

Internet Governance BAROMETER (APRIL 2019)

IG Barometer indicates the presence of specific IG issues in the public policy debate in comparison to the previous month

Global IG Architecture



same relevance

UNCTAD published new Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments for least developed countries, which analyse the barriers in each country.

Sustainable development



same relevance

Achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs) hinges on overhauling the national and international financial systems, according to the latest report of the UN Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development.

Security



increasing relevance

G7 foreign ministers adopt Dinar Declaration on the Cyber Norm Initiative.

Russia's State Duma (lower chamber) adopts law on stable operation of Runet, which should enable the country to disconnect its Internet traffic from foreign servers if needed.

E-commerce and Internet economy



increasing relevance

EU report calls for new antitrust rules for tech giants.

The European Parliament approves new online platform rules to curb unfair practices.

China consider shutting down the cryptocurrency mining operations.

Digital rights



- Wikileaks founder Julian Assange's political asylum is revoked by the Ecuadorian Embassy and is arrested by UK police.
- Facebook in new data scandal, after it harvested 1.5 million user e-mail addresses without consent.
- New report shows more than 500 million Facebook users' data exposed.
- UK data protection authority calls Facebook to drop appeal against fine for data breach.

Jurisdiction and legal issues



- EU Copyright Directive receives final approval.
- EU requests Facebook to reconsider ad rules for elections.
- Facebook to use AI and regional operation centers to tackle misinformation ahead of India's election.
- Facebook to foster the 'reduce, remove, inform' approach against fake news.
- Sri Lanka cuts social media access to prevent misinformation.
- Singapore to pass a bill tackling misinformation online.
- Australia passes strict intermediary liability law,
- UK governmental paper calls for an independent 'online harms' regulator.

Infrastructure



same relevance

Controversy over Huawei's 5G equipment wages on, amid leaks and possible investigations.

Google completes Curie cable from USA to Chile; investment in undersea cables by private companies continues.

Jamaica's Supreme Court declares biometric identity law unconstitutional.

European Parliament votes for a biometrics database, which will gather the identity and biometric records of over 350 million persons.

Net neutrality



decreasing relevance

New bill to restore net neutrality approved by US House of Representatives.

India: Increase in blocked websites despite net neutrality laws.

New technologies (IoT, AI, etc.)



increasing relevance

AI researchers sign letter calling Amazon to stop selling facial-recognition technology to law enforcement agencies.

EU High-Level Expert Group presents ethics guidelines for AI.

Google opens AI centre in Ghana.

Civil society asks US legislators to adopt IoT code of practice similar to UK's recently-published code.