

# XIV Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum

## IGF-UA

**Kyiv, 15-17 November 2023**  
**Annual Report**

### CONTENT

|                              |    |
|------------------------------|----|
| Introduction .....           | 1  |
| Organizational process ..... | 2  |
| Agenda .....                 | 3  |
| Participants .....           | 3  |
| Financing .....              | 4  |
| Conclusions .....            | 5  |
| Contacts .....               | 12 |

### INTRODUCTION

The first Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum (IGF-UA) took place in September 2010 in Kyiv. Since then, the annual IGF-UA has become a continuation of a global series of Forums aimed at discussion of the most important issues of information society development, consolidation of the efforts of state authorities, business, Internet society, professional and academic elites aimed at accelerating the implementation of IT capabilities, creating conditions for comprehensive development of Internet technologies for the public benefit. IGF-UA has always been gathering participants from around the world representing international organizations, state authorities, non-governmental and commercial organizations in the field of ICT and the mass media.

In connection with the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, the Organizing Committee of the Forum chose a hybrid format for holding the IGF-UA. Most of the participants used the video conference mode. An offline form of participation was provided for the administrative group, part of the moderators and speakers and was organized in a secure point of inviolability in Kyiv, created on the site of the Adamant company. In addition, an online broadcast was provided. For the first time at IGF-UA, automatic translation of speeches (Ukrainian/English) with output of subtitles was provided.

The 14th IGF-UA was attended by participants from Ukraine and a number of other countries of the world, representing government institutions, I\*-organizations, the private sector, civil society, academic and technical communities, mass media.

IGF-UA continues to be an important component of the national discussion about the future of the Internet in Ukraine, Europe and the world.

## ORGANIZATIONAL PROCESS

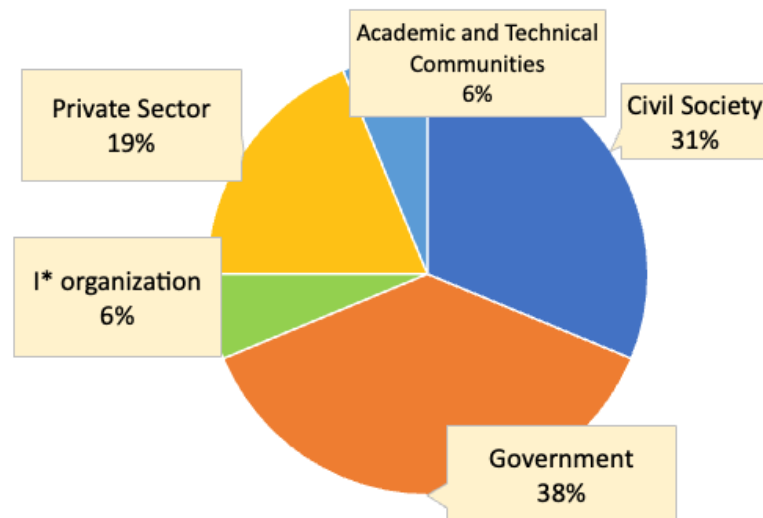
The activities of the IGF-UA Organizing Committee are based on the "Guidelines for Holding the Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum IGF-UA (Memorandum of Understanding)". This document was developed to implement the decisions made during the 4th IGF-UA.

"Guidelines for the Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum IGF-UA (Memorandum of Understanding)": <http://iqf-ua.org/docs/Principles.doc>.

The Orcommittee is composed of 16 people who represent various different groups in a balanced manner: civil society, government institutions, the private sector, the academic community, and organizations.

