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Hong Kong Youth Internet Governance Forum 2018

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**Final Report**

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## 2. Background

While young people use ICTs in everyday life, many are unaware of the importance of Internet governance. We see that the social implications of ICTs are not yet adequately integrated into mainstream education. Hence NetMission.Asia is devoted to promoting youth participation of internet governance and digital inclusion through various capacity-building programmes following the model of youth teaching other youth.

In 2010, NetMission Ambassadors initiated the annual Youth Internet Governance Forum (yIGF) in Hong Kong in conjunction with the inaugural Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) for the youth in Asia-Pacific to voice out their opinions on Internet Governance. It also serves the purpose of empowering youth to further engage themselves and their peers into immediately relevant and critical Internet Issues. The youth initiatives was then continued in Hong Kong as NetY Program and iCity Program respectively in the subsequent years.

In 2016, NetMission Ambassadors reintroduced the Hong Kong Youth Internet Governance Forum, specifically for high school students. It is our goal to engage teenagers to take part in the advocacy of internet governance issues in a local context. We believe that by developing a sense of digital citizenship from a young age youth can have the awareness to critically evaluate the way they use ICTs, and spread that capacity to their peers and further youth engagement in internet governance.

## 3. Vision

Establish the Youth IGF Hong Kong as a sustainable annual platform for young generations to speak up on Internet Issues that concern them

- Gain recognition of the Youth IGF Hong Kong among students & schools and further develop local and regional Internet Governance discussion networks

#### 4. Organizer – Ambassador of NetMission.asia



The NetMission Ambassadors Program is a non-profit initiative that engages and empowers university students from Hong Kong.

Ambassadors are given the skills and knowledge to participate in Internet Governance discourse; and to further build the capacity of other youth in Asia so their voices may also be heard.

Ambassadors have the opportunity to participate in local, regional, and international conferences, and themselves organise conferences and training activities for other youth.

Since the program was started in 2009, NetMission Ambassadors have regularly attended international Internet Governance conferences, including the United Nations International Governance Forum, ICANN, Asia Pacific Internet Governance Forum etc. NetMission Ambassadors have also played a leadership role in regional and local youth events, including the Asia Pacific Youth Internet Forum, Asia Pacific Internet Governance Academy, and starting the Hong Kong Youth Internet Governance Forum in 2016, 2017.

#### 5. Supporting Organisation – DotAsia Organisation



DotAsia Organisation is a not-for-profit organisation with a mission to promote Internet development and adoption in Asia.

DotAsia has a strong mandate for socio-

technological advancement initiatives including: (a) digital inclusion projects to bridge the digital divide and the poverty gap; (b) educational initiatives, e.g. scholarships and promotion of Internet adoption for the advancement of knowledge, etc.; and, (c) research and development projects, including relief and rebuild efforts in the wake of natural and otherwise disasters.

DotAsia oversees the '.Asia' top-level Internet domain name, and is formed as an open consortium of 20 official top-level-domain authorities around the region, including .CN (China), .JP (Japan), .KR (Korea), .IN (India), .NZ (New Zealand), .PH (Philippines), etc., and 5 regional Internet organizations including APNIC, APNG, APCERT, PAN and APTLD. In the past two decades Asia has developed into a global force in the commercial, political and cultural network. The .Asia domain aspires to embrace this dynamism in the Asia Century to become a nucleus, intersection and breeding ground for Internet activity and development in the region.

## 6. Organising Committee List

<b>Student Leader</b>	
Choi Pak Yin Edward	Government and Public Administration, Faculty of Social Science, Year 1, the Chinese University of Hong Kong

<b>Joint Student Team Members</b>	
Choy Sun Mong Nozomi	Journalism and Communication, Faculty of Social Science, Year 2, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Christian Karlos E. Pua	Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Liberal Studies Education, Faculty of Liberal Arts and Social Science, Year 2, the Education University of Hong Kong
Chan Yeuk Hang Erin	International Journalism, Faculty of Communication, Year 3, Hong Kong Baptist University
Lau Kin Yu Samuel	BEd(Chinese History), Year 1, The Education University of Hong Kong
Chiu Wing Ying Joyce	Bachelor of Laws, Faculty of Law, Year 1, the University of Hong Kong
Lai Tsz Pui Jason	Faculty of Science, PhD final year, the University of Hong Kong

Lee Tin Sum	BSSc in Global Studies (4-Year), Faculty of Social Science, Year 1, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Rajat Jain	BEng, Faculty of Engineering, Year 1, the University of Hong Kong
Chung Oi Yan	Journalism and communication, Faculty of Social Science, Year 2, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Dmitry Kuznestov	Master of Arts in Global Communication, Faculty of Social Sciences, Year 1, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Lui On Ni	Bachelor of Business Administration and Law, Faculty of Business and Finance, Year 1, the University of Hong Kong
Lai Ho Tin	Journalism and Communication, Faculty of Social Science, Year 4, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Ming Yip	Bachelor of Laws, Faculty of Law, Year 4, the Chinese University of Hong Kong
Chan Ka Hei, Ricky	Biomedical Sciences, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, Year 4, The University of Hong Kong
Liang Nicole Zhuoyi	Law, Faculty of Law, Year 4, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

