Internet Governance Forum Italia



REPORT 2024

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Introduction

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Italia is the national multistakeholder platform for debate on governance, regulation and evolution policies of Internet and Digital. It is promoted and supported by the <u>Comitato IGF Italia</u> established at the Department of Digital Transformation by the Decree of the President of the Republic of 12 October 2023 (<u>DPCM del 12/10/2023</u>).

In synergy with the United Nations International <u>IGF</u> Platform, IGF Italy follows the principles outlined in the <u>Toolkit Nris</u> of openness and transparency, inclusiveness, embracing a multistakeholder model and a "bottom-up approach," promoting equal dialogue among stakeholders.

The **IGF Italy 2024 edition**, entitled "The Internet I Want. Let's build our digital future together," was held on **December 5 and 6, 2024,** in hybrid mode and was hosted by the Agency for Digital Italy (AgID).

The event was organized by the IGF Italy Committee, with the coordination of AgID and the support of the <u>Youth Italy IGF</u> Association.

The event was attended by **Sen. Alessio Butti**, Undersecretary of State to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the delegation of functions regarding technological innovation and digital transition; **Roberto Viola**, Director General of DG-Connect (European Commission); **Anna Ascani**, Vice-President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies; **Mario Nobile**, Director-General of AgID.

Moreover, connecting from Geneva, Carol Roach, **IGF MAG President**, together with **Chengetai Masango**, IGF Secretariat Coordinator, and **Anja Gengo**, National Regional and Youth Initiatives (NRIs) Coordinator, shared an overview of IGF's main challenges and the program of ongoing activities.

The two-day <u>program</u> included **13** debate sessions, **1** international session in English, a total of about **60** speakers (national, European, and international), and an estimated participation of about 400 users, in attendance or connected remotely.

Specifically, **400** people registered to attend on December, while **450** registered for December 6.

The program was developed by the IGF Italy Committee on the basis of the results of the public consultation on the issues held last October.

During the two-day event there were debates full of insights and reflections covering the ethical and security aspects of artificial intelligence applications, digital skills and the tools needed to bridge the so-called "digital divide", freedom,

disinformation, protection of children online, cybersecurity, Italian parliamentary initiatives on digital, the European strategy on multistakeholder Internet governance, and the implementation activities of the Global Digital Compact. Participants discussed the benefits and risks associated with the use of the Internet and digital technologies with the aim of developing a collective vision and fostering the implementation of digital solutions that take into account ethical and social impacts, respect for democracies, freedoms and fundamental rights of citizens of businesses.

The results of the discussions were shared during the 19th IGF held in Riyadh, Dec. 15-19 and will be forwarded to NRIs (National, Regional and Youth Initiatives) and key national and international stakeholders involved in Internet management and evolution policies.

The thematic lines discussed included:

- 1) Artificial Intelligence
- 2) Digital Competencies
- 3) The Protection of Minors On the Net.
- 4) Cybersecurity: Challenges And Solutions
- 5) Freedom And Misinformation

Institutional greetings and opening of the meeting

Sen. Alessio Butti, Undersecretary of State to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with the delegation of functions regarding technological innovation and digital transition, in the opening <u>video message</u>, recalled that the digital transition is one of the great challenges affecting Italy, Europe and the global community, and requires collective solutions.

Regarding the challenges of 2025, he highlighted the opportunity to translate the principles outlined in the Global Digital Compact (GDC) into concrete actions, recalling how essential it is to participate in the WSIS, and the recent survey on Internet governance activated by the European Commission. He reiterated the essential role of IGF and of the multistakeholder model in the debate surrounding Internet governance and the need to define clear rules and a responsible governance for Artificial Intelligence, able to balance innovation, protection of rights and inclusive, equitable and sustainable access to the computational resources needed to develop and deploy this technology.

Finally, he recalled that Italy supports an open, unfragmented, free, global reliable secure and interoperable Internet model, a decentralized model that respects diversity and is capable of providing opportunities for businesses and citizens. In

this context, the IGF Italy Committee, established to work in coordination with the global IGF, brings together key stakeholders representing industry, institutions, academia and civil society with the aim of defining and implementing policies for governance of the

The Director-General of DG-Connect, Roberto Viola, recalled the key-role of **Europe** as a leader in the regulation of digital space, in data protection, in the transparency of platforms, in the regulation of Artificial Intelligence (Al Act) and of Data (Data Act). These rules aim to ensure fundamental freedoms, democracy and competitiveness. Although these rules have political (years of work for approval) and economic (burdens on business) costs and can be perceived as a brake on innovation, they offer benefits in terms of security, transparency and protection of fundamental rights of citizens and businesses. challenges, he stressed the risks connected to the privatization of the network by a few companies and to the influence of undemocratic countries. In the international arena, Viola recalled that Europe supports the Internet governance model led by international forums such as the IGF and the United Nations, and reiterates the need for other states and companies to comply with European standards. IGF Italy and Europe play a key role in promoting a secure, inclusive and innovative Internet by supporting global governance based on shared principles. Viola also recalled the public consultation on the future of Internet governance launched by Europe, calling for participation to consolidate the European position. Finally, he emphasized that it is essential to participate in the discussion that will take place in WSIS to support the European model, of a network open to all, citizens and businesses.