### Members of the IGF-UA Organizing Committee

|    | Name                 | Organization  | Stakeholder group        |
|----|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1  | Kateryna Bovsunovska | Independent expert, representative of Youth IGF-UA organizing community                             | Civil society            |
| 2  | Valeriya Dubytska    | Independent expert, representative of Youth IGF-UA organizing community                             | Civil society            |
| 3  | Volodymyr Zverev     | Information Security Office of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine                 | Government organizations |
| 4  | Dmytro Kokhmaniuk    | Independent Expert  | Private sector           |
| 5  | Volodymyr Kukovskyi  | Organizing Committee Secretary, Ukrainian Internet Association                                      | Private sector           |
| 6  | Kostyantyn Kulik     | Directorate of digital transformation in the field of defense of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine | Government organizations |
| 7  | Olena Kushnir        | Ukrainian Internet Association  | Private sector           |
| 8  | Matsyk Yurii         | Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine   | Government institutions  |
| 9  | Pazyuk Andrii        | Independent Expert  | Academic community       |
| 10 | Pietukhov Ivan       | Commission for Science and IT, Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs                 | Civil society            |
| 11 | Prykhodko Oksana     | European Media Platform, International NGO  | Civil society            |
| 12 | Tkachenko Svitlana   | Hostmaster Ltd.   | Private sector           |
| 13 | Semenyaka Oleksiy    | RIPE NCC  | I*-organizations         |
| 14 | Oleksandr Fedienko   | People's Deputy of Ukraine, VRU Committee on National Security, Defense and Intelligence            | Government organizations |
| 15 | Igor Chernyak        | Security Service of Ukraine   | Government institutions  |
| 16 | Serhiy Shtepa        | Parliamentary Committee for Digital Transformation  | Government institutions  |



Participation of representatives of various stakeholders in the IGF-UA Organizing Committee

The IGF-UA Organizing Committee performed work not only during the immediate preparation of IGF events, but throughout the entire period between the 13th and 14th IGF-UA. During this period, six meetings of the Organizing Committee were held - 09.08.2023, 18.08.2023, 05.09.2023, 26.09.2023, 13.10.2023, 02.11.2023 (meeting minutes in Ukrainian - <http://igf-ua.org>).

The Forum was organized by the Internet Association of Ukraine (IAU), the Commission on Science and IT of the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (USPP) and the NGO "European Media Platform" under the sponsorship of RIPE NCC (RIPE Network Coordination Center) and ISOC (Internet Society).

Among the organizers of the IGF-UA and the organizations that supported the Forum, various interested groups are represented in a balanced way:

- Civil society: Commission for Science and IT of the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs; International NGO European Media Platform
- Private sector: Ukrainian Internet Association;
- I\*-organizations: RIPE Network Coordination Centre; IGF Supporting Association (IGFSA), ISOC (Internet Society).

## AGENDA

The main goal of IGF-UA is to develop Internet governance in Ukraine through multilateral dialogue, as well as to promote the development of partnership relations for the coordination of stakeholders for the best and most balanced development of the Internet in the interests of the citizens of Ukraine. Based on this goal, the Organizing Committee defined a list of main topics for discussion at the IGF-UA. On their basis, 6 sections for discussion and debate have been formed.

**Section 1. Cyber security and war.**

**Section 2. Dissemination of Information in Time of War.**

**Section 3. Innovative development for the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine.**

**Section 4. Durability.**

**Section 5. Ukraine's dialogue with i\*- and international organizations in conditions of war.**

**Section 6. Derussification and de-Sovietization in the Internet space.**

The final conclusions of the Forum were announced at the **Final plenary session**.

*[You can find the full version of the 14th IGF-UA programme – at https://2023.igf-ua.org/programs](https://2023.igf-ua.org/programs)*

