IGF POLICY NETWORK ON INTERNET FRAGMENTATION

16 June 2022 – 13:00 UTC

Draft Agenda:

1. Welcome & introduction to the PNIF
2. Update on the MWG of experts and plans for the PNIF
3. Community feedback & discussion

ABOUT THE PNIF

The PNIF proposal was born out of a [community initiative](#) by a multistakeholder coalition of civil society, business and technical community organisations in 2021 to raise awareness of the technical, policy, legal and regulatory measures and actions that pose a risk to the open, interconnected and interoperable Internet.

The IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) selected the [PNIF proposal](#) for one of the two policy networks of the IGF 2022 intersessional programme.

Mailing list

- **pnif@intgovforum.org / PNIF public mailing list**
  This public mailing list is open to all and will be an important venue for the PNIF to reach out to and engage with the community. You can subscribe at
  https://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/pnif_intgovforum.org

PNIF webpage   www.intgovforum.org/en/content/policy-network-on-internet-fragmentation

PROPOSED DELIVERABLES

The objectives of the PNIF are

- Offer a systematic and comprehensive *framework to define Internet fragmentation*, its intended and unintended causes, and its potential effects;
- Collect and analyze *case studies* to fine-tune and complement this framework;
- Establish *shared principles, recommendations* or codes of conduct that prevent fragmentation and preserve the open, interconnected and interoperable nature of the Internet.

ABOUT THE MWG

The primary purpose of the PNIF Multistakeholder Working Group of experts (MWG) is to advise on the substance scope and implementation of the PN.

The MWG is expected to ensure that
● the subject focus is *of relevance for the global community*,
● the PN implementation is in accordance with the main IGF principles of being *bottom-up multistakeholder, open and transparent, inclusive and non-commercial.*

Webpage

https://www.intgovforum.org/en/content/pnif-multistakeholder-working-group

INITIAL IDEAS DISCUSSED BY THE MWG to organise and focus this year's work

Suggested rules of thumb
- Be constructive/solution oriented
- Need to build on existing work
- Bottom up and inclusive

- The preparatory process for the Global Digital Compound is a key venue for IGF PNIF input

Possible deliverables (from original proposal)

The objective of the policy network would be to:
- 1. Offer a systematic and comprehensive framework to define Internet fragmentation, its intended and unintended causes, and its potential effects
- 2. Collect and analyze case studies to fine-tune and complement this framework 3. Establish shared principles, recommendations or codes of conduct that prevent fragmentation and preserve the open, interconnected and interoperable nature of the Internet

INITIAL IDEAS DISCUSSED BY THE MWG to organise and focus this year's work

Over a two-year cycle, we propose the following deliverables:

- A report to be presented at the IGF's 2022 Annual Meeting on Internet fragmentation risks: the report would expand on the framework proposed above, bolstered by collected case studies and their analysis highlighting tangible impacts

- Awareness-raising webinars: a series of webinars for the IGF community, to raise awareness of the issue, foster discussion and encourage input

- Principles and recommendations: following the 2022 report, a second phase of the PN's work in 2023 will focus on collecting best practices to avoid or counter fragmentation, propose shared principles based on these practices and offer recommendations on implementing those principles, including feeding these into the UN's Global Digital Compact process

What's happened so far

- Two MWG calls
- Selection of co-facilitators