The IGF Italy Committee

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Anna Carbone**, presented the activities of the IGF Italy Committee, which became operative on September 5, 2024, and its developments, reflecting on the upcoming challenges for 2025. In particular, it was highlighted that the IGF Italy Committee is a model of Governance and Innovation, unique in Europe, which is inspired by the decentralized and multistakeholder nature of the Internet.

The Committee, as illustrated by **Giuseppina Valente**, coordinator of the Committee, is a hub, a collector of instances and a driver of a debate space for Internet governance, that have to be brought to the attention of Governments, authorities, the general public and national, European and international bodies.

The Committee intends, therefore, to strengthen the connection of Italian public and private components with such global processes, improving their internal cohesion and participation at the global level.

Mario Nobile, Director General of AgID, has reminded the purposes of the IGF Italia platform, which promotes listening and discussion with the aim of gathering the positions of the various stakeholders, and to bring out as well as possible perspectives, opportunities and risks related to the use of Internet, evaluate the impact of technologies, propose solutions and share this wealth of knowledge on the institutional tables that deal with Internet and digital development policies.

Regarding future activities, 2025 includes the designation of the companies component. In addition, there are plans to create a website for IGF Italy, where information and updates will be shared.

The importance of improving the participation of Italian technical organizations in international working groups was stressed.

The coordinators of the 3 working groups established within the IGF Italy Committee, Andrea Beccalli, Concettina Cassa, and Innocenzo Genna, outlined ongoing activities.

The conclusions reaffirmed the committee's role as a body that can capitalize on opportunities of open and inclusive participation and respond to global challenges in a more collaborative and coordinated manner.

IGF Global

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Concettina Cassa**, focused on issues concerning the future of the IGF Forum beyond 2025.

Carol Roach, Chair of the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) emphasized the importance of the IGF in facilitating multistakeholder governance. She talked about the need for the forum to evolve to remain relevant and efficient by improving coordination among global, regional, and national initiatives on digital governance. He finally highlighted the WIS+20 review process in 2025 as crucial for renewing the IGF's mandate by suggesting some possible directions to strengthen it.

Daniele Turra shared the results of the Youth IGF Italy 2024 event where young people were able to participate in discussions on topics such as AI, digital as a common asset, trust, security and data governance.

Chengetai Masango, coordinator of the IGF Secretariat, provided details on the preparations for IGF 2024 in Riyadh, an event that will feature more than 300 sessions on topics such as technological innovation, digital sustainability, human

rights, digital inclusion and governance, AI, cybersecurity, disinformation, and implementation of the Global Digital Compact. He also reported on the importance of legislative capacity and discussions on the Internet We Want initiative coordinated by the Leadership Panel.

Anja Gengo, coordinator of the National, Regional and Youth Initiative, spoke about the ongoing activities under the National and Regional IGFs (NRIs) emphasizing the importance of the growth of NRIs, which represent a positive change in the global ecosystem. He shared the issues of the sessions organized by NRIs for IGF 2024, mentioning the importance of Youth IGFs and the Global Youth Summit to be held in Riyadh.

Riccardo Nanni shared an example of the activities of Youth IGF Italy, which has carried out a series of initiatives in Italian schools to promote awareness about data security and privacy protection. Finally, he stressed that the IGF should also be a communication and dissemination platform to educate young people on digital skills.

Al to support parliamentary work

The vice president of the Chamber, **Anna Ascani**, intervened to share the work of the Chamber of Deputies on generative artificial intelligence involving all parliamentary groups. In particular, a round of Hearings has been initiated with ethicists, engineers and major investors, including OpenAl, Meta, Microsoft and Google with the aim of regulating the use of artificial intelligence to avoid risks (such as those for privacy and surveillance), but also to take advantage of opportunities in areas such as health, education and security. The Chamber has, in addition, involved Italian universities with 28 projects, selecting those aimed at improving the efficiency of parliamentary work.

WSIS+20 Review e Global Digital Compact

The <u>session</u> moderated by **Andrea Beccalli** outlined the origin of WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) and its main achievements including the creation of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) as a platform for open and collaborative discussions.