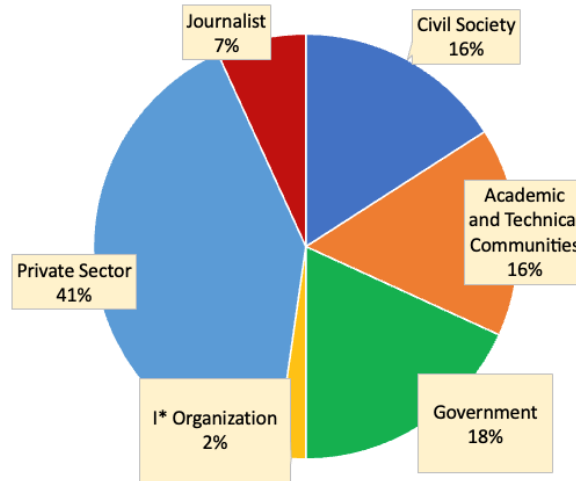
## PARTICIPANTS

The Forum was attended by a significant number of participants from Ukraine and a number of other countries, representing government institutions, international organizations, the private sector, civil society, the academic and technical community, mass media and youth.

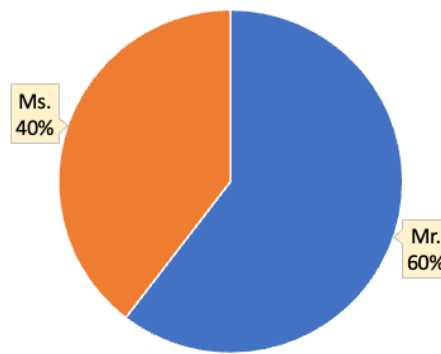
Since the forum took place in the mode of a video conference, everyone could watch its work in real time without registration.

Registered participants had the opportunity to participate directly in the forum. Participants without registration had the option of feedback via chat and e-mail.

*[You can see the full list of Participants who registered for the IGF-UA-2023 here – https://2023.igf-ua.org/participants](https://2023.igf-ua.org/participants)*



Representation of various stakeholder groups among the IGF-UA-2023 registered participants



Gender composition of participants who registered for the IGF-UA-2023

## FINANCING

Following the Guidelines of the Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum IGF-UA (Memorandum of Understanding), the necessary resources in terms of the preparation and conduct of the Forum were provided by the IGF-UA Organizers and Sponsors.

### IGF-2023 Budget

| Sponsor  | Balance from 2022 | Proceeds in 2023 | Respon- sible                                   | Expenses in 2023                                       |                    | Balance to 2024  |
|----------|-------------------|------------------|---|--|--------------------|--|
| IGF-SA   | 1 035,00 USD      |                  | Member of the Organizing Committee O. Prikhodko |  |                    | 1 035,00 €   |
| RIPE NCC |                   | 1 000,00 €       |   | Organization of the work of the point of invincibility | 19 240,00 €        | 316,42 €   |
|          |                   |                  |   | Transportation costs                                   | 3 500,00 €         |  |
|          |                   |                  |   | Settlement and cash services                           | 3 400,00 €         |  |
|          |                   |                  |   | <b>Expenses in 2023:</b>                               | <b>26 140,00 €</b> | The euro was sold at the exchange rate of 38.24 as of 10.11.2023 |

According to the decision of the Organizing Committee, the remaining balance will be used to hold IGF-UA events in Ukraine in 2024.

## CONCLUSIONS

The final statements were made by the panel moderators at the final discussion panel. The emphasis was made on the fruitfulness of the discussions, the importance of implementing international experience in Ukraine and the role of the 14th IGF-UA discussions in further improving the Internet governance.

### Section 1. **CYBER SECURITY AND WAR**

Moderator: Ivan Pietukhov (Commission for Science and IT, Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs).

At the section, problematic issues of cyber diplomacy in the international space were considered, in particular, it was noted that the main problem today is Russia's violation of all norms of international law, which significantly complicates the development of relations on all international platforms where Russia is present.

The participants of the section noted that in order to protect the information space, the state uses dubious approaches when blocking DNS zones and individual resources, it is worth studying the world experience of countries with sustainable democracy and doing it systematically and transparently. We should not copy the dubious approaches of the aggressor, which are already included in a number of draft laws under consideration in the parliament, in particular in draft law 8087.

Those present also pointed out the low level of state managers who take care of electronic communications due to the lack of competition and transparent professional selection criteria for technical and IT state positions.

