COUNCIL OF EUROPE AT IGF 2018

The internet provides a free and open that can greatly facilitate the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, participatory and democratic processes, and social and commercial activities. In order to ensure a sustainable, people-centred and rights-based approach to the internet, the Council of Europe engages in setting and promoting standards, building partnerships and fostering multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Brief overview of events involving Council of Europe experts, held during the Internet Governance Forum Paris, 12-14 November 2018

Thematic Focus

Information Society

www.coe.int/freedomofexpression
www.coe.int/internetgovernance

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PLANNED EVENTS

OF19 Information disorder: exploring remedial potential
- 12 November, 09:00 to 10:00, Salle XII

Open forum on information disorder will explore the potential of a wide range of stake-holders to address information disorder from within their respective roles, as well as through joint projects and other forms of cooperation. The participants will be invited to discuss possible remedies that could be introduced by national governments, internet intermediaries, media organisations and civil society, and to reflect on the effects of such remedies. Special attention will be paid to initiatives fostering quality journalism and strengthening relations between citizens and their own language media.

WS 427 AI will solve all problems. But can it?
- 13 November, 09:00 to 10:30, Salle VII

The workshop will examine the applicability and effectiveness of AI tools to address different forms of "societal ills" online, from hate speech over disinformation campaigns to extremist content. Participants will debate with the help of experts whether, indeed, AI could help to solve these pressing challenges or not. Particular attention will be paid to freedom of expression, privacy and non-discrimination considerations. At the end of the session, participants will be asked to vote on the main question. An infographic will be created with a view to facilitating future policy debates.

Side event - Policy speed dating: children's rights in the digital environment - 13 November, from 14:00 to 15:00, the Council of Europe`s booth, (5 minute sessions)

Are you setting up policies or IT tools for children? Wondering how digital literacy, privacy rules and the protection of children online play out in the framework of your projects? Looking for advice and inspiration regarding children's rights in the digital environment? Do you have brilliant projects or ideas on this topic? We may not have all the answers, but we'd be happy to discover what you are doing and to give you insights from the Guidelines to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in the digital environment.

Lightning session: Convention 108+ in the Digital Era
- 13 November, 15:00 to 15:20

In today`s digitalised world nobody seems to disagree that individuals need to enjoy the same right online that they enjoy offline. However, when it comes to the protection of privacy and personal data there is no global consensus on how to ensure or to give back the control to individuals over their private life and their personal data. Can a minimum, yet appropriate and satisfactory level of privacy and data protection be reached in the Digital Era?

OF 5 Measuring a free, open, rights based and inclusive Internet - 13 November 2018, 16:10 to 17.10, Salle X

This Open Forum will build on UNESCO's work on Internet Universality indicators. Various stakeholders, including the Council of Europe, will reflect and exchange on how to use the Internet Universality indicators as a comprehensive tool, to enrich the stakeholders' capacity for assessing Internet development, broaden international consensus, and foster online democracy and human rights towards post-2015 WSIS implementation and achieving 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

WS 161 Information Disorders: Towards Digital Citizenship
- 13 November, 16.40- to 18:10, Salle XII

Information disorders have been rising with the emergence of social media and big data analytics and Artificial Intelligence. Their scope ranges from rumor to propaganda to cyber hybrid threats. They encompass issues of radicalization, hate speech and other forms of intimidation of populations. They potentially present risks for democratic processes and national sovereignty while presenting other societal costs that can undermine trust in the "information society". Governments, media, social media enterprises and individuals have to think and learn how to live in what some call "the post-truth era".

OF 31 Assessing hate speech and self-regulation, who and how? - 14 November, 9.00-10.00, Salle VII

In the backdrop of the EU 'Code of Conduct', and the German Network Enforcement Bill the representatives of NGO's, Google and Facebook will discuss possible modalities, opportunities and challenges of using self-regulation to assess complex reports of hate speech and decide on appropriate actions. Can it address the concerns and needs of Users, Internet Business and democratic society?

WS 182 Artificial Intelligence for Human Rights and SDGs
- 14 November, 11.20 to 12:50, Salle IV

Workshop will discuss why a multi-stakeholder, inclusive and open mechanism is needed to address some key issues surrounding Artificial Intelligence. The development and application of Artificial Intelligence technologies will profoundly shape humanity's access to information and knowledge, impact communication, foster open and inclusive knowledge societies. The Council of Europe will share its most recent experiences in addressing legal and ethical challenges posed by the proliferation of the AI systems.