## 7. Guests List

Guest Name	Title
Albert wong	Chairman of Association of I.T. Leaders in Education
Lokman TSUI	Assistant Professor of School of Journalism and Communication
Nickey Khemchandani	CTO & CO-FOUNDER of BSD Academy
Edmon CHUNG	CEO of DotAsia Organisation
Joyce Chiu	NetMission Ambassador
Silver Ng	NetMission Ambassador

## 8. Participants List

Name in English	Name in Chinese	School Name
HO Hou Yeung	何皓暘	Sing Yin Secondary School
WONG Wai Kit	黃偉杰	Sing Yin Secondary School
FUNG Man Ching	馮旻淨	Cumberland Presbyterian Church Yao Dao Secondary School
Faith LEE	李思	Chinese International School
CHAN Mei Yee	陳美儀	New Territories Heung Yee Kuk Yuen Long District Secondary School
IONG Po Yan	容寶欣	Leung Shek Chee College
TANG Ka Huen	鄧家烜	Pok Oi Hospital Tang Pui King Memorial College
KWAN Lok Chung Tiffany	關樂頌	Pak Kau College
LI Chuen Chin	李川芊	Diocesan Girls' School
YEUNG Wing Yat	楊穎一	Carmel Pak U Secondary School

SHUM Cheuk Yee	沈卓頤	Shatin Methodist College
CHAN Wai To	陳偉滔	QualiEd College
YEUNG Wan Yan	楊尹欣	Good Hope School
FENG Yalei	馮雅蕾	St. Mary's Canossian College
TSOI Yik Ying	蔡奕瑩	Chiu Lut Sau Memorial Secondary School
LAM Hung	林紅	Carmel Pak U Secondary School
NG Nga Lui	吳雅蕾	St. Paul's Secondary School
YIP Po Hang	葉保亨	Sing Yin Secondary School
WONG Kwun Hung	黃冠雄	Sing Yin Secondary School
Leo Clement	黃耀男	Homantin Government Secondary School
WU Chun Yin	胡濬彥	Carmel Pak U Secondary School
MA Ching Yu	馬正宇	Pok Oi Hospital Chan Kai Memorial College
LAM Chak Wing	林澤穎	Kiangsu-Chekiang College (Kwai Chung)
LAM Hung	林紅	Carmel Pak U Secondary School
CHENG Hui Wai	鄭曉蔚	Pak Kau College
Shannon YUEN	袁燦怡	Li Po Chun United World College / Global Citizen Year
HO Yu Him	何裕謙	Maryknoll Fathers' School
CHEUNG Ka Lok	張家樂	Sing Yin Secondary School
WONG Yee Lam	黃以琳	TWGHs Lo Kon Ting Memorial College
LUI Sze Kwan	呂思坤	Tang Hin Memorial Secondary School
WONG Tung Tung	王東東	Christian Alliance Cheng Wing Gee College

LEE Tsz Kiu	李子翹	Sing Yin Secondary School
LAM Wing Fung	林穎鋒	Sing Yin Secondary School
CHAO Ming Sum, Henry	曹銘心	Ying Wa College
CHAN Ying Shue	陳映澍	Ying Wa College
FUNG Kai Yi	馮佳怡	Christian Alliance Cheng Wing Gee College
LEUNG Yam Hong	梁蔭康	Sing Yin Secondary School
LEUNG Pak Kei	梁柏琦	SKH Bishop Baker Secondary School
NG Wing Ki	吳穎琪	Hong Kong True Light College

## 9. Actual Timeline

Date	Activities	Venue
Feb 2018	Research and development of ToolKit	-
Mar ~ Jun 2018	Final editing of ToolKit	-
13 May 2018	Application Open	-
23 June 2018	Application close	-
Late-June 2018	Publishing of ToolKit	
7 - 8 July 2018	Netizen Boot Camp	YIA, CUHK
21 July 2018	Youth Internet Summit and the announcement of the HKYIGF ambassadors	YIA, CUHK
20 Aug 2018	Final Stage of HKYIGF – Submission of Report and Reflection	-
Mid Sep 2018	Publishing of ToolKit for HKYIGF Ambassadors	-
12 – 14 Dec 2018	Internet Governance Forum 2018	<b>UNESCO in Paris</b>