The representatives of the scientific community presented examples of the application of generative AI systems, in particular, the rapid generation of asymmetric scenarios for increasing the level of cyber protection of any systems, including systems of critical infrastructure. The need to share experience in combating catastrophic events during wartime was emphasized in order to increase the digital resilience of society. The need to improve knowledge in the field of cyber security is emphasized.

### Section 2. **DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION DURING THE WAR**

Moderator: Dmytro Kohmaniuk.

### Section 3. **INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION OF UKRAINE**

Moderator: Andriy Pazyuk

At the section, the issue of innovative development of Ukraine in the conditions of war and the prospects of post-war recovery thanks to innovations were considered. According to the knowledge economy index, Ukraine ranks 63rd (2022), a drop from 56th place compared to 2012. In terms of education, Ukraine was in 21st place (2012), and has become 58th (2022). In terms of innovations - 59 (2012), became 63 (2022). On economic freedoms from 93 (2012) - 97 (2022). Human capital - 24 (2012) and 37 (2022), lower than the European average - 31 (2022). Stimulating the development of the ICT sector (telecommunications and IT) in Ukraine made it possible to improve the indicators, rising from 77th place in 2012 to 56th place in 2022.

The implementation of the acceleration program in the field of robotics, artificial intelligence and cloud technologies will increase Ukraine's ratings in education and innovation, will affect the improvement of general economic indicators through the creation of innovative (high-tech) jobs,

the development of small and medium-sized businesses. The introduction of new technologies and the development of human capital through the improvement of personnel qualifications will allow Ukraine to improve its position in international rankings and strengthen the country's economy. The National IP&I Hub is being created on the basis of UKRNOIVI, which is the only structure in Ukraine that provides a full range of IP&I services (from registration of rights to IP objects to support and market entry of an innovative product). IP&Innovations Hub is a platform that will help the author, inventor, creator to show their solution, get IP protection and understanding and help how to commercialize it.

The framework of policies and strategies for Industry 5.0 was demonstrated. The Ukrainian Cluster Alliance adopted the Manifesto on Ukraine's transition to Industry 5.0, which provides for the following measures:

1. Course on governance 5.0.
2. Integration and cooperation with the defense industry
3. Restoration and growth of human capital
4. Strengthening the resilience of LDV and ecosystems.
5. Inclusiveness, anticipatory and innovative SME
6. Focus on Deep Tech innovations
7. Transition to circular economy.
8. Digitalization is not only for profits, but also for people and the planet.
9. Decentralization and adaptability for less vulnerability, resilience and stability.
10. Transition to ESG principles and standards.

It was noted that according to various estimates, the population of Ukraine by 2030 will be 30 million people, in 2022 up to 8 million people left due to the war - mostly women and children, and universities and vocational schools are "running out of applicants." Engineering school "Noosphere" implements projects aimed at converting STEM education into innovation, supports engineering innovations. But STEM – education without Soft Skills, high-quality humanitarian education will not lead to the emergence of creators. But a systematic professional orientation of young people is needed, an effective system of providing and supporting innovative activities in higher education institutions.

The participants of the panel discussion emphasized the need to stimulate innovative activity as a driver of post-war recovery and economic growth of Ukraine.

#### Section 4. **STABILITY**

Moderator: Olena Kushnir, Ukrainian Internet Association

На секції було заслухано проблеми провайдерів у прифронтових зонах та магістральних операторів. Блекаути, необхідність закупівлі великої кількості систем безперебійного живлення, зростаючі ракетні обстріли, проблеми з бронюванням співробітників, необхідність перепусток для аварійно-відновлювальних бригад в комендантську годину та зростаючі кібератаки. Запропоновано представникам уряду звернути більшу увагу, щодо допомоги цим телекомунікаційним компаніям, що забезпечить стійкість мереж та безперебійну роботу сервісів. Також запропоновано розглянути можливість дотацій провайдерам у прифронтових зонах, через відтік абонентів поряд із зростаючими витратами на утримання мережі.

