad understanding of bias is warranted to address discrimination and harm. Bias can materialise at all steps of developing and using a particular AI system. This includes decisions about the algorithms, data, and the context in which the system is used. There are also mechanisms to make humans and machines work together better for better decisions.
- Policies need to mitigate risks of algorithmic decision-making. Constraints, safety mechanisms, audit mechanisms, and algorithmic recourse all need to be in place. In addition, it is crucial, as a first step, to work towards greater transparency and explainability of AI systems involved in decision-making. Databases that list the AI systems and data in use should be considered, as well as bans on the use of certain AI systems with high risk and high harm.
- A number of technological companies have self-regulation mechanisms in place at various levels. Self-regulation of the private sector is important but ultimately not enough. Various regulatory efforts need to complement each other and greater cooperation between various stakeholders is needed to create synergies.
- Equality and fairness are values that have a strong cultural connotation. They are important principles to address bias, yet it is not easy to find an intercultural agreement on some aspects of these principles. Addressing algorithmic bias also needs to include discussion on what kind of society we want to live in in the future.

Content moderation on the Internet infrastructure level – Where does censorship begin?

Rapporteur: Ilona Stadnik, Geneva Internet Platform

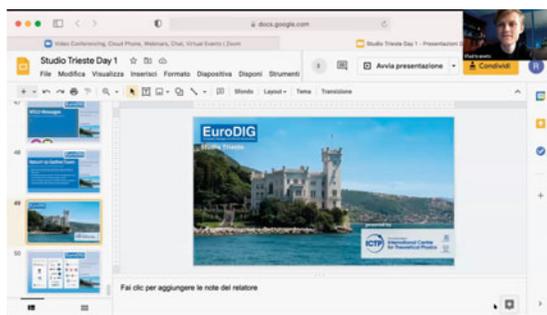


- The DSA is aimed at modernising relevant rules and limiting legal uncertainty for addressing risks in digital space, including the key question of liability of service providers, including necessary technical auxiliary functions.
- Infrastructure intermediaries have been in the legal ‘shadows’ since the 2000 e-Commerce Directive. Today we face the necessity to clarify liability exemptions and elaborate explicit categorisation of digital services.
- Recent cases show that certain infrastructure providers unwillingly take action that could be argued to be content moderation by suspending services for the platforms in an ad-hoc manner without any transparent policy. But infrastructure services have limited possible options, which tend to be temporary solutions (clearing cache), overbroad reactions (limiting access) or options that open up websites to cyberattack (terminating services of particular users).
- We should keep in mind the proportionality of measures to target illegal content and foresee the unintended consequences on the infrastructure level. Current content moderation practices are not ideal and transparency reports are not very helpful to escape the mistakes, so what can be expected from the broader infrastructure level?

Doing everything online – mental wellbeing vs. digital addiction effects on human interaction

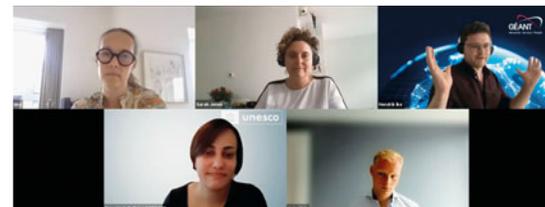
Rapporteur: Boris Ohanyan, Geneva Internet Platform

- A holistic approach, involving business, governments, civil society, and the education system, is needed to ensure that online products and platforms are designed and used in a way that promotes mental well-being.
- Media literacy and education should be integrated in the school system.
- More research on digital addiction is needed. Further, research skills of teachers and educators can be enhanced to ensure that they can contribute to the observation of behavior in the digital environment.



