**Internet Governance Forum 2025 | Parliamentary Track**

***Building Digital Governance Together***

*PROGRAMME*

## CONTEXT

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As a multi-stakeholder platform, the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) brings together over 10,000 participants each year, facilitating the discussion of public policy issues pertaining to digital technologies on and off the internet.

This year, Norway is hosting the 20th Internet Governance Forum (IGF 2025), to be held on **23–27 June 2025 in Lillestrøm** under the overarching theme *Building Digital Governance Together*. With over 100 scheduled sessions, the programme will be structured around the following four sub-themes:

- [Building] Digital Trust and Resilience
- [Building] Sustainable and Responsible Innovation
- [Building] Universal Access and Digital Rights
- [Building] Digital Cooperation

Since 2019, the IGF has actively involved MPs from around the world, providing an important platform for exchanging views and strengthening digital cooperation both within the parliamentary community and with representatives from the private sector, the technical community and civil society, including youth and academia. Through a dedicated Parliamentary Track, and in collaboration with numerous IGF partners, the Forum organizes a set of activities in the lead-up to and at the annual IGF meeting.

The Parliamentary Track at IGF 2025 takes place on 23–25 June. It is jointly organized by the IGF Secretariat, which is hosted within the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and by the host country's parliament, in this case the Parliament of Norway (the Storting). The IGF welcomes the participation of all interested MPs and parliamentary staff, especially those working in relevant parliamentary committees or on digital affairs and internet policy issues.

## TOPICAL OVERVIEW OF THE PARLIAMENTARY TRACK

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Under the overarching theme *Building Digital Governance Together*, the Parliamentary Track at IGF 2025 will explore the development and implementation of digital public policies that aim to counter online mis- and disinformation while upholding the fundamental right to freedom of expression. With a particular focus on safeguarding vulnerable groups, especially children, the discussions will examine regulatory approaches, platform accountability and the balance between content moderation and democratic freedoms. MPs will engage with experts to consider innovative, rights-based frameworks that promote a safer, more inclusive digital environment.

The Parliamentary Track sessions will be interactive and engaging, providing numerous opportunities for MPs to hear from, and share their perspectives with, participating stakeholders and fellow parliamentarians.

In summary, the Parliamentary Track at IGF 2025 will pursue the following aims:

- Build on the outcomes of the Parliamentary Track at IGF 2024
- Foster rich conversations through multi-stakeholder panels
- Identify parliamentary priorities and ways to build capacity and take action on these priorities

## OUTPUT
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The key messages that emerge from the Parliamentary Track discussions will be captured in an action-oriented document that will serve as one of the formal outputs of IGF 2025.

The Parliamentary Track output document will be circulated to all parliaments and incorporated into the IGF summary report, which will inform UN Member States and IGF stakeholders.

Parliamentary Track output documents from previous IGFs can be accessed here.

## PARTICIPATION
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Parliamentarians and their staff attending in person must register via the dedicated IGF 2025 INDICO registration platform. Upon approval of their registration request, they will receive a digital badge.

Participants attending online can join sessions via Zoom. Details will be published in the IGF 2025 scheduling app. Please visit the IGF website and the host country's IGF 2025 website for more information.

As well as participating in the IGF Parliamentary Track, MPs are also encouraged to explore and actively take part in other IGF sessions. Suggested sessions can be found in the Annex below.

## VISIT TO THE STORTING AND RECEPTION
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The programme will include a visit to the Storting to learn more about the parliament's work on artificial intelligence and democracy. The visit will be followed by a reception hosted at the Storting.

MPs who register for IGF 2025 by 1 June 2025 using the link given above will receive a separate invitation to the event at the Storting.

The Storting will provide a bus shuttle, which will depart from the IGF 2025 venue at 16:00 (CEST) on 23 June 2025.

Due to limited capacity, only one staff member per delegation can participate in the visit.

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| PARLIAMENTARY TRACK CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES |
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| **Date and time (all times in CEST)** | **Focus** |
| **Day 0 – Monday, 23 June 2025** | |
| 09:00−09:30 | Arrival and welcome coffee |
| 09:30−09:45<br><br>*Studio N* | [Opening] **IGF Parliamentary Track: Welcome and introduction**<br><br>Participants will be welcomed to the 7th IGF Parliamentary Track and the 20th IGF. The introductory remarks will inform attendees about how to best engage in IGF processes, as well as highlighting past achievements of the Parliamentary Track and showcasing what is to be expected at IGF 2025.<br><br>**Speakers**:<br>• **Chengetai Masango,** Head of Office, IGF Secretariat<br>• **Andy Richardson**, Information Specialist, Inter-Parliamentary Union<br>• **Sigbjørn Gjelsvik**, Chair of the Standing Committee on Transport on Communications, Member of Parliament, Norway |
| 09:45−11:00<br><br>*Studio N* | [Parliamentary session 1] **Digital deceit: The societal impact of online mis- and disinformation**<br><br>Online mis- and disinformation has emerged as one of the most pressing societal challenges, with the potential to undermine trust in elections and deepen social polarization. This session will provide an overview of the current state of play and emerging trends, the mechanisms by which misleading content is propagated online, and the policy responses deployed around the world. It will bring together experts from civil society, the private sector, the media and the technology community to discuss successful approaches to building a healthy information ecosystem, as well as effective legislative responses.<br>**Speakers**:<br>• **Lindsay Gorman,** Managing Director and Senior Fellow of the Technology Program at the transatlantic German Marshall Fund of the United States (*virtual*)<br>• **Camille Grenier,** Executive Director of the Forum on Information and Democracy<br>• **Marjorie Buchser**, Senior Consultant, Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists, UNESCO<br>• **Dominique Hazaël-Massieux**, Vice President of Global Impact, W3C |