Заслухали представників РНБОУ, ДССЗІ та Мінцифри їх роль в підтримці телекомунікаційної сфери: стратегії та дії. Роль держави у забезпеченні стійкості електронних комунікацій визначено ключовою, оскільки вона відповідає за розробку ефективних стратегій та політик, спрямованих на захист цифрового інфраструктурного простору. Подолання труднощів, перед лицем яких зіштовхнулись телекомунікаційні компанії, вимагає необхідність співпраці між

державою, галузевими експертами та операторами зв'язку для розробки ефективних стратегій та технічних рішень.

Розглянули питання міжнародного співробітництва та нове полісі щодо добровільного блокування трансферів IP адрес: взаємодія з RIPE NCC. Роз'яснили учасникам ринку механізм роботи добровільного блокування трансферів на певний період, що забезпечить збереження дороговартісного IP- ресурсу.

## Section 5. UKRAINE'S DIALOGUE WITH I\* AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CONDITIONS OF WAR

Moderator: Oksana Prykhodko, iNGO European Media Platform.

All I\* and international organizations supported Ukraine after the full-scale aggression against our state, but not all of them condemn the aggressor country. So, for example, CENTR decided to suspend the membership of the Coordinating Center of RU/RF domains (primarily, due to security considerations and lack of trust). In other organizations (such as ICANN, for example) there are cases when representatives of the aggressor country occupy management positions even contrary to the statutory documents. The highest level of understanding exists between the Ukrainian community and RIPE NCC (perhaps not least because of the possibility of communication in the same language).

On the other hand, the Ukrainian community should be encouraged to actively participate in such international initiatives as the Global Digital Compact and the WSIS+20 Review. Continued efforts are needed to engage all stakeholders in Internet governance dialogues at all levels, from national to international.

## Section 6. DERUSIFICATION AND DESOVIETIZATION IN THE INTERNET SPACE

Moderator: Svitlana Tkachenko (Hostmaster Ltd).

*You can see the videos of IGF-UA-2023 at: <https://2023.igf-ua.org/stream>*

## YOUTH IGF-UA

### Summary

The Sixth Youth Internet Governance Forum Ukraine (Youth IGF UA) was held online on 15 November 2023 in Kyiv. The core mission of the conference is to involve young people in developing solutions to current problems of Internet governance and to empower and engage young individuals in shaping the future of Internet governance through meaningful discussions, networking, and knowledge exchange.

Nearly 40 participants registered for VI Youth IGF UA, representing government agencies, international organisations, the private sector, civil society, academic and technical communities, and the media.

Participants got an opportunity to learn about the youth projects from reliable organisations, like RIPE NCC, Internet Society, ICANN, IGF, EuroDIG, and EuroSSIG, and share their experience participating in these programs. This year, Youth IGF UA focused on a wide array of Internet Governance issues. Within the context of Russian aggression against Ukraine, sessions were dedicated to nuanced discussions on cybersecurity, OSINT and information warfare. These aspects were complemented by insights into challenges faced in digitalising public governance and digital policies in Ukraine and the European Union.

Despite a nationwide air raid siren lasting around 3 hours due to the ongoing threat from russia, Youth IGF UA remained steadfast in its commitment to addressing diverse Internet Governance issues. The event was temporarily paused to ensure the safety of participants and speakers, reflecting our dedication to prioritising well-being amid external challenges.