The ongoing WSIS+20 review will assess the successes and failures of WSIS. There is a persistent tension between multistakeholder governance models and multilateral control (e.g., through the UN).

Key principles of the Global Digital Compact (GDC), attached to the "Pact for the Future" and adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2024, were outlined. These include supporting and strengthening the multistakeholder model and promoting an open, global, stable, secure and human rights-based Internet, defending human rights and countering Internet disruption practices.

Essential is the role of the European Union, which supports the multistakeholder model and supports the recognition of the IGF as a key platform for Internet governance.

Ongoing global discussions involving:

- Changing the IGF name to Digital Governance Forum to strengthen and make more aware of its role.
- Extension of the mandate to address broader digital governance issues.
- Sustainability and Funding of the IGF.



The Debate Artificial intelligence

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Pierangelo Veltri**, focused on various aspects regarding the governance of artificial intelligence.

The results of the G7 Privacy Authorities, an event that discussed the governance of artificial intelligence while respecting democracy and fundamental rights, were shared, addressing topics such as:

- Data Free Flow with Trust, the safe and free transfer of data between countries;
- Emerging technologies (privacy-enhancing technologies, PETs), anonymization, pseudonymization, use of synthetic data in healthcare, and the importance of defining common glossaries to ensure effective and interoperable policies.
- Child protection and risks related to profiling, action algorithms and inappropriate content, but also educational opportunities offered by AI.
- Strengthening cooperation between countries, which has seen, for example, the adoption among G7 countries of Guidelines to improve information sharing and cooperation between countries with different regulatory systems.
- Role of privacy authorities in Al governance that saw the issuance of a document endorsed by the G7 countries.

On sustainability and access to AI technologies, the disparity in global investment in AI between Europe, the United States and China was highlighted.

A testimony was shared from Meta, which, through the development of opensource models (e.g., Llama), aims to foster business innovation and make Al accessible to enterprises. In this regard, the need to foster business-university collaborations and the opportunity to develop training courses and master's degrees in artificial intelligence and ethics to fill the gap between technical and humanistic education was highlighted.

The ethical and responsible use of AI requires the training of professionals working in government and justice.

Al in medicine and other fields: the use of artificial intelligence in the medical field and the importance of protecting health data from cyberattacks were discussed.

Future challenges and legal implications: issues related to the legal liability of artificial intelligence and its applications in the justice sector were raised. Although justice can be regulated through artificial intelligence, it cannot replace human legal assessment.

Digital Skills

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Salvatore Panzanaro**, focused on the importance to bridge the digital gap throughout interventions on the infrastructures on the territory and the improvement of the digital skills of the population.

Among the initiatives activated by the government on the Italian territory over the past 15 years, a selection of projects conducted by the Infratel company were reported, such as: the installation of fiber optics, the implementation of the "BUL" (ultra broadband) plan, the "Italia Giga" plan launched with the NRRP, the Connected Health, Connected Schools and Connected Islands projects, the SINFI (Sistema Informativo Nazionale Federato delle Infrastrutture), the database of underground infrastructures (fiber, electricity, gas, water) that supports the design and construction of networks, the other initiatives that concern the strengthening of "backholing."

Regarding Digital Competencies and Italy's positioning in DESI, it was revealed that about 24 million Italians between the age of 16 and 74 do not have basic digital skills (Digicomp framework) and the activities carried out by "Digital Republic" - the initiative activated by the Italian government to address this challenge - were outlined. The national coalition includes more than 270 organizations and 350 projects, and pursues the goal of having 100 percent of the population with basic digital skills by 2030, thanks in part to NRRP investments. It is planned to activate 3,000 "easy digital points" by 2026, which will provide personalized assistance, training and support on topics such as cybersecurity and digital literacy, and annual monitoring that measures progress and updates the operational plan.

The debate touched on crucial issues concerning digital transformation, education and the challenges connected to the digital divide, the training of teachers and the engagement of young people. The difficulty of the schools in keeping up with technological innovation was highlighted.

The role of mentoring was discussed, with the idea that the mentor is not just a teacher but a support figure who helps overcome the blocks associated with learning new technologies, making digital literacy more accessible. "Reverse mentoring," in which young people become mentors to older people, is another interesting perspective for bridging the intergenerational digital divide.

On **Skills and Training**, the insights that emerged highlighted the need to focus on skills and training, not just digital, by investing in mentoring, the creation of

digital facilitators, and the creation of a network and pathway linking school, work and active citizenship. Develop a lifelong learning system that through artificial intelligence can provide for a personalized approach. **Educational Systems** and school training should shift to a model that promotes soft skills, not just theoretical knowledge. **Collaboration**, as well as a **positive approach** and the **value of teamwork** are essential so that technical and digital skills can fill existing professional gaps. Active citizen participation and a positive approach to the training course are considered essential for effective results.