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| | • **Tateishi Toshiaki**, Japan Internet Providers Association<br>• **Abdelouahab Yagoubi**, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and Rapporteur on Artificial Intelligence from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), Algeria<br><br>**Moderator**:<br>• **Charlotte Scaddan**, Senior Adviser on Information Integrity, UN Department on Global Communications |
| 11:00–11:30 | Coffee break |
| 11:30–13:00<br><br>*Studio N* | [Parliamentary session 2] **Striking the balance: Upholding freedom of expression in the fight against cybercrime**<br><br>As online criminal activities increase in scope and sophistication, efforts to combat cybercrime continue to evolve. Recent legislative initiatives in this area have focused on targeting misinformation and other misconduct online. However, laws on content regulation, surveillance and platform liability can pose serious risks to freedom of expression and access to information. Experts from the media, the private sector, law enforcement, and technical and intergovernmental organizations will provide a holistic view of this complex policy landscape and explore how policymakers can navigate the delicate balance between ensuring cybersecurity and upholding fundamental human rights, especially the right to freedom of expression.<br><br>**Speakers**:<br>• **Paul Ash**, Chief Executive Officer, Christchurch Call Foundation<br>• **Cagatay Pekyour**, Head of Community Engagement & Advocacy, Meta<br>• **Pavel Popescu**, Vice President, ANCOM<br>• **Ashley Sauls,** Member of Parliament, South Africa<br>• **Mallory Knodel**, Executive Director of Social Web Foundation, member of the Global Encryption Coalition<br><br>**Moderator**:<br>• **Bjørn Ihler**, Founder and CEO of Revontulet & Co-Founder and Director of the Khalifa Ihler Institute |
| 13:00–14:00 | Lunch break |
| 14:00–15:30<br><br>*Plenary Hall* | [Parliamentary round table in the IGF plenary] **Safeguarding democracy in the digital age: Legislative priorities and policy pathways**<br><br>Citizens need to have confidence in the system and institutions of democracy, including electoral processes. However, trust is deteriorating with the rapid |

spread of misinformation through digital technologies. This session brings together legislators from all regions of the world to highlight risks undermining the integrity of democratic processes, to exchange good practices on strengthening institutional resilience against misinformation, and to discuss lessons learned from diverse regulatory approaches to preserve information integrity.

**Introductory Remarks from:**
- Junhua LI, Under-Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Martin Chungong, Secretary-General, Inter-Parliamentary Union (*virtual*)

**Speakers**:
- **Zafar Alizoda**, Member of Parliament, Tajikistan
- **Marsha Caddle**, Member of Parliament, Barbados
- **Grunde Almeland**, Member of Parliament, Norway
- **Rebecca Bauer-Kahan**, Assembly Member, State of California, United States of America
- **Catherine Mumma**, Senator, Kenya

**Moderator**:
- **Nikolis Smith**, Founder and President, StratAlliance

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| 16:00−16:45 | Transfer to the Storting |
| 17:00−18:30 <br><br> *The Storting* | [Visit and reception at the Storting] **The Storting's work on artificial intelligence**, *followed by a reception for MPs and one staff member per delegation* <br><br> On the occasion of the parliamentary track of the Internet Governance Forum 2025, the Storting (Norwegian Parliament) hosts an event for invited participants on Monday, 23 June from 17.00 to18.30. <br><br> The event will start with an introduction in English to the parliament's work on transparent Artificial Intelligence and its importance for democratic accountability. This will be followed by a reception. The Storting will provide bus transport from the IGF conference venue at Lillestrøm directly to the Parliament in Oslo city centre. <br><br> Delegates to this event must be pre-registered. <br><br> Inquiries about the event can be sent to the Storting at: reception@stortinget.no |