## 10. Program Agenda

### a. Netizens Bootcamp

<b>Date</b>	7 – 8 July 2018
<b>Venue</b>	Room 405, Yasumoto International Academic Park, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Day 1 – 7 July 2018	
12:45 – 13:00	Registration
13:00 – 13:15	Welcoming Remarks & Briefing
13:15 – 14:00	Ice-breaking Games
14:00 – 14:15	<b>Guest Sharing:</b> Introduction to Internet Governance - Mr. Edmon CHUNG, CEO, DotAsia Organisation
14:15 – 15:00	<b>Internet Governance Topic 1:</b> Human Rights Online
15:00 - 15:15	Break
15:15 – 16:00	<b>Internet Governance Topic 2:</b> Digital Economy & Emerging Technology
16:00 – 16:05	Break
16:05 – 16:30	<b>IGF Introduction</b> - History of IGF - Development of IGF - Formats of workshop - Impacts - Q&A
16:30 – 17:30	<b>Group Work - Formulating ideas for workshop proposal through IDEA WALL</b> - 5 min of introduction - 20 min of discussion and drawing - 3 min of each presentation
17:30 – 18:00	Recap/ Review/ Intro of Day 2 events
Day 2 – 8 July 2018	
13:30 - 14:00	Gather and warm-up games
14:00 - 14:35	Games (DNS)
14:35 - 15:00	Preparation for roundtable
15:00 - 16:30	Roundtable Role-play (Digital Economy & Emerging Tech)
16:30 - 16:50	Intro of Youth Summit and Recap
16:50 – 17:10	Wrap-up



***Guest Sharing: Introduction to Internet Governance***



***IDEA WALL discussion***



**IDEA WALL** Presentation



**Roundtable**

**b. Youth Internet Summit**

<b>Date</b>	21 July 2018
<b>Venue</b>	LT 8, Yasumoto International Academic Park, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

12:30 - 13:00	Registration
13:00 - 13:15	Welcome Remarks
13:15 - 14:00	<b>Workshop Session</b> Proposal 3. Freedom of expression: Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?
14:00 - 14:45	<b>Workshop Session</b> Proposal 1. Fake News: How can we have something real?
14:45 - 14:50	Break
14:50 - 15:20	<b>Keynote speech – BSD</b> Nickey Khemchandani - CTO & CO-FOUNDER of BSD Academy
15:20 - 16:05	<b>Workshop Session</b> Proposal 2. How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?
16:05 - 16:50	<b>Workshop Session</b> Proposal 4. Net Neutrality and The Role of ISPs in Internet Governance
16:50 - 17:20	Comments & Feedback
17:20 - 17:30	Alumni Sharing & Feedback (Guests Discussions)
17:30 - 17:45	Wrap-up, Certificates, Award
17:45 - 18:00	Closing and Group photo



*Discussion Period*



*Break-out group*

## 11. Actual Expenditure

Item Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price
<b>1. Online Promotion</b>			
a. Facebook Ad	1	\$800	\$800
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$800</b>
<b>2. Decoration and materials for Netizen Boot Camp</b>			
a. Kent Paper	4	\$5	\$20
b. 大嚟奇兩油頭性筆	24	\$8.5	\$204
c. Scissors	2	\$5	\$10
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$234</b>
<b>3. Decoration and materials for Youth Internet Summit</b>			
a. Roll-up Banner	2	\$90	\$180
b. Banner	1	\$432	\$432
		<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>\$612</b>
		<b>Total -</b>	<b>\$1,646</b>

Items	In-kind Contribution by
Venue	Youth Civil Society, CUHK
Toolkit Publication	DotAsia Organisation

## 12. Youth Internet Summit Workshop Proposal

**Date & Time:** 21st July, 2018 (Saturday) 1-6pm

**Venue:** Room LT8, 2/F, Yasumoto International Academic Park (YIA), The Chinese University of Hong Kong

During the Youth Internet Summit held on 21 July 2018, participants were split into four groups and had fierce discussions on four Internet topics:

- 1) How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?,
- 2) Fake News: How can we have something real?,
- 3) Net Neutrality and Internet as a Utility and

### HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 1:

#### *How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?*

- 4) Freedom of expression: Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?.

The followings are the Summit Proposal from our groups.

#### **I. Session Title**

How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?

#### **II. Session Format**

5 mins - [Background introduction] Introduction and briefing by session moderator.

This consists of brief introduction of the topic, briefing of session rules, and guiding questions surrounding the topic.

15 mins - [Breakout group discussion] In groups of 4-5. Facilitators will be assigned to each group to facilitate the discussion on the topic

20 mins - [Open mic / roundtable discussion] Concerns as well as potential solutions regarding current policies of social media platforms will be discussed. This is open to all participating members of the workshop.

5 mins - [Wrap up] Follow-up items and key takeaways of the workshop.

Total duration of workshop: 45 mins

### **III. Theme**

This workshop falls under, but not strictly limited to, the general theme of *media and content* and the subtheme of *fake news*.

### **IV. Proposer**

Ms. Faith Lee, Student at Chinese International School

### **V. Organizing Team**

Ms. Faith Lee, Proposer & Moderator, Student at Chinese International School

Ms. Queenie Li, Moderator, student at Diocesan Girls' School

Mr. Alan Wong, Moderator, student at SIng Yin Secondary School

Ms. Rouella Chan, moderator, student at NT Heung Yee Kuk Yuen Long District Secondary School

### **VI. Speakers**

Mr. Edmon Chung, CEO of Netmission.asia

Netmission Ambassadors

Participants of HKYIGF 2018

### **VII. Relevance of the Issue**

Statistics for internet and social media use are increasing drastically by the year. According to the [Digital in 2018 Global Overview](#), there are 4.021 billion internet users, 3.196 billion of them being active social media users; subsequently, an increasing percentage of the world's population are receiving news from social media sites. 88% of youth (aged 18-29) are social media users, and a whopping 95% of teens have access to a smartphone. With youth dominating the digital world almost entirely, needless to say, the issue that will be discussed in this workshop plays a crucial role in shaping the digital future. Yet the concept of critical thinking is often overlooked in the age of the Internet, and as social media use became popularized, this vital skill which a democratic society heavily relies on seems to be declining among youth.