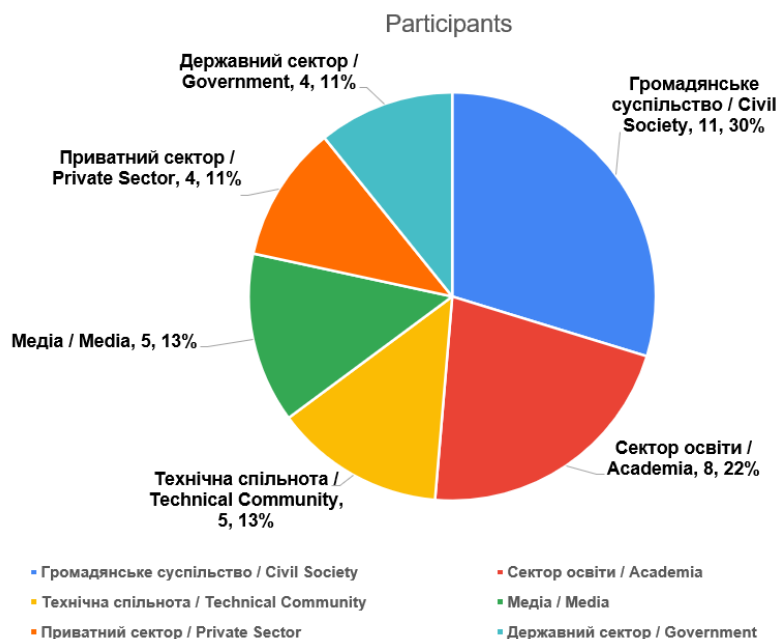
### Organising Process

The Youth Internet Governance Forum Ukraine Initiative Group activity is based on [the Youth Coalition on Internet Governance \(YCIIG\) Code of Conduct](#). Ukrainian translation is available [here](#). The Youth Internet Governance Forum Ukraine initiative group was initially created in February 2018 due to consensus between participants and supporters of the Youth IGF-UA Pro event held on 5 October 2017 in Kyiv. During the event, experts discussed establishing a new platform for young people's engagement in Internet Governance. For that to happen at Youth IGF UA (February 2018), Valeriia Dubytska (iNGO European Media Platform) initiated the creation of the Youth IGF UA Multistakeholder Organizing Team. Messages about this initiative were sent to VIII IGF UA (6 October, [igf-ua.org](#)), IGF Secretariat, EuroDIG, and SEEDIG.

The organising process of the Sixth Youth Internet Government Forum Ukraine (VI Youth IGF-UA) began on 27 August 2023 based on the decision of the Organising Committee of the Internet Governance Forum Ukraine (IGF UA). Kateryna Bovsunovska, representative of the Youth IGF UA Initiative Group, joined the Internet Governance Forum Ukraine Organizing Committee as an independent expert and was appointed a moderator of the event together with Valeriia Dubytska.

### Participants

Since the VI Youth IGF-UA was held online in the videoconference format, participants could join via the Adamant platform or by watching the video stream on [I-UA.TV](#) and [YouTube](#). To be able to participate in the discussion and ask questions, a participant had to register via Google form. In total, we gathered 37 registrations and 58 attendances at the event. Many registered participants followed the forum via I-UA.TV and/or YouTube video stream.



### Financial matters

VI Youth IGF UA supporters and sponsors provided the necessary resources to prepare and hold both Youth IGF UA and IGF UA. The resources were used for transport arrangements for the VI Youth IGF UA moderator Valeriia Dubytska in Kyiv on the day of the Forum.



## Programme Overview

Participants were invited to share their areas of utmost interest during registration. Drawing from the diverse range of topics indicated in the received applications, we curated a program that reflects the collective preferences and ensures a tailored, engaging experience for all attendees:

### Welcome word of organisers and sponsors:

Ivan Petukhov, President of Adamant, I-UA TV, Vice-President of the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Chairman of the Commission on Science and IT  
Gabiella Schitteck, Stakeholder Engagement Director, Nordic & Central Europe, ICANN  
Olena Kushnir, Ukrainian Internet Association  
Oksana Prykhodko, iNGO European Media Platform  
Alex Semenyaka, RIPE NCC

### Session 1. Information warfare: the influence of Russian propaganda abroad and in Ukraine:

Dmytro Kushnir, editor-in-chief of "Educational House" media and author of "Kyiv Passenger" podcast.