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| | • Welcome remarks by Mr. Svein Harberg, First Vice-President of the Storting, followed by an introduction on the importance of transparent AI for democratic accountability (17:00−17:30)<br>• Reception (17.30−18.30) |
| **Day 1 – Tuesday, 24 June 2025** | |
| 09:00−10:30<br><br>*Studio N* | [Parliamentary session 3] **Click with care: Protecting vulnerable groups online**<br><br>The digital space offers significant opportunities to every connected person to express themselves, and to access online information and services. A combination of evolving social, structural and technological factors exposes vulnerable groups − such as children, people with disabilities and marginalized communities − to a range of online threats including cyberbullying and algorithmic discrimination. Protecting the most vulnerable in society against these threats demands targeted, inclusive and enforceable policy responses. This session will explore current legislative gaps, propose online safety frameworks and examine good practices in regulation and platform accountability to ensure a safer digital space for all.<br><br>**Speakers:**<br> o **H.E. Teo Nie Ching**, Deputy Minister of Communications<br> o **Arda Gerkens**, President of the Regulator online Terrorist and Child Sexual Abuse Material, Netherlands<br> o **Sandra Maximiano**, President of ANACOM, Portugal<br> o **Raoul Danniel Abellar Manuel**, Member of Parliament, the Philippines<br> o **Neema Iyer**, Founder and Advisor, Pollicy<br> o **Nighat Dad,** Founder of the Digital Rights Foundation and Member of Meta Oversight Board<br><br>**Moderator**:<br> o **Alishah Shariff,** Policy and Public Affairs Lead, Nominet |
| 10:30−13:30 | Coffee break and opening of IGF 2025 |
| 13:30−15:00<br><br>*Studio N* | [Parliamentary session 4] **From dialogue to action: Advancing digital cooperation across regions and stakeholder groups**<br><br>Building on the outputs of the 2024 IGF Parliamentary Track and the discussions held so far in 2025, this multi-stakeholder consultation will bring together MPs and key digital players to reflect on how to operationalize concrete, inclusive and collaborative policymaking efforts. All groups will be |

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| | invited to propose cooperative approaches to building digital governance and identify practical steps for sustaining cooperation beyond the IGF.<br><br>**Moderator**:<br>• **Jennifer Chung**, DotAsia |
| 15:00−15:30 | Coffee break |
| 15:30−16:30<br><br>*Studio N* | [Parliamentary session 5] **Parliamentary exchange: Enhancing digital policy practices**<br><br>In this session, MPs will exchange current practices in their respective parliaments that aim at contributing to a healthy information ecosystem and upholding freedom of expression, while protecting citizens, including the most vulnerable, from online harms. All participating parliamentarians will be invited to share their experiences and contribute approaches to combating false and harmful content and ensuring safer digital spaces – both those that have worked and those that have proved less effective. Through peer learning and discussion, the concluding session of the Parliamentary Track will aim to foster collaboration and inspire actionable solutions across jurisdictions.<br><br>**Speakers**:<br>• **Franco Metaza**, Member of Parliament of Mercosur<br>• **Tsvetelina Penkova,** Member of the European Parliament<br>• **John Kiarie**, Member of Parliament, Kenya<br><br>**Moderator**:<br>• **Sorina Teleanu**, Director of Knowledge, DiploFoundation |
| 16:30−17:00<br><br>*Studio N* | [Closing] **Closing remarks and key messages from the Parliamentary Track** |

## ANNEX

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MPs are encouraged to actively participate in other IGF 2025 sessions and contribute their views to the discussions.

The IGF Secretariat has compiled a list of sessions organized by IGF stakeholders who aim to involve parliamentarians in their discussions. MPs may wish to consider these suggestions when building their programme outside of the Parliamentary Track sessions.

The overall IGF programme includes over 150 sessions and is available both on the IGF 2025 website and in the scheduling app.

| SUGGESTED SESSIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS | |
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| **Date and time (all times in CEST)** | **Focus** |
| **Monday, 23 June 2025** | |
| 09:30−13:00 *Studio N* | [Parliamentary Track sessions] |
| 14:00−15:30 *Plenary Hall* | [Parliamentary round table in the IGF plenary] |
| 16:00 onward *Storting building, Karl Johans gt. 22, 0026, Oslo* | [Visit and reception at the Storting] |
| **Tuesday, 24 June 2025** | |
| 09:00−10:30 *Studio N* | [Parliamentary Track sessions] |
| 11:00−12:30 *Plenary Hall* | [IGF 2025 opening ceremony] |
| 12:30−13:30 | Lunch break |
| 13:30−17:00 *Studio N* | [Parliamentary Track sessions and closing] |
| **Wednesday, 25 June 2025** | |
| 09:00−11:00 *Studio N* | [Collaborative Session] Foundations of AI & Cloud Policy for Parliamentarians and Public Officials: an AI Sprinters workshop **Organizers**: |

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| | In partnership with Google & Interparliamentary Union, with the support of the IGF Secretariat. |
| 14:45−15:45<br>*Workshop Room 1* | [Open Forum #17] AI regulation: Insights from parliaments<br>**Organizers:**<br>● IPU<br>● UNDP<br>● UNESCO |
| 19:00 onward | IGF Music Night |
| **Thursday, 26 June 2025** | |
| 13:15 - 14:30<br>*Workshop Room 6* | [Open Forum #37] Digital and AI regulation in La Francophonie : An inspiration and global good practice?<br>**Organizers:**<br>● Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie<br>● Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie |
| 16:00 − 17:00<br>*Workshop Room 2* | [Open Forum #73] It's not just the tech: addressing barriers to Indigenous language technology and AI uptake<br>**Organizers:**<br>● Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, Norway<br>● The Sami Parliament<br>● The National Task Force of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages<br>● UNESCO |