International access to research content and sensitive data

Rapporteur: Marco Lotti, Geneva Internet Platform

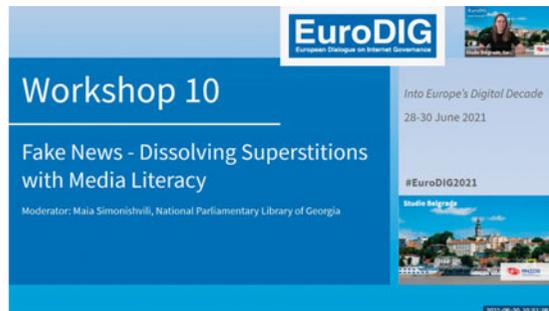


- Despite many initiatives for open science existing both at the regional and international levels, more can be done. Cooperation issues (different stakeholders have different views and interests) and logistical issues (e.g. digital divide and resources available) still pose challenges. UNESCO has actively and recently taken steps to favour international cooperation on open science, precisely stressing the existing common values shared by the international community.
- On the infrastructure level, the main challenges are twofold. As the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC) case shows, a part of the challenge is linked to the development of platforms and services (and their funding) that allows for an open environment. On the other hand, security remains the main concern, especially in the case of cloud solutions. As a big part of the data at stake is sensitive, good security practices need to be put into place at the technical level and thought of since the design of such platforms (e.g. access restrictions, data licensing, PID assignments, and data anonymisation).
- Ensuring security and trust is not only a technical matter but also a legal one. In the existing legal framework, there are already good and solid principles regulating access and sharing of Data (e.g. CoE Convention on HR and Biomedicine, the EU's GDPR and Draft on AI regulation). In any case, to ensure the maximum respect of individuals' human rights the interest and welfare of the human beings shall prevail over the sole interest of society and science.
- However, the implementation of such legal principles in everyday scientific practice still remains an issue especially when it comes to what type of data is at stake and at which part of the data cycle the activity takes place. In this regard, it is essential to bridge the gap between policymakers and the scientific community through dialogue and education to ensure that the policies take into account the needs of researchers.

Fake News – Dissolving Superstitions with Media Literacy

Rapporteur: Natasa Perucica, Geneva Internet Platform

- Manipulation of media sources whether in the form of disinformation or misinformation can fuel violent conflict.
- One crucial aspect of media literacy is to educate an audience that in most cases determines the context of a message through the lens of all kinds of prior information, including knowledge, experience, and attitudes.
- Youth need a deeper understanding and knowledge of media literacy to be able to discern the accuracy of sources.



Recent studies on accessing educational content

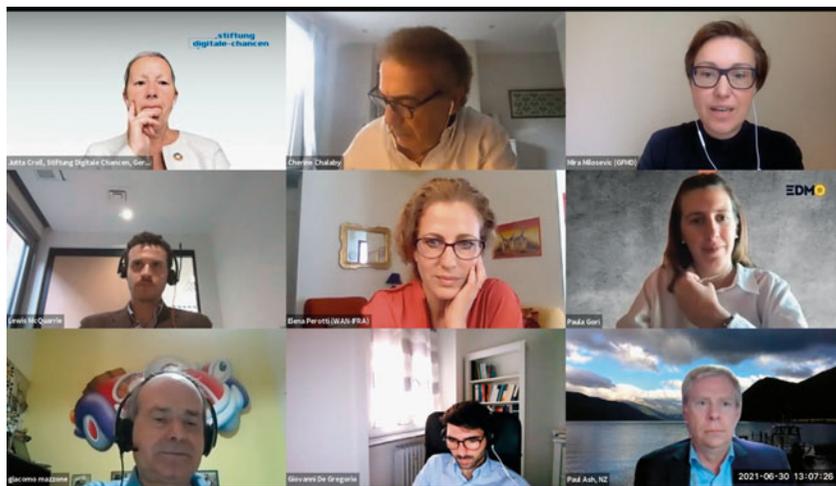
Rapporteur: Andrijana Gavrilovic, Geneva Internet Platform



- We should develop a culture about tools that can be adapted to optimise e-learning. The criteria of validating the use of a certain tool should include self-determination, digital autonomy and ethics, and human rights. Pedagogical objectives and the learning moment are also important factors in choosing a tool.
- It is important to note that digital should adapt to the learner's needs, not the reverse. Tutors and facilitators should have the skills to navigate through digital and choose the best tool for their learners.
- Education needs to evolve in terms of content, but also needs to safeguard the public values that we want to transfer. We need to ensure that we safeguard those public values and that they are not manipulated by e-learning platforms and their embedded values. We need to ensure that the tools do not inherit the bias of the industry which developed the software.
- We need to build in the respect for digital autonomy of people in the foundational structure of the tools used for e-learning. We need to ensure that the tools accommodate insecurity about our data, insecurity about our learning process, loneliness, lack of socialisation, and lack of interoperability with other tools.
- It is of essential importance to have a tool that makes the discovery of educational content easier for teachers and students regardless of the platform on which the content is hosted.