Valeriia Shashenok, local photographer and blogger who gained international attention for her satirical TikToks documenting the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

Anastasiia Herasymchuk, analyst and journalist at UkraineWorld and NGO "Internews-Ukraine".

### Session 2. Cybersecurity and Disinformation:

*"Russia's aggression in cyberspace"* by Andriy Mankish, Threat Intelligence Analyst NCSCC NSDC.

*"How to become a cyber warrior and what professions exist in the field of cyber security"* by Olha Nasibulina, founder of CyberPeople, a community of cyber security professionals.

*"Analytics and OSINT in countering disinformation"* by Oleksandr, the Center for Countering Disinformation senior analyst.

### Session 3. Virtual and Augmented Reality Technologies as Tools of Supporting Ukraine and Digital Peace Design

Lisa Glybchenko, PhD researcher at Tampere University in the field of peace technologies (in the field of International Relations)

### Session 4. EU Digital Policy and what it means for Ukraine

Viktoriia Omelianenko, Digital and Cyberpolicy Expert, Analyst, Trainer

### Session 5. Digital Public Governance

Oleksandra Yevdokymova, Master of Politics and Governance in the Digital Age. Researcher in Digitalisation in Public Policy and Management Institute.

### Session 6. Opportunities for Youth in the field of Internet Governance.

Siranush Vardanyan, ICANN Fellowship

Alejandra Prieto, ISOC Foundation

Alena Muravska, RIPE NCC

Sandra Hoferichter, EuroSSIG, EuroDIG

Anja Gengo, IGF Secretariat

## Moderators of the event: Valeriia Dubytska and Kateryna Bovsunovska.

The first session, led by Dmytro Kushnir, Anastasiia Herasymchuk, and Valeriia Shashenok, delved into Information Warfare, detailing the impact of Russia abroad and in Ukraine. We explored the significance of countering disinformation, emphasising the involvement of foreign influencers in spreading accurate and verified information. Examining various platforms such as podcasts, Twitter,

TikTok, etc., we discussed both the opportunities for disseminating verified information and the challenges of mass disinformation.

In the subsequent session, guided by Andrii Mankish, Olha Nasibulina, and OSINT specialist Oleksandr, the focus shifted to cyber security and disinformation. Addressing Russia's persistent aggression in cyberspace, we emphasised ongoing efforts to enhance countermeasures and warning systems. We underscored the diverse opportunities in cybersecurity, including becoming a cyber warrior or an OSINT specialist, highlighting the diverse nature of information hygiene – responsible content consumption and conscious use of social networks for information dissemination.

Liza Glibchenko spotlighted virtual and augmented reality technologies as impactful tools for aiding Ukraine and fostering digital peace. Recognising the challenge of capturing the international attention for Ukraine, these technologies emerge as potent tools, especially in cultural diplomacy and highlighting Ukrainian identity.

Viktoriia Omelianenko led a discussion on "EU Digital Policy and what it means for Ukraine." We explored the implications of European digital policy and cyber diplomacy for Ukraine, considering its role in European integration. The discussion covered the EU's Digital Compass, Ukraine's role in European digital identity, and the stability of Internet infrastructure. The potential full inclusion of Ukraine in the EU digital space promises increased accessibility to digital services, opportunities for digital skills acquisition, and the dissemination of e-government practices.

