

# Dynamic Coalition on Platform Responsibility - Annual Report (2022)

## 1. Background info about the DCPR

The goal of DCPR is to stimulate the debate and analysis on the meaning of platform providers' responsible behaviour. [1] DCPR works started with the analysis of the application to digital platforms of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, progressing to the development of a set of recommendations on core dimensions of platform responsibility. In this sense, the Coalition aims at exploring the concept of platform responsibility, coined, and promoted by this very same DC in 2014. [2] The concept aims at both highlighting the impact that private ordering regimes by platforms have on individuals' fundamental rights, such as effective remedy (art. 2 ICCPR), privacy (art. 17 ICCPR), freedom of expression (art. 19 ICCPR) and others, and interrogating the moral, social and human rights responsibilities [3] that platforms bear (or should bear) when setting up such regimes.

DCPR has been contributing to the discussion of platform responsibility and developing tangible outcomes, such as the "Recommendations on Terms of Service and Human Rights" [4] presented at the 2015 IGF, which served as an inspiration for (and were annexed to) both the study on Terms of Service and Human Rights [5], co-sponsored by the Council of Europe and FGV Law School, and the 2017 outcome of the Coalition – a volume entitled "Platform regulations: how platforms are regulated and how they regulate us", featuring research by an ample range of stakeholders[6]. It also bears noting that the "platform responsibility" approach and a conspicuous number of elements of the Recommendations can be found in the Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries. [7] Fostering this kind of multi-stakeholder and cross-institutional discussion is a core component of the vision behind the creation of the Coalition: to critically analyse challenging questions and collaborative develop potential solutions that, if

deemed suitable and efficient, can inspire policymaking exercises. One of this efforts is the development of the Glossary of Platform Law and Policy Terms, launched in 2021 and transformed into a [wiki](#) available for any interested person.

## 2. Activities conducted in the past year

### i) Participation at the IGF 2022

a. Activities within the IGF (e.g. participation in the annual IGF meeting, relations with other IGF work-streams)

The 2022 DCPR session[8] had as its main goal to understand how to develop shared rules on platform transparency, fostering a legally interoperable approach to the issue. The effort, culminated with the elaboration of a session dedicated to **Platform responsibilities in times of conflict** and the publication of an outcome paper on paper “[Towards meaningful and interoperable transparency for digital platforms.](#)” The Coalition efforts were co-coordinated by Prof. Luca Belli (founder of the Coalition) and Yasmin Curzi (the new co-coordinator of the Coalition). The session counted with a diverse group of stakeholders, ensuring regional, ethnic, sex, and gender inclusiveness in its sessions.

b. Activities beyond the IGF (e.g. events attended/organised, input submitted into various processes, cooperation with various entities/groups/processes);

The DCPR 2022 output was submitted to the public consultation by UNESCO in the occasion of the elaboration of the Guidelines for Regulation Internet for Trust Conference. We are also organising the hybrid session “[Multilevel and Meaningful Transparency in Algorithmic Systems: Developing Concrete Criteria to Guide Institutional and Legal Reforms](#)”, in partnership with UNESCO, Center for Law, Internet and Society from IDP

(CEDIS/IDP); Center for Technology and Society at FGV; Action Coalition on Meaningful Transparency (ACT); and the Global Network Initiative (GNI).

c. Any outputs produced and/or research/studies conducted.

The DCPR 2022 output was the paper "[Towards meaningful and interoperable transparency for digital platforms](#)", a framework proposal for policymakers and other interested stakeholders regarding meaningful transparency for digital platforms. This document will be presented in the UNESCO's Internet for Trust Conference (Feb. 2023), by Yasmin Curzi, representing the DCPR.

## **ii. Updates on internal processes (e.g. DC meetings held during the year, new coordinators/members, updates to website/ mailing list)**

Yasmin Curzi was appointed as new co-coordinator of the Coalition, substituting Prof. Nicolò Zingales, to whom goes all the DCPR appreciation for his work and commitment towards the Coalition works. To develop the "[Towards meaningful and interoperable transparency for digital platforms](#)" its 2022 outcome, the DCPR coordinators organised a working group [9]. They also organised a call for inputs aiming at improving the initial draft of the paper.

## **iii. Priorities/objectives for the following year (short)**

As its first activity for 2023, the DCPR is focusing on the organisation of a session at the UNESCO Internet for Trust Conference, titled "[Multilevel and Meaningful Transparency in Algorithmic Systems: Developing Concrete Criteria to Guide Institutional and Legal Reforms](#)".

The subject of the DCPR 2023 will be "Freedom, Responsibility & Transparency: Regulating Digital Platforms for an Open & Accountable Ecosystem". With our commitment with multistakeholderism, we will bring together experts from government, civil society, academia, and the private sector to discuss key topics to address online harms and foster accountability, such as interoperability, zero-rating, meaningful transparency and observability in platform regulation.

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[1] For further information on the Coalition, please visit the dedicated section of the Internet Governance Forum website, available at: <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/dynamic-coalition-on-platform-responsibility-dcpr>.

[2] See Belli, L., De Filippi, P., Zingales, N. (2014).

[3] See the Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, John Ruggie, Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, UN Human Rights Council Document A/HRC/17/31, 21 March 2011. Available at: [www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR\\_EN.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf).

[4] See Belli L., De Filippi P. and Zingales N. (2015).

[5] See Venturini et al. (2016).

[6] See Belli and Zingales (2017).

[7] See <http://bit.ly/CoEinternetintermediaries>.

[8] Session report available at: <https://intgovforum.org/en/content/igf-2022-dcpr-platform-responsibilities-in-times-of-conflict>

[9] The document was shared in the DCPR mailing list. The working group was constituted by: Luca Belli, Yasmin Curzi, Clara Almeida, Natália Couto, Roxana Radu, Rolf H. Weber, and Ian Brown.