It was suggested from the floor that there should be more focus on adult training, as well as on the training of the staff of institutions and on the issue of online security as part of the digital skills.

Parliamentary initiatives regarding digitization and Internet

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Andrea Sammarco**, discussed parliamentary initiatives in Italy regarding digitization and Internet governance. Specifically, the debate focused on:

- the support of Chambers of Commerce in the digitization of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), including programs such as Industry 4.0;
- the role of governance and regulators in creating a regulatory framework for the democratic development of the Internet and the Internet;
- the Internet Bill of Rights, which in 2015 established, among other things, universal access as a fundamental human right and a condition for full individual and social development;
- the policies and initiatives that have developed over the years, such as data protection, digitization of public administration, and European regulations;
- the growing impact of artificial intelligence and data centers, with reference to specific laws and regulations for data management and emerging technologies;
- the issue of environmental sustainability, particularly the use of renewable energy to power Data Centers and the need to optimize resource use to reduce ecological impact.

The **digital transition** and the **green transition** are closely linked, and administrative simplification is an important goal to facilitate access to data and reduce bureaucratic complexity and prevent it from being an obstacle for businesses and citizens. The creation of an independent authority to simplify the interface between public administration and citizens/business was suggested.

Regarding data management and data centers, it was pointed out that despite the growth of the sector, Italy lacks clear regulation and adequate infrastructure. In particular, the need to develop regulations that facilitate the opening and management of Data Centers, avoiding the years-long authorization process, is highlighted. Reference was also made to the need to balance data security with data management, not focusing only on protection but also on accessibility and availability of resources for the country's technological development.

The issue of digital skills was also addressed, particularly the difficulty of women in accessing STEM careers and attaining leadership positions, also due to the lack of adequate welfare policies.

Technology-neutral management of connections was discussed to ensure universal access to fiber, but also to explore alternative solutions where fiber is not feasible. The central issue is to ensure that everyone has the right to connect, without focusing exclusively on one specific technology.

The current fiber policy was questioned, especially with the introduction of new fees for those still using copper-based connections, a move that seems to disregard the difficulties of accessing the technology in remote areas.

It was pointed out that the National Strategy on AI is not receiving sufficient political attention, with too much focus on rules and regulations at the expense of opportunities for businesses to adopt and develop the technology. This is seen as a significant vulnerability, with the risk that Italy is not fully exploiting the potential of AI.

Regarding European policies, the bureaucratic approach that often remains disconnected from the practical needs of citizens and businesses, who need accessible regulation and resources for technology adoption, is criticized. The lack of investment in training, a key element in ensuring that everyone from public administration to individual citizens can truly use new technologies effectively, was highlighted.

Digitization is not only a technological issue, but also a democratic one. Open and secure connectivity is seen as a fundamental right that must be guaranteed to all, so that technological innovation can translate into concrete benefits for society.

Minors' Protection On The Web

The <u>session</u> moderated by Giovanni Ferrari discussed the protection of children online and their safe access to the Internet.

Google has implemented tools such as YouTube Kids and Family Link to help parents monitor and limit children's access to online content. It is also working on age verification solutions for users, in accordance with the EU Digital Services Act, to prevent minors from accessing inappropriate content.

Privacy and Digital Education: the important role of digital education in teaching young people about online data security and protection was emphasized. Several educational initiatives are supported by entities such as Google, and projects such as "Live Internet to the Best" and collaborations with schools and postal police aim to raise awareness of the risks of the Internet.

Age Verification and Privacy Protection: age verification for access to sensitive content, such as pornography, and the importance of protecting users' privacy were discussed. Platforms should only collect proof of age, without storing sensitive data about the user's specific intended use of the content.

Psychological Impact and Use of Social: The psychological damage that indiscriminate access to pornography can cause in minors, such as anxiety, distortion of intimate experiences, and relationship difficulties, were highlighted. The influence of social media on the formation of youth identity and self-esteem, and the isolation that can result from excessive use of technologies, were also discussed.

Parental Responsibility: the crucial role of parents in supervising and managing their children's use of technology and ensuring that time spent online does not replace quality time with family was emphasized.

Cybersecurity

The <u>session</u> moderated by **Vincenzo Loia** addressed various aspects of Cyber Security and data governance in Italy, highlighting the challenges and opportunities these issues present for the country. Key recommendations included the need to **develop a national Cyber Security strategy** involving all sectors of society, strengthening collaboration between public, private and academic institutions to effectively address Cyber Security challenges.