**Tag 1:** Social Media

**Tag 2:** Critical Thinking

**Tag 3:** Future Internet

### **VIII. Content of the Session**

Critical thinking is defined as the ‘ability to analyze the way one thinks and present evidence for one’s ideas’, a skill not only restricted to a particular subject area, but in every aspect of our everyday lives. Moreover, critical thinking is crucial to the functioning of a modern-day liberal and democratic society, as citizens must think critically about social issues and overcome biases or prejudice to develop reasoned judgements.

When it comes to the digital world, critical thinking is certainly no less of an issue. It is vital that children and youth are able to evaluate all sorts of online content and interaction, and realize how the content that they are exposed to and the people that they interact with can easily affect their own behavior, emotions and beliefs. Youth must be able to develop resilience to the many pressures and risks prevalent online, from celebrity culture imposing an effect on their self-esteem, to exposure to fake news or even extremist content.

A research conducted by Stanford University in late 2016 suggests that middle school to college students are exposed to critical thinking and information literacy skill deficits at all levels. A part of this experiment consisted of middle school students being asked to differentiate news stories and advertisements from a particular website - Slate Magazine. Out of 203 of the students surveyed, more than 80 percent believed that a native ad was a real news story. High school students were also asked to evaluate two Facebook posts announcing Trump’s candidacy for president, one from a verified news account and one from an account that looked similar. Yet, only a quarter of the students successfully recognized and explained the significance of the blue ‘verified’ checkmark - and over 30% of students believed the ‘fake’ account was more trustworthy due to its use of graphic elements. The authors of the study wrote, “Students may focus more on the content of social media posts than on the sources. Despite their fluency with social media, many students are unaware of the

conventions for indicating verified digital information.”

Social media holds a grave effect on its users’ understanding and perception of the truth. The issue that we are faced with today is that social media providers already have the potential to limit their users’ range of perspectives through the ‘echo chamber’ effect, by which users are able to seek out information which reinforces, rather than allowing them to rethink, their existing views, potentially as an unconscious exercise of confirmation bias. A prime example of this phenomenon would be the ‘vaccine causes autism’ conspiracy, where a majority of people believed that vaccines were just tools the government used to gain profit. As a consequence, the National Institutes of Health found rising measles and cough rates in the US in the subsequent months.

Although Facebook and Google have announced a few small steps to limit the advertising revenue fake news sites will have access to, critical thinking among the newer generation can only be achieved if all stakeholders are willing to respond to this changing age of truth.

With but not limited to the following guiding questions, our workshop seeks open discussion from all participants:

1. Who should be held responsible for discouraging young people to think critically?
2. What can the social media service providers do?
3. What can social media users do?
4. Is the development of technology as a whole contributing to the decline in critical thinking?

## **IX. Interventions**

The onsite moderators invite participants to share their views and concerns on the topic, and all participants are encouraged to put forward responses or further questions. Participants may not interrupt while the onsite moderators are announcing instructions or reporting.

Due to limited time, this workshop is, unfortunately, unable to accommodate keynote speakers; rather, it places emphasis on interactive discussion between stakeholders to ensure a diverse range of views. All discussions held aim for inclusivity and diversity. Depending on the status of the queue, the onsite moderator may interrupt participants at their discretion.

### **XI. Onsite Moderators**

Ms. Faith Lee, student (*Introduction of Topic*)

Ms. Rouella Chan, student (*Session rules and guiding questions*)

Ms. Queenie Li, student

Mr. Alan Wong, student (*Conclude the workshop session*)

### **XIII. Rapporteur**

Ms. Queenie Li, student

Mr. Alan Wong, student

Ms. Faith Lee

### **XV. Discussion facilitation**

As per above, the onsite moderator will provide an introduction of the topic, briefing of session format and rules, and guiding questions surrounding the topic. Next, discussions surrounding each of the guiding questions will be held within each breakout group, followed by a roundtable discussion open to all stakeholders, whereby concerns are raised and solutions are proposed. Finally, the onsite moderator will briefly conclude the workshop session. The onsite moderator will promote discussion among participants and it will be ensured that each stakeholder is given a chance to speak. Only one participant may speak at a time. Participants may speak once instructed to do so by the onsite moderator.

### **XVII. Sustainable Goals**

Through this workshop, we aim to achieve the following sustainable goals:

1. Develop a thorough understanding of current social media systems and the concept of critical thinking.
2. Emphasize the need for critical thinking on social media especially among

youth, and recognize how it benefits our society.

3. Identify the benefits and limitations of current social media systems; suggest improvements and put forward potential solutions.
4. Promote youth engagement in internet governance as a whole.

