



Internet Governance in **February 2016**

23 February 2016

Geneva Internet Platform

DiPLO

Main events in February

9-10 Feb: Future of Norms to Preserve & Enhance International Cyber Stability (Geneva)

9 Feb: Safer Internet Day 2016 (worldwide)

10-12 Feb: Lift Conference 2016 (Geneva)

15-19 Feb: ITU Council Working Group Meetings

15-26 Feb: APRICOT 2016 (Auckland)

21-24 Feb: NDSS Symposium 2016 (San Diego)

22-25 Feb: GSMA Mobile World Congress 2016 (Barcelona)

23 Feb: Briefing on Internet governance in February 2016 (Geneva, online)

26 Feb: WSIS Open Consultation Final Review Meeting (Geneva)

26-27 Feb: DiploHack on Human Rights (Geneva)

Visit <http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/events> for details...

Internet Governance BAROMETER (FEBRUARY 2016)

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

Global IG Architecture



GSMA's new report [\[3\]](#) recommends a 'reset' of legacy regulations, which are considered outdated, and puts forward principles for policy-makers that have an impact on access regulation, barriers to entry and exit, privacy and data protection, merger review, spectrum management, and universal availability and access.

Sustainable development



The global indicator framework as a basis for the annual progress report on SDGs is under development; the UN Statistical Commission is expected to reach agreement next month [\[3\]](#). Digital aspects are likely to feature prominently in the creation of the indicators.

Security



A US Court's ruling [\[3\]](#) requesting Apple to assist the FBI in unlocking an iPhone triggered a global controversy over encryption and the creation of backdoors. FBI asked Apple to create 'a new version of the iPhone operating system, circumventing several important security features'. In a letter to its customers, [\[3\]](#) Apple's CEO said the company was challenging the court order, arguing that the FBI's request can endanger user data and privacy. The outcome of this case is likely to have major impact on security and privacy. A few days before the court's ruling, a US senator argued for legislation that obliges tech companies to comply with government requests for access to data. [\[3\]](#)

Encryption debates over the Snooper's Bill continued in the UK, with parliamentary committees asking the government to clarify its proposed legislation on encryption, [\[3\]](#) while the Investigatory Powers Tribunal has ruled that GCHQ hacking is lawful. [\[3\]](#)

One in every four users in the EU faced an online security issue last year, a Eurostat study released on Safer Internet Day, revealed. [\[3\]](#)

EU and USA negotiators have reached a deal over a new EU-US privacy shield. [\[3\]](#) Details of the deal are expected in the coming days.

Apple's CEO reacted strongly to the US Court's order announcing that it would oppose the order. [\[3\]](#) The Electronic Frontier Foundation said it will legally support Apple's position. [\[3\]](#) Facebook, Google and other Internet companies expressed support for Apple.

Privacy and human rights



Google is extending the 'right to be forgotten' rule to its global sites accessed within Europe; filtering will be based on European IP addresses. [\[3\]](#) The Korean Communications Commission will introduce guidelines to uphold the right to be forgotten by mid-2016. [\[3\]](#)

Kuwait's new Cybercrime Law, which imposes severe restrictions on freedom of speech, came into effect. [\[3\]](#)

Consultations under way in Brazil over proposed amendments to Marco Civil, [\[3\]](#) which are seen as an attempt to amend particular protections, such as those on user's privacy.

Internet Governance BAROMETER (FEBRUARY 2016)

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Infrastructure



A considerable increase in the adoption of mobile technologies that will make the Internet of Everything more sustainable is predicted by Cisco,^[1] while research suggests the Internet of Things in the utility market will be worth more than \$10 billion by 2020.^[2] Microsoft is testing whether data centres can operate below the surface of the ocean, in a bid to prevent computer services from overheating.^[3]

Net neutrality



After months of controversy, the Indian Telecom Regulatory Authority ruled in favour of net neutrality principles and against discriminatory tariffs for data services, blocking Facebook's Free Basics service in the country.^[1]

E-commerce and Internet economy



The US Senate has passed legislation that puts a permanent ban on states' and local governments' taxing of Internet access,^[1] while the British Chancellor has called for an update in international tax laws which he believes have not 'kept pace' with the development of the Internet.^[2]