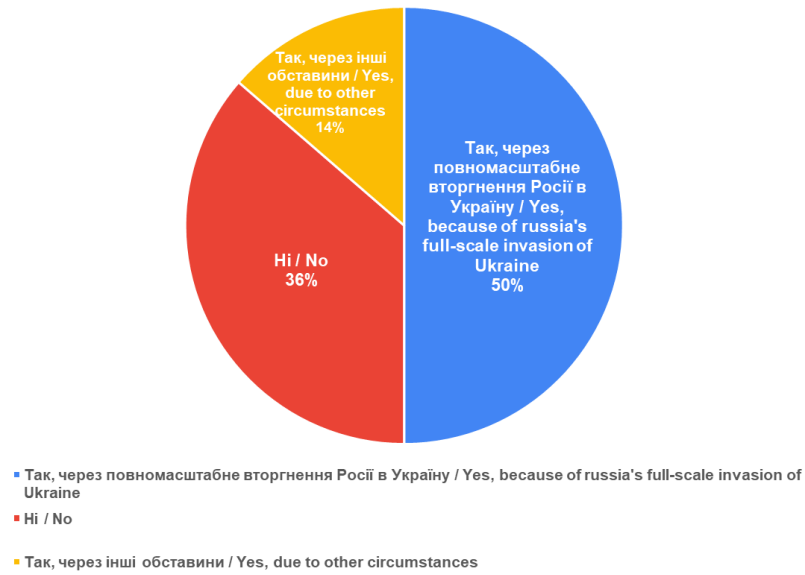
In the Digital Public Governance section, Oleksandra Yevdokymova introduced the concept of digital public governance, highlighting its impact on public services' efficiency. Drawing examples from Estonia and Denmark, she underlined the need for Ukraine to focus on online services, acquire tech skills, and enhance decision-making processes while safeguarding confidential information.

The final panel discussion on international opportunities for youth in Internet Governance featured Siranush Vardanian (ICANN), Alena Muravska (RIPE NCC), Alejandra Prieto (ISOC Foundation), Sandra Hoferichter (EuroSSIG, EuroDIG), and Anja Gengo (IGF Secretariat). Speakers shared valuable insights on youth involvement programs, online training courses, scholarship opportunities, and alumni associations, encouraging Ukrainian youth to actively participate in the international arena. Useful links with requirements and application dates were shared to facilitate increased engagement.

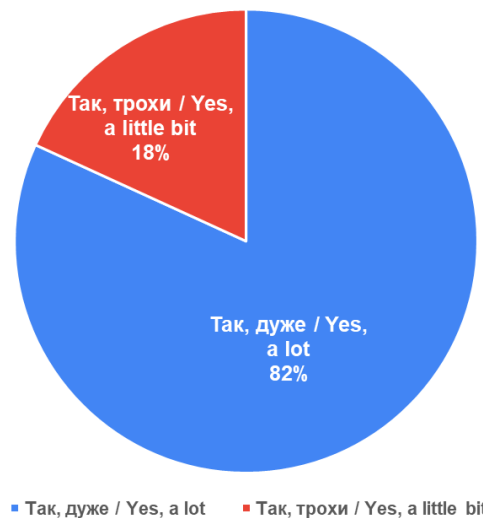
### **Participants Survey**

Moreover, as part of the registration process, participants from Ukraine were invited to respond to inquiries concerning their online experiences in the context of Russian aggression against Ukraine. The results will be comprehensively analysed and subsequently presented on the Youth IGF UA [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. Here are a few glimpses of the questions and responses:

Чи виникали у тебе проблеми з доступом до Інтернету? / Have you had problems with access to the Internet?



Чи турбує тебе поширення дезінформації або фейкових новин в Інтернеті? / Are you concerned about the spread of misinformation or fake news on the Internet?



Contacts: [info@youth-igf-ua.org](mailto:info@youth-igf-ua.org)

Kateryna Bovsunovska and Valeriia Dubytska - moderators of the event, members of Youth IGF UA Organising team.

Videos and presentations on Youth IGF-UA-2023 are available at:

- <https://i-ua.tv/stream/84166-vi-ukrainskyi-molodizhnyi-forum-z-upravlinnia-internetom-youth-igf-ua>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Er2ikvPJb84>

## CONTACTS

IGF-UA Organizing Committee

[www.igf-ua.org](http://www.igf-ua.org), [info@igf-ua.org](mailto:info@igf-ua.org)

tel/fax: +38 044 278-2925

15/3 Olesia Honchara street, office 22, Kyiv, 04053