## **HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 2:**

*Fake News: How can we have something real?*

**I. Session Title:** Fake News: How can we have something real?

**II. Session Format:** Break-out Group Discussions

**III. Theme:** Fake News

**IV. Proposers:** Angel Ng, Crystal Feng, Priscilla Yeung

**V. Speakers:** Angel Ng, Crystal Feng, Priscilla Yeung

### **VI. Relevance of the Issue**

Freedom of speech, freedom of journalism, media ethics, disinformation, sociology/psychology (why people accept/believe fake news)

### **VII. Content of the Session**

Presented to be factually accurate, fake news is news without factual basis. It is made appealing to the public by having sensational elements. Catching audiences' eyeballs, misleading and deceptive content, distorted moral values and false rumours could be widely spread across the world efficiently with the advancement in technology. Not only would the truth be covered, people's ways of thinking would also be manipulated, leading to devastating consequences.

This session will provide a platform for discussion of issues related to fake news, including freedom of speech, freedom of journalism, media ethics, disinformation,

sociology/psychology (why people accept/believe fake news). The focus of the session will be on the the consequences brought by fake news and possible actions taken by different stakeholders to prevent the widespread of fake news.

## **VI. Discussion facilitation**

The session will be a open discussion that provides a platform for delegates to express their ideas towards the role of youth, the way to deal with trolling and online disinformation.

### **1. Brief introduction about the issues (5 min)**

- The moderator will first briefly outline and introduce the issues such as the definition of fake news, factors of disinformation, impacts of fake news on the local and global scale and etc. It can provide a broad view on what we are facing globally.

### **2. Break-out group discussions on different topics (20 min)**

- Delegates will be divided into 3 groups, discussing on related topics about fake news.

In this section, delegates can present their points of view and engage substantively in the group discussions. At the same time, they can choose to join any group they are interested in. One moderator will moderate each small group and one speaker will take notes for their discussion.

- a. How to deal with fake news without infringing the freedom of speech?
- b. What roles can the youth play in dealing with fake news?
- c. How to stop social media from spreading fake news?

### **3. Presentation of break-out groups (9-10 min)**

- For each topic, different groups will be given no more than 3 minutes for presentation to address their concerns and the issues.

### **4. Q&A sessions (8 min)**

- The moderator will open the floor for questions and comments from other delegates while coordinating the process and ensuring delegates are actively

involved in asking questions to encourage interactions among different groups. The moderator will also actively ask the groups to respond to the questions.

5. Wrap up (2 min)

**VII. Sustainable Goals**

SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

**VIII. Questions to think about before the forum:**

1. How are people consuming fake news?
2. Have you been trapped by fake news?
3. Do you know of any fake news?
4. Where does the majority of fake news come from?
5. Why does fake news appear?

**HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 3:**

*Freedom of expression: Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?*

**I. Session Title:** Freedom of Expression: Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?

**II. Format:** Triangle Brainstorming (unconference)

**III. Theme:** Human Rights, Gender & Youth

**IV. Subtheme:** Freedom of Expression Online

**V. Proposer:** Mr. Dominic Ma

**VI. Moderators:** Ms. Salina Cheng, Ms. Zoe Shum, Mr. Dominic Ma, Ms. Tiffany

Kwan

**VII. Speakers:** HKYIGF 2018 Participants

**VIII. Hosts:** Ms. Salina Cheng, Mr. Dominic Ma\*, Ms. Zoe Shum\*

**IX. Relevance:**

Can we post irresponsible comments online, despite national, political and cultural differences? The anonymity and untraceable nature of the Internet has made cybercrime more and more serious.

This session will address policy questions, civic responsibility and cultural diversity.

Including :

- How to enhance transparency and freedom of information, to enable freedom of expression?
- How to avoid excessive freedom of speech undermining cultural diversity?

**X. Session Content:**

With the rapid development of technology, the Internet has become more advanced and popular, and smartphones have become a daily necessity for many people. Life is closely related to the Internet. But this has also spawned different types of social problems. This original conception of the Internet, and the principles on which it was based, are increasingly under threat. Today, freedom of expression varies vastly around the world, dependent on cultural differences and political realities, from the constitutional significance given to free speech in the US, to China's "Great Firewall".

With the rapid development of Internet technology, governments need to consider more issues. Freedom of expression is not the same when you have smartphone or if you need to walk a few hours to reach the first Internet cafe. The recent issue "fake news" is adding more complexity to the whole question about information circulation, and pushing governments to adopt hastily prepared laws. This new phenomenon is underlining the poor understanding of these issues by governments.

But considering civil society and the Basic Law, restricting freedom of speech is not

feasible in Hong Kong. At this time, it is necessary to rely on people's civic responsibilities to solve problems. For example, do not spread false news, do not hold illegal gatherings, and do not publish discriminatory statements online.

Social media software (like YouTube, Instagram) provides the user with a video sharing platform, you can post any comment and video. However, a recent incident has reflected the negative effects of freedom of expression and the abuse of freedom of expression on social networking platforms. There was a YouTuber called RiceGum who posted a video on YouTube which contains some insulting content. This inappropriate content has caused dissatisfaction among Hong Kong people. These insults to Hong Kong people seriously affect cultural diversity and the harmony between countries.