Best practices of self- and co-regulation of platforms towards a legal framework

Ilona Stadnik, Geneva Internet Platform

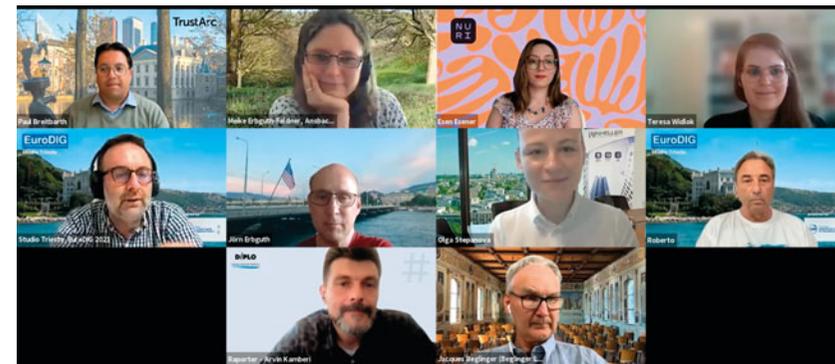


- Liberal approaches of governments towards online platforms at the start of the platform economy led to the rise of platform power to influence the public sphere. Though we have soft law arrangements like voluntary codes of conduct to regulate harmful content, they are not sufficient to address serious problems like extremist content and disinformation while ensuring the right to free speech.
- Self-regulation, co-regulation, and multistakeholder/multidisciplinary governance models are challenged with the need to reconcile different accountability and power structures that exist within them. Of additional importance, they should have internal and external legitimacy.
- Externally, a governance model must be recognised for the quality and timeliness of its decisions; internally, it has to have robust checks and balances.
- There should be a global collaborative effort in the form of dialogic regulation between governments, tech companies, and civil society to develop a solution grounded in human rights that will address disinformation and harmful content.

Privacy impact of COVID19-related shift to online activities (payments, virtual meetings ...)

Rapporteur: Arvin Kamberi, Geneva Internet Platform

- In the field of online participation and online work, we need to start introducing more thorough privacy policies, and appropriate training for present and future remote industries.

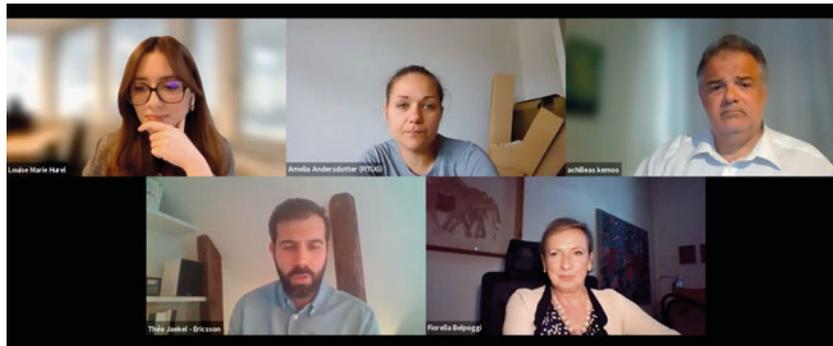


- Digital literacy is important to prevent increased attacks on users in the financial sector. This was evidenced by all sorts of scams and attacks amplified during the period of extensive use of online finance.
- With the introduction of online tools in telemedicine, online education, and the public sector, a big task will be to actively promote the idea that data protection is not an obstacle to productivity and innovation.
- Even with the GDPR in place, compliance of services is often overlooked in search of the right balance on tech advancements and user rights. A good way forward might be to see what the specific goal is, and address that particular issue. Data protection is a different issue for different users. We might need a talk on how the future of data protection will look like.

5G User perspective and implementation

Rapporteur: Ilona Stadnik, Geneva Internet Platform

- For Europe, the development of high speed communications infrastructure, 5G in particular, is a strategic priority. The COVID-19 pandemic acted as a catalyst for a faster rollout.
- 5G networks may bring certain risks for security and privacy. We need to conduct a thorough assessment of all risks, including consequences for the future of work, health, and the environment, and involve industry and other stakeholders to address these issues when deploying 5G networks.
- We need to keep in mind economic and legal challenges that EU member states face – absence of cohesion in national spectrum policies and in security and safety requirements – which hinder the rapid deployment of 5G.