It is crucial for companies and institutions to keep their skills up-to-date and adopt best practices to protect data and infrastructure to prevent and respond to cyber threats. It is also crucial to increase training and awareness on Cyber Security among citizens.

Another crucial point concerns the implementation of active protection measures for **critical infrastructure**, energy systems, and naval vessels to prevent cyberattacks. It is necessary to invest in advanced technologies and create a robust legal framework that supports cyber security, ascertains cyber crimes, and safeguards citizens' rights. It is essential to attract **specialized human resources** and collaborate with academic institutions to address cybersecurity challenges and invest in advanced technologies, such as artificial intelligence.

Freedom and disinformation

The session, moderated by **Agostino Clemente**, covered the delicate relationship between freedom and disinformation, data quality and governance, information pollution, the role of search engines, and the challenges of the digital age.

- **Disinformation and censorship**: disinformation was explored through the concepts of censorship by subtraction and by multiplication.
- **Internet governance**: the role of disinformation in Internet governance was discussed, recalling the principles of the UN Global Digital Compact.
- **Phenomenology of disinformation**: the phenomenology of manipulation and "background noise" or "information pollution" was explained.
- **Search engines**: the function of search engines and AI in content selection was examined.
- **Non-hostile language**: the manifesto of non-hostile language in the process was explained. The function of training and the role of schools was highlighted.
- **Role of authorities**: the function of the Italian Data Protection Authority and of other public authorities in reconciling freedom of expression with content moderation was illustrated.

Another reflection touched upon the right balance between the increasing use of technology and the need to preserve dignity, truth and individual rights, the need to integrate human and technological approaches to create a more ethical and sustainable ecosystem.

The complexity of reconciling freedom and disinformation was reflected upon as disinformation poses a threat to democracy and freedoms. Delegating the task of deciding what is true or false to private platforms can undermine freedoms and foster technocracy. The right balance between public and private power must be maintained.

From the floor the suggestion to introduce an information rating system to help users recognize the quality of information and the importance of educating people to understand freedom and human rights, and to provide them with tools to defend themselves against false information.

Development of a European strategy on the multistakeholder governance of Internet

The <u>session</u>, moderated by **Innocenzo Genna**, covered the consultation on Internet governance launched by the European Commission in November 2024. Participants discussed how Internet governance may evolve, involving various actors and stakeholders, such as institutions, technical experts, representatives from Universities and Research, and the private sector.

The discussion highlighted that technical choices are not neutral, but affect the functioning of the Internet and must consider public, research, private sector, civil society and user interests. Aspects such as Internet fragmentation, net neutrality, traffic control, cybersecurity, naming and routing are examples. Commercial operators' decisions also affect net neutral access and can create technological dependence, increasing complexity and criticality, especially in terms of data protection and technological sovereignty. Finally, excessive regulation of the Internet, which would undermine its open and innovative nature, must be avoided. The discussion then called for **the renewal of the mandate to the Global IGF,** highlighting the need to maintain the multistakeholder model in Internet governance, with the involvement of technologists, government institutions, academics and users since the various interests involved are closely intertwined.

The Global Digital Compact

The <u>session</u> moderated by Anna Carbone presented and discussed the goals of the <u>Global Digital Compact</u>, the document approved by the United Nations in 2024 that defines principles for global digital governance. The goal is to eliminate the digital divide, promote inclusion, create a secure digital space that respects human rights, and manage artificial intelligence in a sustainable way that benefits humanity, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Wikimedia Italy illustrated its contribution to the Global Digital Compact with concrete initiatives such as the digitization of cultural heritage through collaborative events and projects such as "Wiki Loves Monuments", emphasizing the importance of open, inclusive and locally-oriented knowledge, which stimulates both tourism and cultural awareness.

Italian provinces presented the "BEST" project, aimed at collecting and processing local data to support sustainable development and public policy

planning, highlighting the role of collaboration between public and private entities.

Also discussed was **OpenStreetMap**, an open mapping platform promoted by Wikimedia Italy, which offers an innovative approach compared to commercial services, encouraging exploration and enhancement of the territory.

Stakeholders call on the IGF Italy committee to serve as an inclusive forum to promote collaborations, integrate global and local perspectives, and facilitate cooperation among public, private and nonprofit institutions in order to respond concretely to the realization of the goals of the Global Digital Compact.

