



## REPORTING DAILY FROM THE 11th INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

[dig.watch/igf2016](http://dig.watch/igf2016)

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### Trinity of issues in Day 2 discussions

A triangular architecture – security, development, human rights – emerges from a zoomed-out view of issues discussed during Day 2. Data-mining and expert analysis point to the dominance of these three subjects in the IGF discussions.

This triangular architecture is the basis of many international and regional organisations. It is inspired by the main mandates of the UN to deal with security (and peace), development, and human rights. [↗](#)

The three groups of issues are functionally associated with the work of three committees of the UN General Assembly: first (security and disarmament), second (development), and third (human rights). These three committees are increasingly active in the digital policy field.

The analysis of 40+ workshops from Day 2 shows a wide range of issues discussed, with security, development, and human rights emerging as the dominant themes. This gave prominence to:

(a) Those issues that are typically associated with a specific area, such as privacy and freedom of expression falling under the Human Rights umbrella or cybercrime falling under the Security umbrella as represented by the end-points in the triangular diagram.

(b) Issues which are inherently interconnected are tackled from different angles. For example, the issue of violent extremism online



A sign language interpreter during one of the main IGF 2016 sessions.

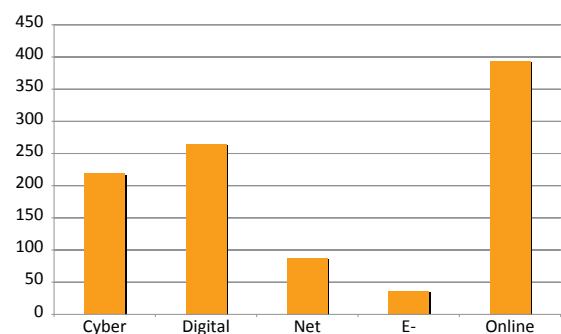
*Credit: Samantha Dickinson*

involves both a security aspect – anti-terrorism and extremism – and a human rights aspect – protection of freedom of expression. This inter-connection emerged in a few sessions, such as the session on Linking Connectivity, Human Rights and Development, [↗](#) which discussed the challenges brought about by the digital revolution, while recommending that human rights be integrated into the design of networked systems. Microsoft's Cloud for Global Good roadmap [↗](#) was one such example of this interdisciplinary approach, promoting principles for a trusted and inclusive cloud environment.

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## PREFIX MONITOR

The trinity landscape of IGF issues was reconfirmed by our prefix monitor analysis with the highest use of prefixes online (human rights), digital (development) and cyber (security). The high use of 'online' reflects intensive discussions on human rights and its increasing use as an adjective (e.g. online space, online media). The prefix 'digital' is being associated with civility, republic, and literacy, among others. In addition to cybersecurity and cybercrime, cyber is being associated with bullying and phobia. 'E-' barely remains as a digital monitor with e-readers and e-libraries. The prefix monitor is based on analysis of the 36 transcripts available by 5 AM this morning (CET). The complete prefix analysis will be available in the GIP's IGF Report, which will be published on Monday, 12th December.



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## Security

The discussions on cybersecurity took different trajectories. Most sessions on the Internet of Things (IoT) yesterday and throughout the week referred to security challenges, particularly following the recent major cyberattacks utilising smart devices. Yet, discussion at the IGF has not yet reflected the recent acceleration by authorities of the search to find regulatory solutions for ensuring that IoT devices are made more secure by being regularly patched and updated.

In turn, the IoT was discussed in the context of its potential benefits for developing countries, a trend which is being particularly noticed in this year's discussions. In *Harnessing IoT to Realise the SDGs: What's Required?*, speakers argued about the need for the IoT to be on the agendas of developing countries, with the caveat that some regions may not yet be ready to reap the full benefits. Policy priorities differ from region to region.

The session on *Law Enforcement, Cyberspace and Jurisdiction* covered the crossborder challenges of jurisdiction and mutual legal assistance, referring to the US government's recent court battle to access data held by Microsoft in Ireland.

Discussions on the protection of children online raised various issues related to the difficulty of identifying both the criminal and the victim, and other challenges which law enforcement agencies face in particular. Child online protection is being increasingly discussed also from a rights-based approach, bringing the issue closer to the area of digital rights online.

