



# Internet freedom

## From principles to global treaty law?

*content ... stakeholders ... form*

Council of Europe conference, Strasbourg, 18-19 April 2011



**Agora Building, Level 0, Room G3**

### Programme

**18 April**

- 08:45 – 9:30**      **Registration of participants**
- 9:30 – 9:45**      **Opening by Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe**
- 9:45 – 10:00**      **Welcoming remarks by Ambassador Daryal Batibay, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the Council of Europe, on behalf of the Committee of Ministers Chairmanship**
- 10:00 – 11:15**      **Panel 1: Internet freedom and universality – is the global free flow of information sustainable?**

**Moderator:**      **Mr Tim Suter, Managing Director, Perspective Associates**

**Description:**      There is general acceptance of the importance of access to and free flow of information on the Internet for ensuring the protection of freedom of expression across borders, preserving democracy and promoting economic growth and development. Interference with the free flow of Internet traffic in the form of filtering, surveillance or other practices is a reality. Cyber attacks are highly damaging and may be capable of breaking down the Internet. Companies that manage or service the Internet are not free from pressure or interference and their actions may have an impact on the public interest. Is the global free flow of information over the Internet sustainable?

**Panellists:** **Dr Daniel B Baer**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Department of State, United States of America; **Ms Birgitta Jónsdóttir**, Member of Parliament of Iceland; **Mr Carlos López Blanco**, Director of the International Office of Telefónica S.A; **Mr Jermyn Brooks**, Independent Chair of the Global Network Initiative; **Ms Erika Mann**, Board member of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers.

**11:15 – 11:45 Break**

**11:45 – 13:00 Panel 2: Multi-stakeholderism, a norm in search of policy**

**Moderator:** **Dr Milton L Mueller**, Syracuse University, School of Information Studies

**Description:** The significance and implications of multi-stakeholderism continue to be the subject of debate. There are multiple interpretations of this concept in the context of international public policy for the Internet. For some, it means consultation, involvement and participation; for others, participation and deliberation in a collaborative standard-setting process. The multi-stakeholder model is built into the governance processes of many Internet management entities and is the accepted method for Internet governance dialogue. What is the future of multi-stakeholder collaboration? Are there going to be new forms of international policy or law that will evolve out of these arrangements?

**Panellists:** **Prof Dr Luis Magalhães**, President of the Knowledge Society Agency, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education, Portugal; **Mr Alexander Ntoko**, Head, Corporate Strategy Division, ITU; **Mr Karim Antonio Lesina**, Executive Director, EMEA Government Affairs, AT&T; **Mr Izumi Aizu**, Institute for InfoSocinomics, Kumon Center, Tama University, Tokyo; **Mr Frédéric Riehl**, International Affairs Office, Federal Office of Communications, Switzerland.

**13:00 – 15:00 Lunch Break**

**15:00 – 15:15** Summary of morning discussions and introduction of topics for afternoon discussions: **Mr Wolfgang Kleinwächter**, Chairperson of the Council of Europe Ad hoc Advisory Group on Cross-Border Internet.

**15:15 -16:30 Panel 3: Internet governance principles**

**Moderator:** Ms Avri Doria, Luleå University of Technology

**Description:** Different proposals have been made for Internet governance principles which have some normative significance. They emphasise mostly the protection of rights and freedoms, Internet-engineering principles, multi-stakeholder participation and innovation. What do they imply for the future of international public policy-making for the Internet? This session will also discuss a draft declaration which is being prepared for possible adoption by the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on Internet governance principles.

**Panellists:** Dr Demi Getschko, CEO of the Brazilian Network Information Centre; Athina Fragkouli, Legal Counsel, RIPE NCC; Mr Jean-Jacques Sahel, Director, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Europe, Middle-East and Africa, Skype; Prof Dr Wolfgang Benedek, Director of the Institute of International Law and International Relations, University of Graz; Mr Olaf Kolkman, Director, NLnet Labs; Mr Giacomo Mazzone, Assistant Director General, European Broadcasting Union; Prof Alexander Borisov, Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO).

**16:30 – 17:45 Panel 4: International and multi-stakeholder cooperation on Internet resilience and stability**

**Moderator:** Ms Maeve Dion, University of Stockholm

**Description:** Risks of disruption to the stable and continuous functioning of the network, technical failures and interference with Internet infrastructure may challenge the exercise of fundamental rights and freedoms on the Internet across borders. The private sector takes systematic action to address vulnerabilities and risks. Computer emergency response teams engage in cross-border cooperation. Can we call this mission accomplished? Is there a need to acknowledge such cooperation in international law? This session will discuss how Internet resilience and stability are approached in different countries, what the best practices are and how to fill in the gaps. A draft recommendation on the protection and promotion of Internet's universality, integrity and openness, which is being prepared for possible adoption by the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers, will also be discussed.

**Panellists:** Mr Willy Jensen, Director General, Norwegian Post and Telecommunications Authority; Ms Shane Tews, Vice President, Global Public Policy and Government Relations, VeriSign, Inc.; Mr Hal Roberts, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University; Mr Leonid Todorov, Deputy Director for External Relations '.RU'; Mr Suleyman Anil, Head of the Cyber Defence Section, Emerging Security Challenges Division, NATO.

**17:45 - 18:00** Summary of discussions and closing of the first day:  
**Prof Dr Rolf H Weber**, Chair for International Business Law, University of Zurich

**19 April**

**9:00-10:30**      **Panel 5: International lawmaking in their respective roles and responsibilities**

**Moderator:**      **Mr Andrew Puddephatt**, Co-Director of Global Partners & Associates

**Description:**      It is generally accepted that a decentralised Internet infrastructure which is free from political or other undue interference contributes to achieving Internet freedom and universality. What are the most viable options for international action to ensure Internet freedom, universality, integrity and openness? Common principles and standards emerging from processes which involve corporations, civil society, lobbies and government officials? International law agreements? What are the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders?

**Panellists:**      **Mr Anton Battesti**, Policy Advisor, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; **Ms Theresa Swinehart**, Executive Director, Global Internet Policy, Verizon; **Dr William J Drake**, Media Change & Innovation Division, IPMZ, University of Zurich, Switzerland; **Ms Joanna Kulesza**, University of Lodz, Poland; **Ms Hong Xue**, Beijing Normal University (BNU).

**10:30 - 11:00**      **Break**

**11:00 - 12:00**      **Panel 6: What architecture for multi-stakeholder participation and policy-making?**

**Moderator:**      **Mr Bertrand de la Chapelle**, Program Director at the International Diplomatic Academy

**Description:**      Multi-stakeholder participation and policy-making best represent the interests of all concerned. They permit effective knowledge-sharing and consensus-building. Multi-stakeholder standards have been applied with a certain degree of success in the context of global rule-setting for corporate social responsibility. This session will discuss the modalities of multi-stakeholder participation and governance, including in an intergovernmental policy making setting.

**Panellists:**      **Ms Ana Amoroso Neves**, Head of International Affairs, Knowledge Society Agency, Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education Technology and Higher Education, Portugal; **Mr Parminder Jeet Singh**, Executive Director of IT for Change, India; **Mr Malte Ziewitz**, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford; **Ms Christine Runnegar**, Senior Manager Public Policy, Internet Society (ISOC).

**12:00 -12:30 Closing of the conference**

**Conclusions** by the Rapporteur, **Mr Andris Mellakauls**, Chairperson of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services

**Closing remarks** by **Mr Jan Kleijssen**, Director, Directorate of Standard-setting, Department of Human Rights and Legal Affairs of the Council of Europe