Conclusions

The final <u>session</u>, moderated by **Concettina Cassa**, suggested some priorities of the IGF Italy committee for 2025 and in particular:

- Defining strategic guidelines for the Internet in Italy: the committee should focus on emerging technologies such as digitization, cybersecurity, and the development of smart cities, to optimize public resources and attract private investment.
- **Proposed research and development programs**: Italy should increase investment in research on technologies such as blockchain, Internet of Things, and 6G, to strengthen innovation and attract talent.
- **International coordination**: the committee should intensify dialogue with European and international counterparts to align with global best practices on crucial issues such as security, privacy and net neutrality.
- Digital Literacy: it emerged how important it is to promote digital awareness, not only among young people, but also among those who must protect them, such as parents and educators. Digital literacy is key to navigating a world where technology is increasingly present and is a prerequisite for safe and aware use of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence.
- Artificial Intelligence and Education: opportunities and challenges related to artificial intelligence were discussed. The need to have sufficient culture to handle transformative technologies was emphasized. The risk of an overly negative narrative about AI, which could hinder its potential, was also highlighted.

- Digital Divide and Educational Divide: how to reduce the digital divide
 was discussed, but also an emerging concept, the "educational divide,"
 which refers to unequal access and skills in digital technologies. It is
 necessary to invest in education to prevent access to technology without
 the necessary skills from becoming a danger.
- International Collaboration: it was emphasized how useful it is to share experiences and collaborate with other countries and international forums. Cooperation with other countries that are developing similar paths can act as a multiplier for strategic actions.
- Research and Development: the promotion of research programs, such as
 those conducted in Italian universities, was highlighted as a key resource
 for improving skills and technological innovations. The importance of
 retaining and attracting talent was emphasized, similar to the Canadian
 policy focused on recruiting and retaining AI talent.
- **Education and Universities**: the deans spoke about the central role of the university in education and research. There is a call to push for greater interdisciplinarity in research, including areas such as ethics and sociology, to address the challenges of technology governance.
- **Role of Students**: undergraduate students are seen as a resource for spreading digital literacy, both through research activities and mentorship programs. They are also an important link between universities and businesses, with opportunities to develop collaborative projects.
- **Proposed Initiatives**: it was proposed to create a common platform for sharing training resources, such as teaching modules or video lectures, to facilitate access to digital training for everyone from students to educators.

Recommendations

For the Italian Government:

- Support the renewal of the mandate of the global IGF and promote the multistakeholder model.
- Follow up on the indications of the Internet Bill of Rights, ensuring respect for online human rights and recognizing the Internet as a global good and network access as a fundamental right of citizens.
- Simplify administrative practices (e.g., Data Center activation), strengthening the link between digital and ecological transition.

- Supplement school and university curricula with pathways dedicated to Internet literacy and digital culture, creating a network linking school, work and active citizenship, including through mentoring models.
- Allocate funds for digital literacy initiatives in all sectors (public, private and civil society), including through public-private partnerships.
- Promote women's participation in STEM careers through appropriate welfare policies and incentive measures.
- Establish a comprehensive industrial policy that includes protective measures for critical digital infrastructure, with a focus on the health sector.
- Strengthen regulation of the social and civil responsibilities of large technology platforms, protecting the openness of the Internet and ensuring a secure network to serve citizens.
- Put Internet Governance high on the national policy agenda.
- Improve Italian participation in Internet Governance programs and international cooperation projects on digital.
- Allocate a dedicated spending chapter in the NRRP for the Internet Governance Forum Italy.
- Strengthen the national strategy on artificial intelligence by providing funds for its development and use by businesses.

For IGF (UN)

- Promote the use of the IGF platform in support of the Global Digital Compact.
- Support the proposal to rename the IGF to Digital Governance Forum.
- Actively contribute to the WSIS+20 process.
- Strengthen the involvement of NRIs and youth in digital governance activities.
- Strengthen the role of the IGF Secretariat, particularly for communication and institutional relations.
- Include in the IGF agenda a discussion between IGFs, NRIs, governmental and nongovernmental institutions on WSIS+20 processes and the Global Digital Compact.
- Promote the integration of IGF outcomes into regional and international agendas, as well as Internet Governance organizations (e.g., OECD, ITU, European Commission).
- Support funding and ensure the long-term sustainability of the IGF platform.
- Valuing the contributions of youth communities and integrating them into global discussions on digital governance.

For the European Commission:

- Support and promote the multistakeholder model for global Internet governance by ensuring the renewal of the IGF's mandate.
- Support the proposal to rename the IGF to Digital Governance Forum (DGF).
- Integrate the findings of the global IGF (UN) into the European Digital Agenda.

- Actively participate in the review of the WSIS+20 process.
- Foster active participation of young people and European National Initiatives (NRIs) in the multistakeholder Internet governance debate.
- Strengthen digital literacy programs and promote initiatives to bridge the digital divide across Europe.
- Simplify and make European regulation more accessible for citizens and businesses.
- Invest in research and development projects on new technologies, encouraging collaboration between member states and stakeholders.