Delay-Tolerant Network (DTN)

Rapporteur: Andrijana Gavrilovic, Geneva Internet Platform



- DTN networks on Earth are an example of an early entry into the community network trend that is now becoming so important. There are unexplored uses for DTN in emergencies and even under conditions of network shutdown by repressive governments.
- We need to pay attention to the underserved communities and find the solutions to offer them services.
- We might need to consider regulation about the use of frequencies for applications on Earth as well as in space.
- The Solar System Internet effort is a serious attempt to plan for a real network to support manned and robotic exploration of the Solar System.
- The DTN technology and the bundle protocol, originally developed for space exploration, can be used by applications on Earth. Applications on Earth can be used as test bed for space applications development, as is the case for the Sámi reindeer herd tracking and for Karst cave meteorological data collection.

Competition in the digital ecosystem – Europe and beyond

Rapporteur: Boris Ohanyan, Geneva Internet Platform

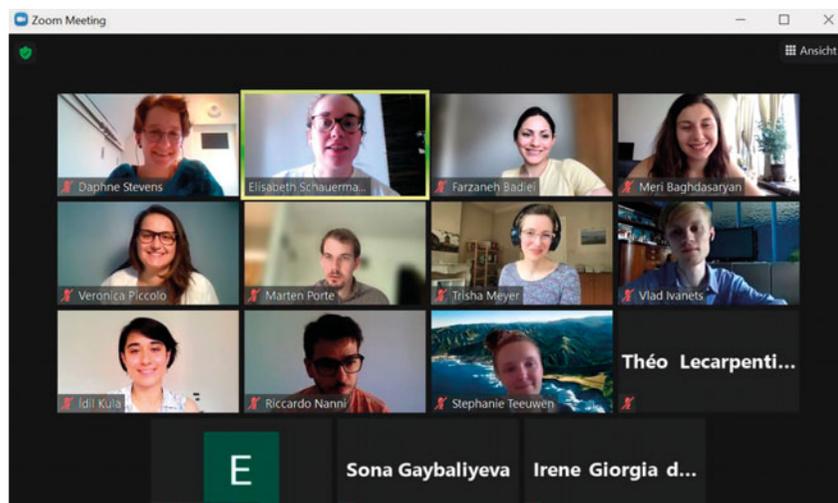


- The European rules on competition in the digital landscape need to be simple and efficient. Simple, clear rules will make it easy for smaller companies to understand and follow them without profound legal expertise. Efficient rules are needed to tackle monopolies ex ante, before it is late to break up the monopolies that are usually formed very fast in the digital environment.
- There is a lack of interoperability between various online services and platforms. From the European perspective, there are ongoing initiatives pushing for more interoperability, but the coverage of such rules needs to include more services and platforms.
- A multilayered and multistakeholder approach is needed to tackle competition issues in the digital. The regulatory frameworks should establish the general principles to be followed, and this is a long-term process. There is also room for ethics frameworks and standards to guide future policy. In addition, multi-stakeholder involvement can help ensure that the regulation and the established principles are not watered down because of quickly evolving realities in the market.

EuroDIG
European Dialogue on
Internet Governance
2021 Messages
YOUthDIG
Messages
Virtual meeting,
28–30 June
Into Europe's
Digital Decade

YOUthDIG

... is the Youth Dialogue on Internet Governance (YOUthDIG). It is a yearly pre-event to the European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG) that aims to foster active youth participation.



This year, YOUthDIG was held fully online again. In spring 2021 the Org Team, consisting of former YOUthDIG participants, started with introductory webinars, and the 30 selected participants collaborated on a series of short-format inputs depending on their own expertise. The weekend before the EuroDIG2021 event, we held a 2,5-day online version of YOUthDIG with diverse session formats on sustainability and environment, the technical basis of the internet, platform regulation, media literacy, data protection and privacy, and even a social event, with the support many guest experts. During this weekend, the YOUthDIG messages were drafted and subsequently presented at EuroDIG.

YOUthDIG Messages

Digital Technologies Within Government Bodies

- Governments should ensure that analog access to digitalised government services remains, in order to keep the services accessible to people without digital access and digital skills.
- Digital applications to access government services should be created by an in-house IT team in order to limit the involvement of private companies as much as possible. When governments create these digital services by themselves they will also be able to be held accountable for the digital services and the innovation of these services.
- The principle of inclusion by design should be the conducting wire within government innovation and digitalisation of government services. Digital access to government services should be clear and easy to use, in an understandable language and availability on a wide variety of devices.
- Governments should be transparent regarding the use of AI within their government services and reasons why they use AI to ensure checks and balances from the general public who are targeted by use of these technologies.
- Human involvement should be put in place in the creation and application of AI systems in the government decision-making that has a significant impact on the life of its citizens.
- Governments should not experiment with the use of AI on the general public when outcomes can have an impact on fundamental human rights. Experimentation should take place only in a controlled environment.

