

Draft Proposal

IGF 2024

IGF Theme 2024:

"Building our Multistakeholder Digital Future"

Sub-theme:

"Improving Digital Governance for the Internet We Want"

Module chosen: Workshop

Tentative Title: Navigating the Digital Future: Governance 2.0

1. Description:

The workshop is organised by the EURid Youth Committee.

First, the workshop is designed to respect and include a variety of diverse speakers (in terms of age, gender, representation of views, disability, geographical areas). It aims to explore the concept of multistakeholder digital governance and discuss different national and regional strategies for improving digital governance to shape the internet we aspire to have. The session will focus on engaging the diverse stakeholders to collaborate on policy developments and implementations. It is certainly a critical and timely topic within the context of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2024. In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, effective governance of the internet is crucial for shaping a safe, inclusive, and innovative online environment. The workshop seeks to delve into the concept of multistakeholder digital governance, emphasizing the need for collaboration among diverse stakeholders—governments, civil society, private sector, technical community, and academia—to collectively develop and implement policies that foster digital development while upholding rights and values for citizens and businesses. With respect to the topics, the speakers will give their input and ideas on the way forward, best practices and opportunities of collaboration among the sectors they are representing.

The significance of this workshop lies in its potential to catalyze meaningful dialogue and action around improving and advancing digital governance in order to move onto the next phase of a fair, neutral and safer internet. Furthermore, the workshop aims to identify concrete steps and collaborations that can enhance multistakeholder engagement in digital governance processes, thereby paving the way for more informed, equitable, and sustainable policies and practices in the digital realm.

*Apart from the confirmed speakers, we extended also an invitation to a female speaker from the global south who is expected to confirm in due course.

2. What will participants gain from attending your session?

Participants will have the following benefits:

- Enhanced awareness about the importance of multistakeholder approaches in shaping digital governance.
- Knowledge of what has already been done in different sectors and from different multi-stakeholder points of view, as well as the identification of key challenges and opportunities in achieving the desired internet governance framework.
- Insights regarding best practices and successful examples of multistakeholder collaboration in digital governance.
- Fostering the dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders and through the interactive session, the audience will have the chance to develop actionable policy recommendations for improving digital governance.

3. Policy Questions

*Please provide up to three policy questions to which your proposal responds.

- What is the status quo on society's trust (e.g. blocking, disinformation, impact of the elections, identity issues, technical parameters on open standards etc.) of the internet and what can be the concrete steps to improve it in the upcoming decade? (proposal of a 10 year plan)
- How will emerging technologies affect the digital future? are we ready for change? what is the role of the policy makers and what role can each of the stakeholders play in the transformation (in a collaborative sense)?

4. Expected Outcomes:

The expected outcomes are first of all to understand the challenges and risks in the digital environment based on the experiences of the panelists and through dialogue and a constructive workshop session to come up with collaborative ideas and concrete next steps for the Internet We Want.

Furthermore, it will be expected to have a more clear understanding of whether current governance models work, whether the society has increased their trust or what should be done to ameliorate or keep the standard of today's trust in the stakeholders and the governance models.

The workshop will come up with concrete measures for the future and policy recommendations for improving digital governance. These outcomes will be the subject of follow-up events or sessions in other multistakeholder fora (e.g. EuroDIG, EIF) and discussed in the relevant dynamic coalitions. The goal in the end of all these discussion rounds would be to publish the above mentioned 10 year plan as a white paper / recommendation.

Finally, the workshop will also lead to strengthened partnerships among stakeholders for collaborative action.

5. Workshop Title, Structure and Topics:

Room Layout: Roundtable

Session Duration: 60 minutes

- Introduction (5 minutes):

Welcome and introduction to the workshop objectives and theme.

Brief overview of multistakeholder digital governance and its significance and what has been done already.

- Panel Discussion (30-35 minutes):

Panelists representing diverse stakeholders (government, civil society, private sector, technical community, academia) will share insights and experiences on effective multistakeholder collaboration in digital governance.

Discussion topics may include:

Challenges faced in current digital governance frameworks.

Successful examples of multistakeholder initiatives.

Agreeing on common goals among the different stakeholders

Policy recommendations for enhancing digital governance.

- Interactive Session (15 minutes):

Open floor for questions, comments, and interactive discussions with workshop participants.

Audience engagement through polls, Q&A sessions, and breakout discussions.

- Wrap-Up and Conclusion (5 minutes):

Summary of key takeaways and insights from the panel discussion and interactive session.

Call to action for continued multistakeholder engagement in shaping the future of digital governance.

6. Tentative Speakers:

Moderator: Stefanie Efstathiou, EURid Youth Committee

Panelists:

Government / Policy:

Vessela Karloukovska

Policy officer, European Commission, Next generation Internet, Internet Governance and Multi-stakeholder Dialogue, DG CONNECT

Tech community / Private sector:

Georgios Stefanidis

LoRaWAN Expert & Co Founder at IoTech Telecommunications

Youth / Civil Society:

Christos Roumeliotis

Tech Entrepreneur, IEEE Representative, Recognized by Forbes 30 under 30

7. Workshop Logistics:

Moderator: Stefanie Efstathiou, EURid Youth Committee

Online Moderator: Joao Martins, EURid Youth Committee

Rapporteur: Paulo Glowacki, EURid Youth Committee

Co-organiser: Regina Fuchsova, EURid