For Companies:

- Adopt effective tools to foster innovation and digital transformation of business processes.
- Implement training programs to enhance employees' digital skills.
- Ensure high **cybersecurity** standards and establish appropriate **data governance policies**.
- Facilitate **information classification** to help users recognize and address misinformation.
- Promote collaborations with universities to develop capacity for analysis and discussion on the digitization of processes and the application of new technologies.

For Civil Society:

- Promote digital literacy courses to foster more informed citizen participation in digital citizenship.
- Encourage citizen involvement in the debate on Internet development policies.
- Support awareness-raising initiatives on key issues such as online security, privacy and responsible use of technologies.

For universities and research center:

- Promote, in collaboration with IGF Italy, events at the local and national level to stimulate debate on Internet evolution policies.
- Integrate Internet Governance courses into curricula.
- Increase the participation of universities and research centers in IGF Italy, strengthening collaboration with public and private institutions.
- Support interdisciplinary research that combines ethics, sociology and technology to address the challenges of digital governance.
- Engage students in mentorship programs and collaborative projects with businesses.
- Enhance research and development programs on emerging technologies such as blockchain, Internet of Things and 6G, to stimulate innovation and attract new talent.

For Italy IGF Committee:

- Activate technical tables to define strategic guidelines for the Internet in Italy.
- Promote stakeholder discussion tables to identify balanced solutions on the key issues of the annual event, such as countering disinformation, respecting human rights online, and protecting personal data.
- Strengthen dialogue with NRIs at the European and international level, activating collaborations to align with global best practices on crucial issues such as security and privacy.
- Promote digital literacy initiatives to reduce the digital divide and improve awareness in the use of technologies.
- Activate a listening channel to gather citizen input on concrete actions to be taken to improve Internet regulation.

The Report was prepared by Group 3 of the IGF Italy Committee

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Useful Link:

Dipartimento per la Trasformazione Digitale.

AgID

Decree of Establishment IGF Italy Committee

Decree of Establishment of IGF Italy Committee's member

video record IGF Italia 2024

<u>Declaration of Internet rights</u>

Agenda di Tunisi

IGF Global

Global Digital Compact

Program IGF Italia 2024







L'internet che vorrei

Costruiamo insieme il nostro futuro digitale 5 e 6 dicembre 2024

PROGRAMMA DEL 5 DICEMBRE - EVENTO IN PRESENZA E ONLINE

- > ORE 13:00 REGISTRAZIONE
- ORE 14:00 INTRODUZIONE Paola Liberace, AgID
- **≫** ORE 14:05 SALUTI ISTITUZIONALI E APERTURA DEI LAVORI

Alessio Butti, Sottosegretario alla Presidenza del Consiglio con delega all'innovazione

» ORE 14:15 - KEYNOTE SPEECH

Roberto Viola, Direttore Generale DG Connect Commissione Europea

≫ ORE 14:30 - IL COMITATO IGF ITALIA: STATO DELL'ARTE E PROSSIMI PASSI

Mario Nobile, Direttore Generale di AgID

Giuseppina Valente, Coordinatrice del Comitato IGF Italia -

Dipartimento per la trasformazione digitale

Andrea Beccalli, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN - Comitato IGF Italia)

Concettina Cassa, AgID (Comitato IGF Italia)

Innocenzo Genna, Dipartimento per la trasformazione digitale (Comitato IGF Italia) Moderatrice: Anna Carbone, Politecnico di Torino (Comitato IGF Italia)

Co-moderatrice: Debora Barletta, Youth Italy IGF

L'EVENTO È PROMOSSO E ORGANIZZATO DAL COMITATO IGF ITALIA





>> ORE 15:20 - IGF GLOBALE: ATTIVITÀ IN CORSO (in inglese)

Carol Roach, Presidentessa Multistakeholder Advisory Group IGF ONU
Chengetai Masango, Segretariato IGF ONU
Anja Gengo, Coordinatrice National Regional and Youth Initiatives IGF ONU
Daniele Turra, Youth Italy IGF
Riccardo Nanni, Youth Italy IGF
Moderatrice: Concettina Cassa, AgID
Co-moderatrice: Debora Barletta, Youth Italy IGF