Platforms

- Raw data is the ‘new oil’. In this regard, we encourage platforms to provide access on a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory basis to resources and raw data to have a positive impact on competition as it’s more accessible to smaller start-ups and encourages research.
- Technical norms need to be created in order to allow interoperability and portability of data, information and applications of platforms. The creation of these technical norms need to take place in a multi stakeholder manner, where the interests of platforms, governments, users, technical companies and researchers are taken into account.
- Transparency improves intelligibility and understandability of how platforms conduct their businesses. Platforms should be encouraged to be more transparent, where transparency needs to be defined in a granular manner, keeping

in mind the audience and the subject matter that the information is provided about.

- Examples of subject matters that require increased transparency concern the data processing practices, business models and the targeting of users on these platforms. The information needs to be defined in such a manner that it is understandable for the audience that the information is aimed towards.
- When encouraging increased transparency, the trade secrets and intellectual property rights of these platforms should remain respected, but it shouldn't prevent taking into consideration the interest of users to be informed. A balancing act has to take place between the interests of the platforms and the interests of the users to be informed accordingly. This balancing act has to be proportionate and reasonable.

Digital Self-Determination & Digital Literacy

- Taking into consideration the decrease in individual and collective agency under the light of mass digitalization, digital self-determination is of utmost importance. We feel the necessity to protect the very creation of our identities towards manipulations through the digital sphere and by this means we advocate for a healthy preservation of human rights, democratic institutions and values among society.
- There is no place for actors that would introduce biased or discriminatory views towards other countries and we should avoid the dominance of certain countries over others, because we must protect the openness of the internet which is vital for self-determination. The right to digital self-determination of individuals shouldn't be violated on behalf of both national security interests or eagerness of profits throughout the private sector.
- Private and public bodies should make use of tools such as algorithmic audits, specific impact assessment procedures in order to empower digital self-determination. e.g. Children rights impact assessments, human rights impact assessments, external algorithmic audits. Transparent, non discriminatory and open procedures should be applied in order to build healthy digital environments and they should support and underpin the development of individuals' right to self-determination and the creation of identity helping the preservation of human rights, agency and dignity. The community rules of social media and online platforms should respect the human rights of marginalised groups.
- Platforms should be Available and accessible to everyone, respecting the privacy of their users and ensuring anonymity, allowing people to hide PII (personal identifiable information). When using third party apps it should be clear with

the public about that and clear means for giving consent should be provided, especially when it comes to children and ensuring their safety and protection from online violence and abuse.

- Digital literacy is a tool that can provide a confident approach for digital self-determination. We must implement ways to give suitable means to people in order to have access to digital literacy.
- Responsible stakeholders should make it easier for everyone to access and benefit from it while deploying appropriate regulations. Digital environment should support the creation of a digitally comfortable generation who shall proactively engage in the digital economy.



Disinformation

- Academia and the educational system should implement media and information literacy, fostering critical thinking. Creating a more holistic vision of information and freedom of expression in Europe while also contextualising locally what's the point of information and linking it to the rights to freedom of expression. They should seek to help develop digital literacy programs that can be used both inside and outside schools, including different age groups and professionals. Including programmes for members of different communities to act as peer educators and help spread digital literacy.
- Governments should not be involved in the process of spreading disinformation, or benefit from it. They should instead take concrete steps to prevent the distribution of disinformation, whilst avoiding curbing freedom of speech.

- Media should help create tools and guidelines to understand the value of information and how to recognise trustworthy information. Furthermore, media should be held accountable when they are creating and spreading disinformation, this should be established by taking monitoring action. Furthermore, media should make sources of information visible when it's already public, unless it puts people at risk (e.g. whistleblowers, witnesses, sources for investigative journalism, etc.).
- The private sector should publish and make transparent the algorithms and processes used to tackle disinformation, eventually downgrading content deemed as disinformation, whilst respecting freedom of speech. Further, they should ensure transparent regulations on machine learning that identifies disinformation.