This incident is just the tip of the iceberg, with the development of technology, more and more software provides live broadcast function, users may publish racial discrimination through live broadcast, negative comments such as gender discrimination etc.

This session seeks to present the different angles of freedom of expression on the Internet and its issues around the world. Also, it aims to discuss how to solve the problem of freedom of speech online with civic responsibility.

It seeks an open discussion from the participants on the following issues:

- How can governments strike a balance between freedom of speech and national security?
- How to balance video sharing online and cultural diversity ?
- How to balance freedom of expression and censorship in Hong Kong considering threats to social cohesion, national security and The Basic Law ?

#### **XI. Interventions:**

The list of Guests of honour in attendance is yet to be confirmed.

#### **XII. Onsite Moderator:**

Ms Tiffany Kwan would be the main onsite moderator during the core triangle

brainstorming session. (However, there would be no onsite moderators during the introduction and conclusion sessions.)

### **XIII. Rapporteur:**

Main rapporteur: Ms Zoe Shum

Supportive rapporteurs: Mr Dominic Ma, Ms Salina Cheng, Ms Tiffany Kwan

### **XIV. Diversity:**

We have included people from all aspects and have tried to be gender inclusive.

### **XV. Discussion facilitation:**

The 5 minutes introduction is allocated for presenting the basic concepts on how the video sharing platforms work in physical, the application of the OSI model<sup>1</sup>, technical terms and concept of the video sharing technologies. The content may vary according to the speakers and participants' technology knowledge bases.

30 minutes triangle brainstorming are a new session format for speakers to engage with other participants directly. The main goal of triangle brainstorming is to create an equal discussion environment with empathy and respect of every individual opinion on specific topics. It adopts unconference methodology<sup>2</sup> and traditional conference setting. It ensures that attendees are coming to listen to their particular presentation, allowing for a better fit. It is also hoped that this will include more diverse and innovative suggestions which tackle the internet governance issues efficiently.

Finally, there will be about 7 minutes to conclude, which summarises opinions from whole audience. It would facilitate exchanging inspiring thoughts and knowledge in a short time.

### **XVI. Sustainable Goals:**

1. Raising awareness of international internet governance and freedom of speech online starting from attendees to society

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<sup>1</sup> layer 1 and layer 7 of Open System Interconnection Reference Model.

<sup>2</sup> Learn more on <http://unconference.net/>

2. Improving and merging new session format into different formats and adopting in possible activities
3. Selecting the viable concepts and technologies to share with representatives of related industries, including Internet, Software, Computer hardware etc.

#### HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 4:

##### *Net Neutrality and The Role of ISPs in Internet Governance*

- I. **Session Title:** Net Neutrality and The Role of ISPs in Internet Governance
- II. **Session Format:** 45min Round Table Conference
- III. **Theme:** Net Neutrality
- IV. **Proposer:** Cyrus Ho, Felix Lam, Derek Lee, Ian Leung
- V. **Organizing Team:** Cyrus Ho, Felix Lam, Derek Lee, Ian Leung
- VI. **Speakers:** Cyrus Ho, Felix Lam, Derek Lee, Ian Leung

#### VII. **Relevance of the Issue:**

Net neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers (ISP) treat all data on the Internet equally. (Further explained in VIII.) Being the ones who hold access to the Internet, ISPs have the ability to control the speed of access of each website, making some faster and some slower, which would violate net neutrality. For example, under this assumption, if a company wants to make its website faster, they would need to pay the ISP for faster Internet traffic. This makes the role of ISP significant in the issue of net neutrality.

#### VIII. **Content of the Session:**

Net neutrality is the principle that Internet service providers treat all data on the Internet equally, and not discriminate or charge differently by user, content, website, platform, application, type of attached equipment, or method of

communication. For instance, under such principles, ISPs cannot block out or slow down Twitch in favour of Youtube, or Google search engine in favour of Bing or Yahoo.

On 11 June, 2018, the US repealed the Open Internet Order, yet the very next day, the Indian government approved what is claimed to be the toughest net neutrality rules in history. In the light of such controversy, the importance and effects of net neutrality require a comprehensive review.

Before the implementation of the Open Internet Order in 2015, over the years, ISPs in the US blocked, throttled or charged competing content and service providers (Madison River Comms blocking Vonage (2004), Verizon, AT&T, T-mobile blocking Google Wallet(2013)...). Critics denounced these violations of net neutrality as anti-competitive and also misleading to consumers. Some also worried that blocking certain websites and functions may lead to content censorship. On the other hand, various ISPs argued that OTTs and other content providers are free-riding their internet services and extra charges are a legitimate need in order to recover investments. In this workshop, we will facilitate a discourse involving different stakeholders to discuss the merits and harms of net neutrality.

ISPs play unique roles in internet governance. They are private enterprises who hold access to the Internet- what some consider as a public utility. And we see different ISPs throughout the world in various forms: State-owned, conglomerates and small businesses... Their influence on the use of internet are far-reaching. Therefore, in our discussion, we would consider roles of ISPs in the Internet and their implications in internet governance.

