

IGF 2016 OPEN FORUM Report

Session Title	Open Forum Germany
Date	Tuesday, September 6, 2016
Time	10.45 - 11.45
Session Organizer	German Federal Foreign Office / Peter Stentzler
Chair/Moderator	Prof. Wolfgang Kleinwächter
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Prof. Wolfgang Kleinwächter
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	<p>Constanze Bürger, German Federal Ministry of the Interior. Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>Lorena Jaume-Palasi, Secretary of the German IGF-D Steering Committee</p> <p>Prof. Michael Rotert, Chair of the German Internet Economy Association (Eco). Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>Thomas Grob, Deutsche Telekom. Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>Dr. Jörg Schweiger, CEO of DENIC. Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>Prof. Jeanette Hofmann, Humboldt Institut Internet & Society. Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>Matthias Spielkamp, iRights. Steering Committee, German IGF</p> <p>David Krystof, Youth IGF Germany. Steering Committee, German IGF</p>
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	Multistakeholder Internet Governance Cooperation on the national level in Germany after the establishment of a Multistakeholder Steering Group for the German IGF. The Steering Group was established in February 2016.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation	The speakers presented their experiences and expectations for a multistakeholder Internet Governance cooperation in Germany from their stakeholder perspective. The steering committee has 26 members, representing seven stakeholder groups (national parliament, national government, business, technical community, academic community, civil society and youth) with four members for each stakeholder group plus two youth delegates from the Youth German IGF.
Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The key issue in the discussion was how to enhance governance mechanisms (cooperation / self-regulation and multistakeholderism) either within the stakeholder groups or among the stakeholder groups in preparing a national IGF and how to produce reasonable input and output. 2. Mechanisms to channel the national outputs both into the regional and the global IGF from a national perspective and to report back from global and regional IGFs into the national agenda. 3. A national agenda for Internet Governance has to include both the broad spectrum of public policy issues (including cybersecurity, digital economy and human rights) as well as technical issues and the interlinkage between the two layers.
Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The private sector and the technical community pleaded to keep using the German IGF model to produce concrete output similar to the German joint statement on the IANA transition. 2. Another concrete proposal discussed in the Open Forum was the draft by a few experts from diverse constituencies of a European Charter for Digital Rights, which was presented on December 5, 2016 to the LIBE Committee of the European Parliament by a number of German experts. This initiative is subject to intense discussion within Germany

	<p>with 2 NGOs from the Steering Committee of the German IGF rejecting the proposal — as well as few German digital Ministries rejecting the proposal. One participant (Eileen Donahoe, Human Rights Watch) proposed to put such ideas into the context of existing human rights and to find a middle ground where on the one hand the existing human rights are confirmed and strengthened (as done by the UN Human Rights Council) but on the other hand to give also room for an enhanced interpretation of the existing rights to meet the new challenges and issues of the digital age which were unknown when the UN conventions were drafted.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. The German Government has decided to fund a new research institute with public funding that is supposed to cover the topic of Internet and society. Diverse consortia are running as candidates to receive the funding and focus more on societal issues with a digital dimension.4. Moreover the Federal Ministry of the Interior is working on a multistakeholder basis together with other I* entities on security standards and discussing the ethics of code.5. With regards to Internet governance, German academia (Prof. Dr. Jeanette Hofmann and Dr. Julia Pohle, from the Berlin Social Science Center), established a new comparative research topic “national Internet politics” that is looking closer at how politics with a digital dimension is being managed locally. There are future plans to work comparatively with other countries.6. The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development is also supporting NGOs (IGF Academy) to use the multistakeholder approach and the creation of national IGFs to enhance freedom of expression in autocracies and sees in the IGF mechanisms a concrete method to address human rights issues in an open and inclusive way.7. German NGOs (Amnesty, Reporters without Borders, DGVN and Verdi) are working towards capacity building and access either overall or particularly with regards to encryption as well as export controls on dual use technologies.8. Diverse German citizens with different projects both locally or globally presented their projects as contributions to the IG ecosystem (Sandra Hoferichter from EUROSSIG a global school on IG issues, Paul Fehlinger from the Internet and Jurisdiction project a global multistakeholder policy network and Jutta Croll from both the German Center for Child Protection on the Internet and the Digital Opportunities Foundation, the latter one working on connecting and empowering the next billion). Jutta Croll also suggested developing a tighter connection with the German IGF.
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