

First IGF 2024 Open Consultations

27 February 2024

[Transcript] Statement from Ottavia Galuzzi, UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute – UNICRI

Hi, hello, everyone. Thanks to the chair, IGF organizers, and all present today. My name is Ottavia, and I work as an Associate Expert at UNICRI, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute. UNICRI is a specialized UN research institute focusing on crime prevention, criminal justice, security, and the rule of law.

One of UNICRI's strategic priorities is promoting the responsible use of new and emerging technologies to address crime and exploitation. Today, I will outline two related Internet governance initiatives by UNICRI, which I believe are interconnected with the results of the IGF 2024 Call for Thematic Inputs, such as AI and cybersecurity.

Firstly, through its Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, UNICRI strives to enhance the understanding of the risk-benefit duality of artificial intelligence. The Center has developed a toolkit for responsible AI innovation in law enforcement, in collaboration with INTERPOL Innovation Center. Additionally, UNICRI's Center has led the AI for Safer Children initiative aimed at tackling child sexual exploitation and abuse online through the exploration of new technological solutions, specifically AI.

Secondly, UNICRI works towards promoting cybersecurity and trust by conducting research and projects aimed at preventing and countering cyber-attacks, reducing cyber conflicts, and fostering cybersecurity capacity building. In collaboration with UNODC, we will publish a research report on terrorism on the Dark Web and the role of cybercrime as a service. We are also developing a research project on the cyber-enabled threats posed by bioterrorism movements.

Finally, following the publication of the report "SDG 16 through a Digital Lens," UNICRI is conducting research aimed at empowering victims of cybercrime and ensuring access to justice in the digital age, with a specific focus on the African continent.

I would like to conclude by saying that we look forward to collaborating with any IGF stakeholders on these important issues. Our goal is to ensure our work is inclusive, effective, and embraces the SDG related to peace, justice, and strong institutions to leave no one behind. Thanks for your time and attention today.