Combating violent extremism – another increasingly discussed issue this year – has a strong security element. As the speakers in *Free Expression and Extremism: An Internet Governance Challenge* noted however, efforts to combat extremism could lead to unwarranted censorship and human rights breaches.

## Development

The development aspect in digital policy is one of the widest-ranging areas. Yesterday's discussions tackled issues related to access, development of infrastructure and community networks, capacity development, and the availability of local content.

One speaker's comment – 'community networks do not mean that they are incompatible with business; on the contrary, we need business to make them sustainable' – brought the connectivity aspect closer to an economic area.

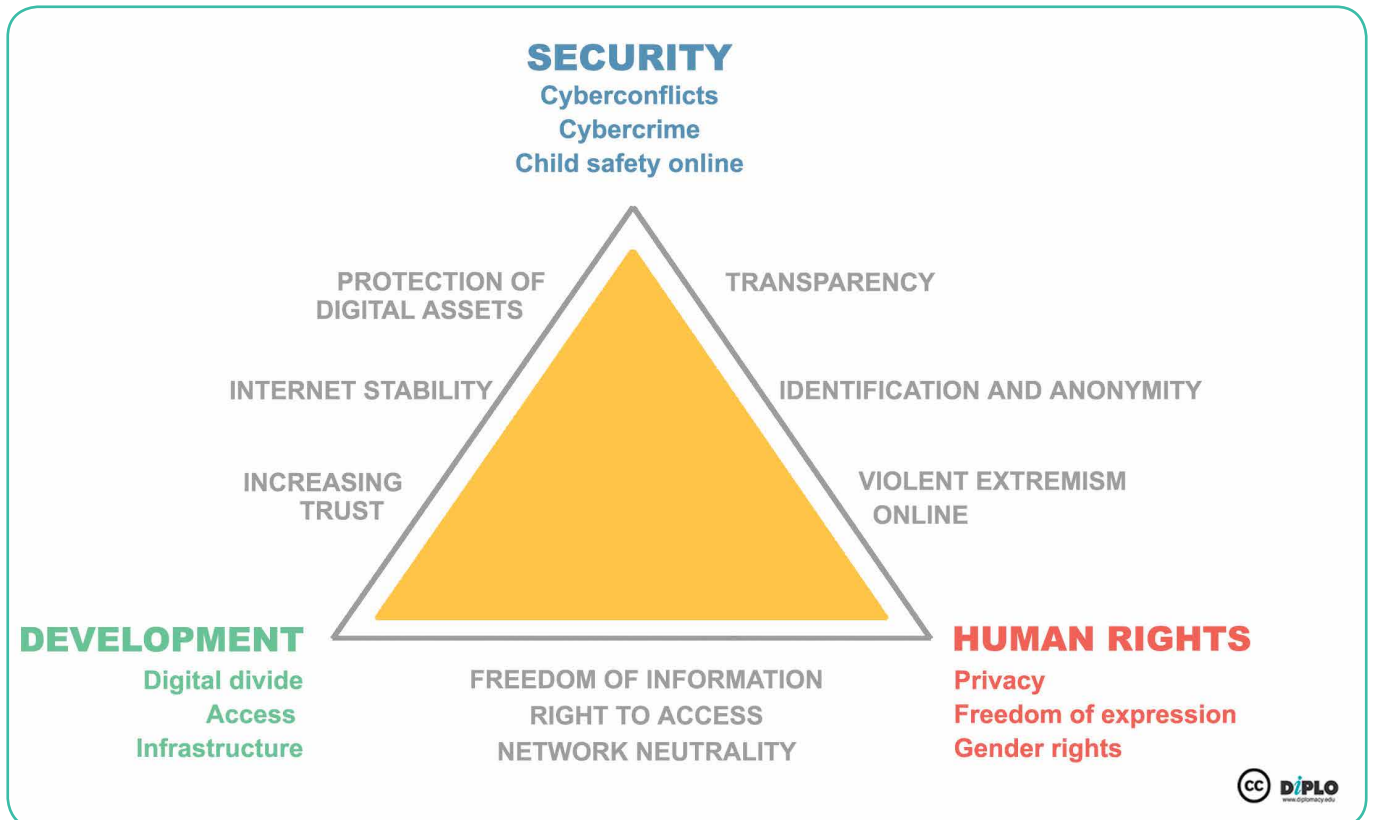
Empowering women to be connected, supporting accessibility for persons with disabilities and including indigenous people and minorities were discussed in the context of sustainable development and access. At the same time, the issues are also closely related to digital rights.

