

MESSAGES FROM GENEVA

Council of Europe participation in the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) of the United Nations

United Nations, *Palais des Nations*, Geneva, 17-21 December 2017

IGF 2017 STATISTICS¹

- 2019 onsite participants, 231 sessions,
- 142 countries,
- 32 remote hubs, 1661 participating online.

IGF 2017 OUTCOME DOCUMENT

- "Geneva Messages"².

COUNCIL OF EUROPE DELEGATION

- Corina Călugăru, Thematic Coordinator on Information Policy (TC-INF), Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Republic of Moldova to the Council of Europe,
- Dragana Filipovic, Ambassador and Permanent Observer of the Council of Europe to the UN Office in Geneva,
- 15 staff members of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe, and 17 invited experts.

IMPACT

- **Optimal on-site communications:** (i) excellent placement of the Council of Europe booth/displayed documents, (ii) Council of Europe flyer received by approx. 2000 participants in their welcome bags, (iii) notable interest in the updated Internet Literacy Handbook, no hate speech movement and We Can! Manual, as well as Council of Europe publications on cyber-bullying, information disorder, and the data protection Committee "Privacy Guide for ICANN".
- **Excellent networking and follow-up with many stakeholders:** European Parliament, Twitter, Microsoft, Telefonica, OECD, OHCHR, UNESCO, UNICEF, Latin America responsible for privacy and data protection, ICANN, civil society, academics, and media from Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.
- **Opportunities to advance Council of Europe work for:** (i) new accessions to Convention 108 on data protection, (ii) awareness and participation in the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) especially on internet intermediaries, the work of the Youth Department, the fight against cybercrime with regard to the Cybercrime Convention, education for democratic citizenship especially the new reference framework of competences for democratic culture, the work of the Lanzarote Committee dealing with the rights of children in the digital environment including the draft Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on guidelines to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of the child in the digital environment.

COUNCIL OF EUROPE EVENTS AND PARTICIPATION

DIGITAL LITERACY AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION - Pre-event on Disruptive digital literacies in the era of data governance: addressing 'Generation Z', with and beyond education? Future of digital literacies and education with regard to data flows and their impact. At the forefront are Artificial Intelligence, Learning Analytics and the Internet of Things which makes data governance of critical

¹ <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2017-attendance-programme-statistics>

² <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2017-geneva-messages>

importance for everyone, in particular for the self-determination of 'Millennials' and the even younger 'Generation Z'³

INTERNET INTERMEDIARIES - Open forum on internet intermediaries - shared commitments and corporate responsibility. Dialogue with internet intermediaries concerning the protection of human rights for internet users. Discussion topics included the fairness of the terms of service agreements and internal policies to be applied, the accountability and transparency of internet intermediaries, the safeguards for privacy with regard to "dataveillance" and profiling, the safeguards for freedom of expression, and the legality and effectiveness of monitoring and filtering mechanisms to detect unlawful content and content prohibited by international law⁴

DEMOCRACY - High level session on The impact of digitisation on politics, public trust and democracy. Director Claudia Luciani presented the Council of Europe's latest reflections on democratic practice online with regard to the conclusions and recommendations of the 2017 World Forum for Democracy "Is Populism a Problem?"⁵

NO HATE SPEECH - Flash session: how counter narratives can help pluralistic democracy to flourish. Use of Counter Narratives as response to violent radicalization whereby both Counter and Alternative narratives can and should play an important role in the shaping of our digital futures and in addressing all expressions of hate, sexism and discrimination⁶

BIG-DATA, BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS - Open forum on big-data, business and human rights, by the Council of Europe, European Broadcasting Union, and the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Sustainable and responsible business on/via the Internet with regard to the management of (big-) data and respect for everyone's right to private and data protection in the knowledge that there is a growing technological ability to collect process and extract new and predictive knowledge from greater volumes, velocity, and varieties of data which can, in turn, impact on individuals and groups⁷

CYBERCRIME - Workshop on crime and jurisdiction in cyberspace: towards solutions, Wednesday. Criminal evidence - not only in relation to cybercrime but to any type of crime nowadays - which is available, often only available, in the form of electronic evidence on a computer system and on servers stored remotely in the cloud⁸

INTERNET LITERACY HANDBOOK - Flash session on the newly revised Internet Literacy Handbook. Internet Literacy Handbook as a useful tool in helping to navigate today's ever-increasing information flow. It provides beginners and adepts alike with handy tips on how to confidently and safely handle both the opportunities and risks of the internet⁹

YOUTH AND INTERNET GOVERNANCE - Workshop on youth participation in Internet governance. Participation of young people in shaping the internet can be ensured without reproducing and creating new patterns of discrimination and, equally, how can the internet support youth participation, association and expression in society¹⁰

³ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/digital-citizenship-education/home>

⁴ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression/internet-intermediaries>

⁵ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/world-forum-democracy>

⁶ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/no-hate-campaign/home>

⁷ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/data-protection/home>

⁸ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cybercrime/home>

⁹ <https://www.coe.int/en/web/children/the-digital-environment>

¹⁰ <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/youth/-/seminar-youth-participation-in-internet-governance>