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NRI Assembly

This year's NRI Assembly was dedicated to updates on recent processes and from cooperating institutions.

Part 1 Digital Cooperation Roadmap in a European context: Update on the processes and the establishment of a Multi-Stakeholder High Level Body (MHLB)

by Mark Carvell

Mark Carvell provided an update on the process led by UN Secretary-General António Guterres for strengthening the mechanisms of Internet governance and the specific recommendation by his High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation that the IGF should establish a new “Multi-stakeholder High-level Board” (MHLB). Mark explained that there was broad acceptance in the recent stakeholder consultations of the rationale for establishing a new body of senior experts from government, the private sector and civil society who would provide strategic guidance for strengthening and enhancing the effectiveness of the IGF. Furthermore, there was support for the MHLB's role in providing more effective communication and delivery of the outcomes from the non-decisional IGF to the policymakers in governments and decision-takers in the private sector worldwide.

Discussions continued to focus, however, on clarifying the MHLB's relationship with the MAG and how it would be appointed and operate. The consensus view expressed in the consultations with stakeholders was that the Board should be a smaller entity than the MAG and that it should be convened as an integral and accountable part of the IGF framework, rather than being an external body. Stakeholders had also expressed the view that consistent with the core principles of the IGF, the MHLB's meetings should be open and that the procedure for the recruitment of the members should be transparent.

Part 2 ICANN – Strengthening and Supporting the IGF

This part reviewed ICANN's history of support for the IGF, along with the mutually reinforcing benefits of collaboration. The talk also covered identified characteristics of successful and sustainable NRIs, based on ICANN experience, as well as ICANN's current approaches to support the IGF.



Part 3 IGFSA Update – Future Prospects and Approaches

This part provided a brief update on the role and approach of the IGF Support Association, introducing the executive committee and key areas of activity. These include new communications vehicles and a fundraising campaign. Emphasis was placed on the value added through IGFSA support for NRIs, along with eligibility criteria and how support works. A ‘call to action’ was launched to help achieving IGFSA goals.

Part 4 Towards an innovative IGF 2021: Summary of key outputs

by Anja Gengo

The IGF Secretariat hosted a capacity development session at the 2021 EuroDIG in a framework of its capacity development strategy, intending to foster stakeholder engagement between communities gathered around EuroDIG and IGF 2021, to be hosted by the Government of Poland in Katowice from 6 to 10 December. Specific-

cally, the session focused on introducing and discussing IGF 2021 process innovations, evolving toward an interactive discussion on ways of engagement in IGF 2021 intersessional work through direct involvement of the intersessional work focal points. Prior to the session taking place, the organizer made available several written sources of information for consultation of participants wishing to attend the session¹.

The session commenced with the head of the IGF Secretariat introducing the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic poses to IGF 2021 processes, including its hybrid format designing. It was underlined that efforts are invested into ensuring those participating online and in-person from the IGF in Katowice have meaningful conditions for that. In this context, the preparatory and engagement phase was presented as a way for everyone to cooperate through online means while preparing for the 16th IGF in Poland.

During the exchange of views with participants, it was underlined that local communities, such as national and regional IGF could contribute to the shaping of a vision on the future of the IGF, also reflecting the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation. Present NRIs Focal Point confirmed that it is expected that the NRIs could reflect on this matter during their traditional NRIs coordination session to take place during the 16th IGF in Katowice. Further, it was reflected on ways of adding visibility to the NRIs meetings by making the pertinent information more evident on the website.

After the exchanges which took place during the plenary section, participants continued discussions within five breakout groups. Each group was focused on a particular intersessional workstream of the IGF 2021 and allowed for a direct interactive dialogue with the stream's focal points on ways of practical engagement. Namely, these groups were the two policy networks on meaningful access; and on the environment; best practice forums on cybersecurity; and gender and digital rights; and dynamic coalitions.

While the breakout rooms could not be recorded, the overall feedback of the breakout room leaders is positive. The impact of these exchanges became visible shortly after the session, as several community members of EuroDIG engaged in the work of policy networks and best practice forums. The questions that emerged through these exchanges related to ways of engagement, including through mailing lists and sending contributions in various forms, as well as on the thematic focus of their work. The participation in all breakout groups was balanced, quanti-

tively. These exchanges prompted some intersessional work facilitators to restructure the corresponding pages on the IGF website to ensure the information on ways of engagement is more accessible.