≫ ORE 16:00 - BREAK

>> ORE 16:15 - L'IA A SUPPORTO DEI LAVORI PARLAMENTARI

Anna Ascani, Vicepresidente Camera dei Deputati

>> ORE 16:30 - WSIS +20 REVIEW E GLOBAL DIGITAL COMPACT

Andrea Beccalli, *ICANN* Vessela Karloukovska, *Commissione Europea*

ORE 17:00 - INTELLIGENZA ARTIFICIALE - APPLICAZIONI NEI SERVIZI DELLE AMMINISTRAZIONI PUBBLICHE: RICADUTE ETICHE, EFFICIENZA E DIREZIONI DI SVILUPPO TECNOLOGICO

Ginevra Cerrina Feroni, Vicepresidente *Garante della Privacy* Gianfranco Basti, *Università Lateranense*

Paolo Soda, Campus Biomedico

Giuseppe Buffone, magistrato distaccato alla Rappresentanza permanente d'Italia presso l'UE Angelo Mazzetti, Meta

Carlo Sansone, Laboratorio Nazionale Artificial Intelligence and Intelligent Systems

Moderatore: Pierangelo Veltri, Università della Calabria (Comitato IGF Italia)

Co-moderatore: Daniele Turra, Youth Italy IGF

>> ORE 18:00 - FINE PRIMA GIORNATA

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PROGRAMMA DEL 6 DICEMBRE - EVENTO ONLINE

≫ ORE 9:30 - LE COMPETENZE DIGITALI: STRUMENTO A SUPPORTO DEL DIGITAL DIVIDE

Nello Iacono, Coordinatore Repubblica Digitale
Luigi Cudia, Direttore operativo Infratel Italia
Dianora Bardi, Presidentessa Centro Studi Impara Digitale
Ruggero Parrotto, Presidente Associazione Ikairos
Moderatore: Salvatore Panzanaro, Conf. Regioni e Province autonome (Comitato IGF Italia)
Co-moderatrice: Debora Barletta, Youth Italy IGF

≫ ORE 10:30 - INIZIATIVE PARLAMENTARI RIGUARDANTI INTERNET E IL DIGITALE

Alessandro Antonini, *BMTI*Giulia Pastorella, *Camera dei Deputati*Lorenzo Basso, *Senatore*Bartolomeo Amidei, *Senatore*Moderatore: Andrea Sammarco, *Unioncamere (Comitato IGF Italia)*Co-moderatore: Alessandro Antonini

» ORE 11:30 - LA PROTEZIONE DEI MINORI IN RETE

Giovanni Santella, *Agcom*Silvia Elia, *Consorzio Netcomm*Martina Colasante, *Google*Francesco Durand, *Ordine Psicologi di Genova*Moderatore: Giovanni Ferrari, *Consiglio Nazionale Consumatori e Utenti - CNCU (Comitato IGF)*Co-moderatrice: Sara Capelli, *Casa del consumatore*

L'EVENTO È PROMOSSO E ORGANIZZATO DAL COMITATO IGFITALIA





ORE 12:30 - BREAK

» ORE 14:00 - NUOVE FRONTIERE DELLA CYBERSECURITY: SFIDE E SOLUZIONI

Roberto D'Auria, Magistrato CSM

Col. Marco Minicucci, Stato Maggiore Difesa RIS/CII

C.te Gianluca Marcilli, Direzione Armamenti navali

Carlo Roatta, Agenzia Cybersicurezza Nazionale (ACN)

Alessandro Manfredini, Associazione Italiana Professionisti Security Aziendale (AIPSA)

Col. Vincenzo Ingrosso, C.do Generale CC

Moderatore: Vincenzo Loia, Rettore Università di Salerno (Comitato IGF Italia)

Co-moderatori: Jürgen Ambrosi, CRUI (Comitato IGF Italia)

e Giovanni Battista Barone, CRUI - Università Federico II (Comitato IGF Italia)

» ORE 15:00 - LIBERTÀ E DISINFORMAZIONE

Giovanni Ziccardi, Università degli Studi di Milano
Carmelo Fontana, Google, Associazione Regolazione Intelligenza Artificiale (AIRIA)
Guido Scorza, Garante per la Privacy
Luciana Breggia, Magistrata e scrittrice per ragazzi
Moderatore: Agostino Clemente, Unione delle Province d'Italia - UPI (Comitato IGF Italia)
Co-moderatrice: Debora Barletta, Youth Italy IGF

» ORE 16:00 - BREAK

ORE 16:30 - DIBATTITO SULLO SVILUPPO DI UNA STRATEGIA EUROPEA SULLA GOVERNANCE MULTISTAKEHOLDER DI INTERNET

Giacomo Mazzone, Componente Advisory Council di EDMO Maurizio Goretti, Namex Gabriella Paolini, Consorzio Gestione Ampliamento Rete Ricerca (GARR) Moderatore: Innocenzo Genna, Dipartimento per la trasformazione digitale

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