Youth Coalition on Internet Governance
2017 mid-year report

Submitted to the IGF Secretariat on: 24 June 2017

This document constitutes the mandatory mid-year report of the Youth Coalition on Internet Governance (YCIG)[1] as required by the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Secretariat. Our activities since the last meeting of the IGF in December 2016 have focused on revising our charter, being engaged in various national and regional IGF initiatives (NRIs), and hosting youth IGFs and other events.

Interim steering committee elected

Immediately following the annual YCIG face-to-face meeting held at IGF 2016, the YCIG elected 5 interim steering committee members with the primary role of overseeing and facilitating the charter revision process and directing the YCIG until the first official election can be held before IGF 2017. For more information, see: https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/ycig/GwLbbc7uaRA.

YCIG charter revision process

Between January and April 2017, the YCIG completed the arduous but necessary task of revising its charter. It details how the coalition is organized, outline membership eligibility, define its leadership structure, and stipulate the rules and regulations pertaining to the election of its Steering Committee (SC). The updated charter along with links outlining the revision process is available at: https://ycigweb.wordpress.com/charter/.

YOUTH-RELATED INTERNET GOVERNANCE EVENTS

Asia Pacific

Youth Internet Governance Forum

Youth Internet Governance Forum (YIGF) is initiated and organized by NetMission.Asia. It has been an integral part of Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) since its inception in 2010. YIGF 2017 will be held in Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok from 26-29

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[1] https://ycigweb.wordpress.com/.

July. More than 50 students in tertiary education from the region will participate in the event to discuss Internet governance-related issues. For more information, see: http://www.yigf.asia.

Europe

CDN youth seminar on cybersecurity and digital rights

The Cooperation and Development Network of Eastern Europe (CDN) organised an international youth seminar (Digitised security: How to Read the Surveillance Discourse and Fight It!) on cybersecurity and digital rights from 23-29 April 2017, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. The 6-day seminar addressed digital rights, Internet policy, security, surveillance, data protection, and digitalization. The two-fold goal of the seminar was to teach 40 participants on how to protect their rights online and how to campaign in the field of digital rights. For more information, see: https://www.cdnee.org/digitised-security-how-to-read-the-surveillance-discourse-and-fight-it/.

SEEDIG youth program

The Southeastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance successfully held its first dedicated youth program, the SEEDIG Youth School, in Ohrid, Macedonia (FYR), from 24-25 May 2017. It brought together around 16 students for a one-day program, and then helped facilitate their involvement with the main SEEDIG program. For more information, see: http://www.seedig.net/seedig-youth-school/.

EuroDIG youth programs & youth messages

The European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG), which was held in Tallinn, Estonia, from 6-7 June 2017, organized two separate youth programs: YOUthDIG and Copyfighters (in partnership with the Young Pirates of Europe). More information is available at: https://www.eurodig.org/index.php?id=715 and https://www.eurodig.org/index.php?id=714, and the 2017 EuroDIG youth messages are available at: https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/YOUthDIG_2017.

Global

Youth 4 Rights

This year, the inaugural Youth For Rights event took place at the Brussels Town Hall on 28 March as a satellite event of RightsCon Brussels, a global summit on human rights and

Internet policy. Youth For Rights is an initiative to provide learning workshops for young people (aged 18-30), to educate and engage with them in policy and advocacy discussions about digital rights. The event was created to enable a participatory platform for knowledge and skills sharing among keynote speakers, organizers, and participants. The event hosted young leaders from around the world, each coming with their own interest and passion in human rights and digital policies. Attendees participated in various discussions and workshops, tackling leading issues that included: data protection & privacy, network discrimination, connectivity & governance, net neutrality and zero rating, human rights, trade & business, freedom of expression, and #KeepItOn, the global campaign to fight internet shutdowns. Lastly, participants had first-hand training on advocacy skills to build capacity and represent youth voices at major global policy fora like RightsCon.