Issues related to net neutrality carry strong development and human rights arguments. Speakers during the session of the *Dynamic Coalition on Net Neutrality* stressed that any solutions that enable access or incentivise consumption of Internet resources must be compatible with human rights, including the free flow of information and the right to privacy.

## Human rights

'If you put a computer between two human beings, they tend to treat one another less civilly,' was how one speaker diagnosed the challenge arising from radicalisation, in *Free Expression and Extremism: An Internet Governance Challenge*. Preventing computer-facilitated radicalisation requires bottom-up work involving education, with the aim of fostering digital civility.

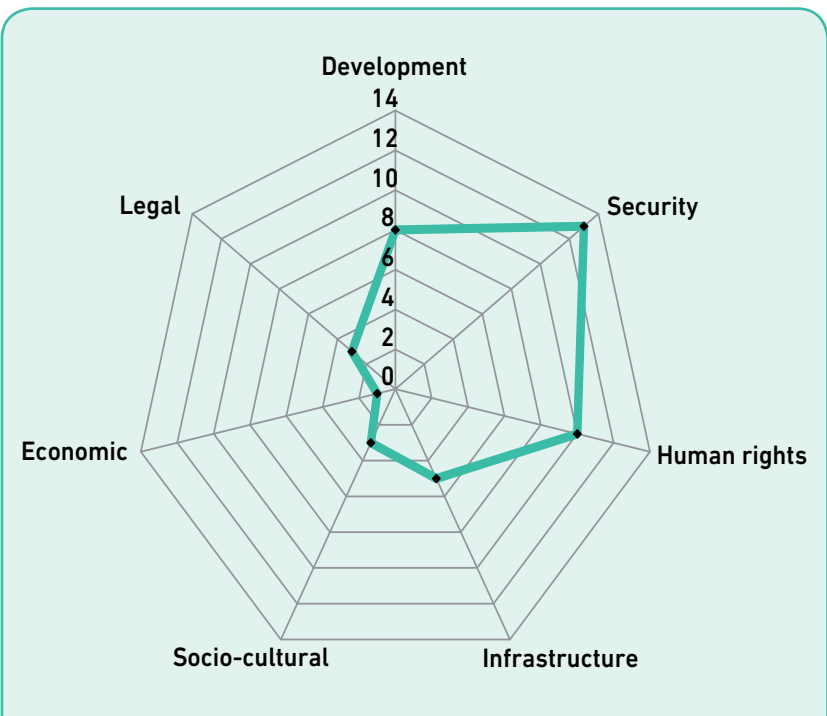
In the fight against violent extremism online, possible collateral damage could be freedom of expression online. Increasingly,



Internet intermediaries (ISPs and Internet companies) are under pressure to deal with this issue and decide what is acceptable content. According to a speaker in Free Expression and Extremism: An Internet Governance Challenge, intermediaries are starting to deal with the very delicate issue of freedom of expression. Although intermediaries have been fighting back, the extent of such responsibility is largely contentious.

A less contentious issue is the need to curb violence against journalists, activists, and bloggers. During the session of the Dynamic Coalition on Human Rights, speakers explained how journalists and human rights activists, and particularly women, are the most affected by defamation tactics, forms of online harassment, and death threats.

Decisions of national courts also have a bearing on human rights issues with far-reaching consequences, as the recent judgments on the right to be forgotten and the Safe Harbour framework have shown. In the absence of other possibilities, citizens are exercising their right to justice in Internet matters before national and regional courts. As the session on The Role of Judiciary Systems and Internet Governance explained, one major challenge relates to the courts' often-limited understanding of the specificities of digital policy. It is a growing challenge. The less Internet governance addresses citizens concerns, the more citizens will turn to courts to protect their rights online.