Different models of net neutrality are implemented across the globe. Hong Kong as of now is still in preliminary stages of legislating on net neutrality. By discussing the different foreign models, we hope to reach consensus on which model would be suitable for HK. And from there, generate ideas of what we as the youth can do to push for an open network.

IX. **Onsite Moderator** : Felix Lam, Ian Leung

X. **Rapporteur** : Derek Lee, Cyrus Ho

**XI. Discussion facilitation**

Since net neutrality is not a hot issue in Hong Kong, to let participants know more about the topic before the discussion, we will briefly introduce what net neutrality is and distribute simple notes for clear interpretations. We will also answer significant questions raised by participants of the round table conference.

The onsite moderators will guide the whole discussion to ensure everything is on topic and methodical by having appropriate guides throughout the discussion and marking the participants' order of making their speeches so that they can express their views in an orderly manner.

### 13. Workshop Reports

#### HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 1:

#### *How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?*

Session title:

How does social media affect critical thinking among youth?

Workshop Organizer:

Ms. Faith Lee (Proposer), Ms. Queenie Li, Mr. Alan Wong, Ms. Rouella Chan

Chairperson/Moderator:

Ms. Faith Lee, Ms. Queenie Li, Mr. Alan Wong, Ms. Rouella Chan

Rapporteur/Note Taker:

Ms. Queenie Li, Mr. Alan Wong

Key Issues raised:

With the emergence of more online entertainment, nowadays, it seems that teenagers do not pay as much attention to the news. Though social media sites such as Facebook are open platforms, the implementation of 'likes' and 'comments' has only encouraged conformity, as many tend to fall victim to confirmation bias, especially under the influence of fellow users. Such social media sites have also introduced algorithms that result in users only being exposed to sources of 'interest', based on previous browsing history. Moreover, censorship is still prevalent in certain parts of the world, significantly limiting users' exposure to different perspectives. When only being fed information from one side of the story, how can one make a well-informed decision? This comes back to the question - is critical thinking on social media important, and what makes it so?

If there are Presentations during the workshop session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation

Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session:

Upon given the topic, a participant, Tiffany, has questioned the importance of critical thinking on social media, as she believes critical thinking is intuitive and can be achieved by anyone. However, another participant, Cyrus, responded by saying that due to different educational or cultural backgrounds, it is vital to promote the concept to every user. We have then agreed that inherent bias is in human nature and is almost inevitable - the issue is whether or not people are able to overcome such prejudices while making judgement, rather than choosing to believe information that

has not been validated or critically analyzed.

We then began discussing the issue of confirmation bias on social media. In this digital era, likes and positive comments have become a currency of validation and approval; but we have come to realize that the amount of likes or comments on a post do not ever equate to the quality and authenticity of it.

Although companies such as Facebook and Google have announced a few small steps to limit the advertising revenue fake news sites will have access to, critical thinking among youth can only be achieved if all stakeholders are willing to respond to this changing age of truth.

Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways:

In our proposal, we have listed four sustainable goals, all of which we were effectively working towards in this workshop:

- Develop an understanding of current social media systems and the concept of critical thinking
- Emphasize the need for critical thinking on social media especially among youth, and recognize how it benefits society.
- Identify the benefits and limitations of current social media systems; suggest improvements and put forward potential solutions.
- Encourage youth engagement in internet governance as a whole.

We came to a consensus that social media providers and governments bear the largest responsibility. A participant proposed a short-term solution: to hire a third party that oversees the operation of social media. Cyrus has also suggested that the government should do more in terms of education, perhaps allowing students to develop critical thinking at a young age.

We concluded the session with the idea that as users, we must understand our weaknesses, and what influences our decisions so easily. It is essential for us to step out of our comfort zones, overcome inherent biases and view each situation objectively, then develop an opinion that is formed through critical analysis.

**HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 2:***Fake News: How can we have something real?***Session title:** Fake News: How can we have something real?**Workshop Organizer:** Angel Ng, Crystal Feng, Priscilla Yeung**Chairperson/Moderator:** Angel Ng, Crystal Feng**Rapporteur/Note Taker:** Angel Ng, Crystal Feng**Key Issues raised:**

- How fake news is affecting people's way of thinking
- The definition of fake news

**Summary:**

In the era of information, we can attain different kinds of data without making requests. Finding evidence and seeking proofs become an easier process. Ironically, people are less motivated look for the truth with simpler procedures. While government and the authorities can regulate on fake news, we, as the reader and receiver should take action ourselves to look for the things that are real. Always pause, ask and think.

**Evaluation by participants:**

Fake news has become more and more prevalent with the advancement of technology. Presented to be factually accurate, fake news is news without factual basis. It is made appealing to the public by having sensational elements. The content of fake news can be totally misleading and deceptive content with distorted moral values. Not only would the truth be covered, people's ways of thinking would also be manipulated.

Yet it is difficult to determine the definition of fake news. For instance, whether a news reporting a celebrity quoting a fake rumour of another person should be defined as fake news.