The session organizers estimate that over 120 stakeholders attended the session, with a good gender balance amongst them.

¹ Available in the session description

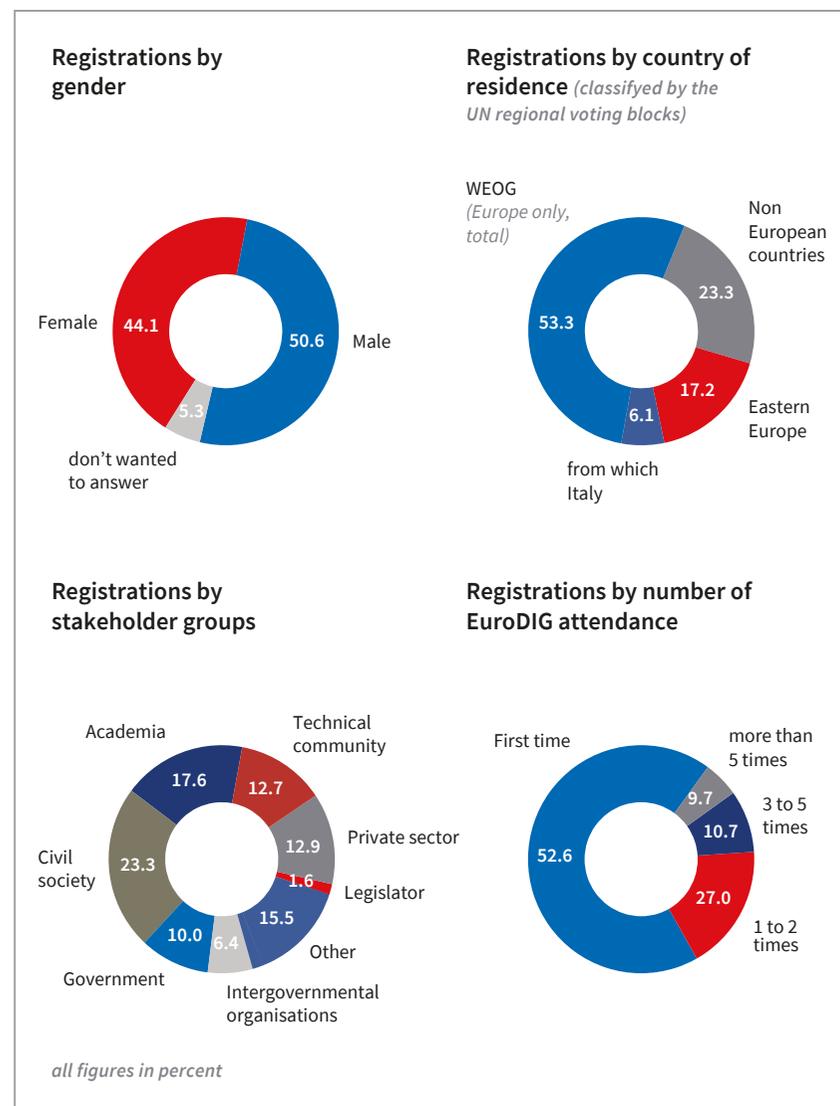
https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/NRI_Assembly_%E2%80%93_Pre_09_2021

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Breakdown of registrations and participation

Registrations

We received 703 registrations for the virtual meeting. The following numbers are based on these.



Participation

The analysis after the event showed that we had around 470 different people logging in to Zoom over the three days. Like last year, a significant number of participants were watching the stream, either live during the session or later, via the

Zoom Rooms			
Unique participants per Day			
	Day 0	Day 1	Day 2
Studio Bruges	102	126	126
Studio Belgrade	99	105	82
Studio Trieste	109	74	56
Amphitheatre		81	25

recording. However, the increased number of parallel sessions led to a decreasing number of participants per session. On average we saw 30-40 participants logged into Zoom. Taking the numbers from Zoom and streaming/recording together we reached a number of participants comparable to last year or to what we would have expected from a physical meeting.