The majority of the sessions on Day 2 focused on security, development, and human rights – the UN's trinity of issues. Other areas were visible, but less prominent. The analysis was based on the IG taxonomy of 40+ issues clustered into 7 baskets.



**Any solutions that enable access or incentivise consumption of Internet resources must be compatible with human rights, including the free flow of information and the right to privacy**

## In conversation with...



The IANA stewardship transition has been in focus in recent months. The transition process, which started in March 2014, triggered a discussion on ICANN's accountability. We caught up with LEÓN SANCHEZ, co-chair of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability), to ask about the work that is currently taking place, and what to expect in the coming months.

*The largest part of the IANA stewardship transition process was finalised with the expiration of the contract between ICANN and the US government. But CCWG-Accountability continues to work on the second stream. Where are we, and what can we expect in the next few months?*

Work Stream 2 is the second phase of the CCWG's work on enhancing ICANN accountability. The topics under discussion are based on the report produced at the end of Work Stream 1, especially those topics that were not indispensable for the transition to take place. They were put aside to be further discussed in Work Stream 2.

The discussion in Work Stream 2 is now taking place in subgroups dedicated to the following issues: diversity, guidelines for good faith conduct, jurisdiction, ombudsman, reviewing the co-operative engagement process (an aspect of ICANN's Reconsideration and Independent Review Processes), accountability of ICANN supporting organisations and advisory committees, staff accountability, and transparency.

These subgroups have two different time frames: some of them are supposed to deliver their draft reports at the ICANN 58 meeting [in Copenhagen](#) [March 2017], and others at ICANN 59 in Johannesburg [November 2017].

*Several workshops this week are covering issues related to ICANN's accountability. Will CCWG-Accountability use these sessions to gather more input from the community and inform its work?*

Indeed, many sessions are dedicated to these topics. There was no pre-conceived plan to gather input here. Nevertheless, when the transcripts of these sessions are available, it is a good idea to go through them and collect views that will be useful to the CCWG Work Stream 2 subgroups. It is important to mention, however, that all reports produced in Work Stream 2 will go under a public comment period and interested stakeholders will have the chance to share their views.

*How can newcomers to the work of CCWG-Accountability become involved in the process?*

There are different types of newcomers who have different needs when it comes to capacity-building materials. Newcomers to ICANN should read the materials available on the website [and](#) get familiar with the structure of the organisation. It is handy to consult an acronyms dictionary as well. Newcomers to the CCWG discussions, more specifically, are encouraged to take a look at the report [produced](#) by Work Stream 1 and join the mailing list of the CCWG and of its subgroups [.](#)

*Learn more about the process on the GIP Digital Watch observatory.*

## DON'T MISS TODAY

### Fostering dialogue between Internet observatories and maps (Open Forum 37)

Thursday, 8th December, 09.00–10.00,  
Workshop Room 2 (PALCCO)

Internet observatories and maps have proliferated in recent years. They range in form and focus. However, they all share a common goal: to provide and share timely and accurate information and knowledge for different stakeholders. Continuing a conversation started at IGF2015, the open forum will tackle challenges and opportunities for co-operation vis-à-vis capacity building and education as well as policy-making within the Internet governance ecosystem at large. Particular attention will be given to the assessment of today's 'information-seeking environment' and on how to better serve the information-seeking needs of different users. [Learn more.](#)

### Launch of *An Introduction to Internet Governance* (7th ed.) and alumni get-together

Thursday, 8th December, 19.00 onwards,  
Bilateral Room 1 (PALCCO)

The 7th edition of *An Introduction to Internet Governance*, by GIP Head and Diplo Director Dr Jovan Kurbalija, will be launched in English and Spanish. The book provides a comprehensive overview of the main issues and actors in the field through a practical framework for analysis, discussion, and resolution of significant issues. The book also forms the basis for explanatory texts for each issue represented on the *GIP Digital Watch* observatory. A limited number of printed copies will be available for distribution at the GIP/Diplo booth with an electronic version available for download [.](#) The launch will be followed by a get-together for Diplo and GIP alumni and friends, and a family photo.