In addition, it is hard to spot out fake news from the vast information on the Internet. Technologies like Artificial Intelligence are suggested to be the surveillance tool that monitor and filters fake news. Yet there may still be bias as the designer or producer of the AI may hold a certain stance, making this solution still ineffective.

**Potential next steps/ key takeaways:**

A third party monitoring may not be very effective in countering fake news. The most important factor is still the readers themselves as we all have abilities of critical thinking and judgement. Readers' awareness would be the key in preventing fake news from affecting their thoughts and sets of values. Thus, at the same time that hard measures can be implemented. For instance, punitive legal consequences can be given to journalists that publish fake news. Soft measures like education and promoting awareness are equally important in solving this issue in a long run.

Both journalists, readers and other stakeholders involved should be aware of the value of freedom of speech - which is the right to express one's own opinions while respecting the rights of others. It should be understood that this right should not be abused and misused. Mutual respect is the basis for freedom of speech. Freedom of speech is the basis for a free flow of information. We should all uphold the core values behind our rights and freedoms to make our society a civilised and harmonious one.

**HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 3:***Freedom of expression: Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?*

Session title:

Can we post irresponsible videos and comments?

Workshop Organizer:

Dominic Ma (Proposer), Tiffany Kwan, Salina Cheng, Zoe Shum

Rapporteur/Note Taker:

Salina Cheng, Zoe Shum

Key Issues raised:

The anonymity and untraceable nature of the Internet has made cybercrime more and more serious.

The session addressed policy questions, civic responsibility and cultural diversity.

The session seeks to present the different angles of freedom of expression on the Internet and its issues around the world. Also, it aims to discuss how to solve the problem of freedom of speech online with civic responsibility.

It seeks an open discussion from the participants on the following issues:

- How can governments balance freedom of speech and national security?
- How to balance video sharing online and cultural diversity ?
- How to balance freedom of expression and censorship in Hong Kong considering threats to social cohesion, national security and The Basic Law ?

Some participants have provided some suggestions that How can YouTube supervise the comments of user: YouTube can use software or AI to find some sensitive word (Such as swear words and some discriminatory slurs).

During the discussion, many participants can focused on civic responsibility, some of them mentioned that civic responsibility is the most effective way to balance freedom of speech and national security.

In the concluding session, Tiffany concluded the ideas from participants. There are no method for social media platform to ban all irresponsible comments. However, if we all can use internet with quality and we respect civic responsibility, we can achieve cultural diversity easily.

**HKYIGF 2018 Workshop Proposal 4:***Net Neutrality and The Role of ISPs in Internet Governance*

**Session title:** Net Neutrality and Internet as a Utility

**Workshop Organizers:** Cyrus Ho, Derek Lee, Felix Lam, Ian Leung

**Chairperson/Moderator:** Cyrus Ho

**Rapporteur/Note Taker:** Derek Lee

**Key Issues raised:**

In the wake of the Restoring Internet Freedom Order on 11th June 2018, while some contend that it encourages innovation and investments, others claim that net neutrality is once again under threat. Nowadays with the Internet being inseparable from our lives, having net neutrality or not affects many of us. Therefore the discourse of this workshop is set around net neutrality and the possible methods to press for a free Internet.

The main areas of discussion are: One, the pros and cons of net neutrality. Two, whether the Internet should be treated as a public utility and the resultant role of ISPs in internet governance. And three, the situation of net neutrality in Hong Kong and our role as citizens to push for better Internet service.

**Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session:**

The discussion is split into two portions. First being a 15 minute break-out group discussion and second was a 30 minute roundtable conference involving different stakeholders concerning the matter of net neutrality.

In the break-out group discussion, participants had a preliminary understanding of what net neutrality is, discussed on recent incidents of net neutrality violations and the implementation of new regulations, also gaining fundamental knowledge of the main areas of contention that would arise in the following roundtable conference.

Moving onto the roundtable conference, we invited guest speakers to represent content providers and Internet Service Providers (ISPs), as well as other participants to voice as the civil society.

**Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/  
potential next steps /key takeaways:**

Regarding the first concern of the pros and cons of net neutrality, it was in the overwhelming opinion that the positives of net neutrality outweigh the negatives. The consensus was that net neutrality is vital to the free-flow of information online and also in creating a fair competitive environment for new services/content providers online.

In the second part, most disagreed that the Internet should become a public utility but agreed that ISPs and governments should do more to provide better and more affordable Internet services. It was suggested that future Internet services should be provided by a co-op model managed by both government and private ISPs to ensure the effectiveness of administration, the adequate social contribution of ISPs, and the quality of the Internet service itself. Several successful examples of such model were also mentioned during the discussion.

In the final part of the discussion, it was in general agreement that in Hong Kong, due to her well-developed infrastructures, net neutrality is well-respected. However, opinions on future actions are split between enforcing a strong net neutrality regulation to prevent possible violations, and only enacting net neutrality laws shall the occasion arise. Unfortunately, the discussion was halted due to time limitation and a consensus on this issue could not be reached.