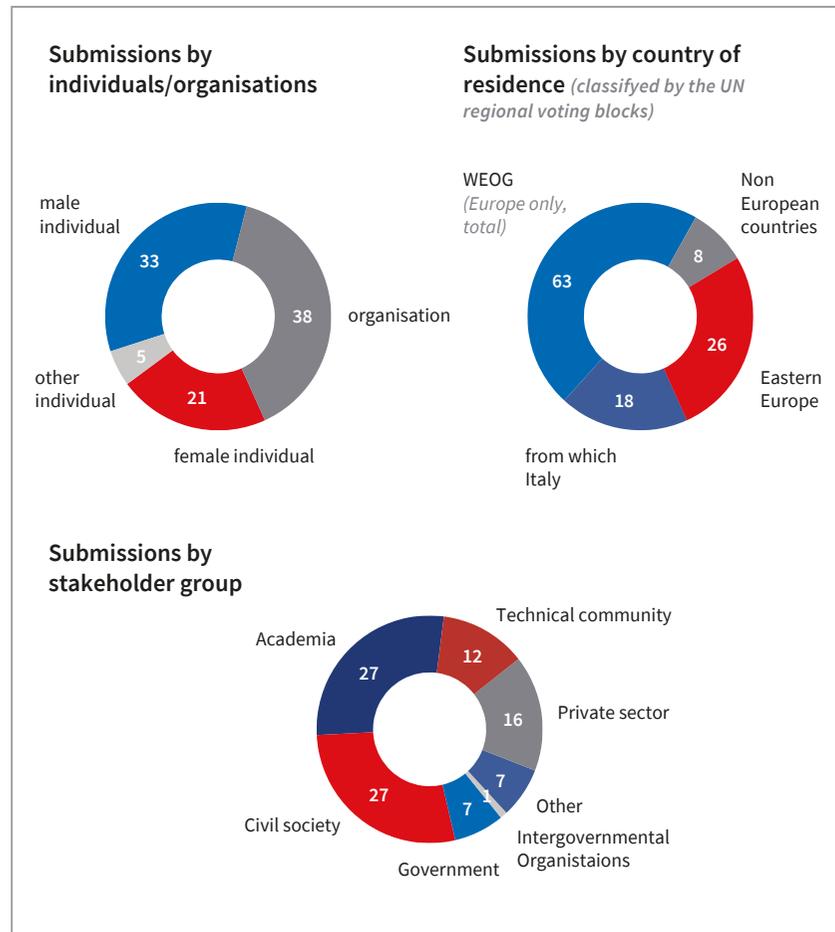
Video-Streams					
Count by Google as of 2021-08-31					
	parallel views during livestream	Unique viewers within 24 hours			Unique viewers till end of August
		Day 0	Day 1	Day 2	
Stream of Day 0, Studio Bruges	10	107	8	1	132
Stream of Day 0, Studio Belgrade	14	131	16	15	232
Stream of Day 0, Studio Trieste	10	41	21	45	215
Stream of Day 1, Studio Bruges	14		82	9	139
Stream of Day 1, Studio Belgrade	15		111	30	271
Stream of Day 1, Studio Trieste	15		88	15	184
Stream of Day 1, Amphitheatre	16		88	-	142
Stream of Day 2, Studio Bruges	18			146	225
Stream of Day 2, Studio Belgrade	17			82	140
Stream of Day 2, Studio Trieste	12			106	246
Stream of Day 1, Amphitheatre	5			44	71

An example from Day 1 in Studio Bruges: 126 participants logged into the Zoom room. In addition, 14 participants (peak parallel views) followed sessions on this day via the live stream on YouTube. In total 130 unique participants watched the livestream or the recording of this studio on this day. As of 31 August 2021, a total of 139 people visited the recording.

Breakdown of submissions

During the call for issues for EuroDIG we received 97 submissions in the period from 12 October till 13 December 2020.

- Access & literacy (10) ■ Development of IG ecosystem (9)
- Human rights & data protection (16) ■ Innovation and economic issues (19)
- Media & content (5) ■ Security and crime (6)
- Technical & operational issues (11) ■ Other (21)



We are heading to Trieste now!



... with a stopover to meet colleagues in Bruges ...

... and Belgrade ...



... towards Trieste!



Colleagues from ICTP gracefully offered to extend their hosting role again to 2022. So, we are confident that third time's a charm and we will be able to meet you in person at the **EuroDIG meeting in June 2022**.



Stay informed and contact us!

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title: EuroDIG, setting Tallin, 2017 · page 4: www.streamingcompany.de · page 5: background images provided by the respective studios · page 40: screen capture from YOUthDIG webinar 2021 · all other images: screen captures from EuroDIG session recordings 2021

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