The European Central Bank plans to introduce a system that would allow consumers to transfer money using phone numbers or email addresses, rather than a bank account number,^[1] while the EU plans to propose measures for transactions in virtual currency.^[2]

Jurisdiction and legal issues



A French court has ruled that Facebook can be sued in French courts, despite the company's terms of service stating that its jurisdiction lies in California,^[1] while the French data protection authority ordered Facebook to comply with formal notice within 3 months or face sanctions.^[2]

IANA transition



ICANN has named its new CEO – Göran Marby, Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS) – who will assume office in May, replacing outgoing CEO Fadi Chehade.^[1]

The Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) has published its supplemental final proposal on accountability recommendations under Work Stream 1, which need to be in place during the transition phase.^[1]

Presented during the Geneva Internet Platform briefing on 23 February 2016. More: giplatform.org/briefings

Security

In **USA**, controversy surrounds Apple / FBI case after US Court rules that Apple is to assist the FBI in unlocking an iPhone. FBI asked Apple to create 'a new version of the iPhone operating system, circumventing several important security features'

US senator: legislation that obliges tech companies to comply with government requests for access to data is required

In **UK**, encryption debates continue over Snooper's Bill; parliamentary committees ask government to clarify proposed legislation on encryption. Investigatory Powers Tribunal rules that GCHQ hacking is lawful



IG Barometer: 

Privacy & human rights

EU and USA negotiators reach deal over a new EU-US privacy shield

Apple's CEO reacts strongly to US Court's order; it will oppose order. EFF will legally support Apple's position; Facebook, Google and other Internet companies express support for Apple

Right to be forgotten: Google extends rule to its global sites accessed within Europe; filtering based on European IP addresses. Korean Communications Commission to introduce guidelines to uphold the right

Kuwait's new Cybercrime Law, with restrictions on freedom of speech, comes into effect. In Brazil, consultations under way over proposed amendments to Marco Civil

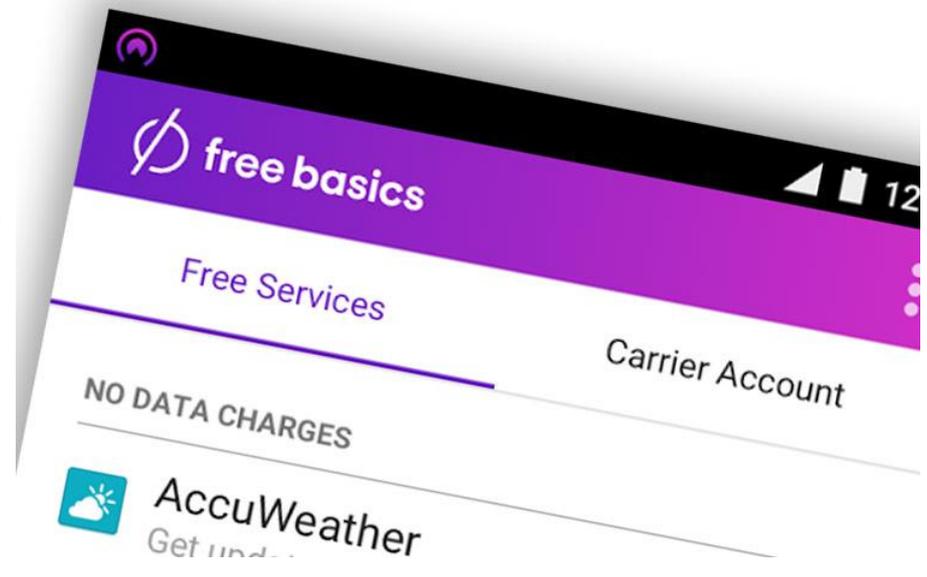
IG Barometer:



Net Neutrality

After months of controversy, Indian Telecom Regulatory Authority rules in favour of net neutrality principles and against discriminatory tariffs for data services, blocking Facebook's Free Basics service in the country

'Prohibition of discriminatory tariffs: (1) No service provider shall offer or charge discriminatory tariffs for data services on the basis of content' – Article 3 of Regulations



IG Barometer: 

E-commerce and Internet economy

The US Senate votes on legislation that puts a permanent ban on states' and local governments' taxing of Internet access

British Chancellor calls for an update in international tax laws which he believes have not 'kept pace' with the development of the Internet

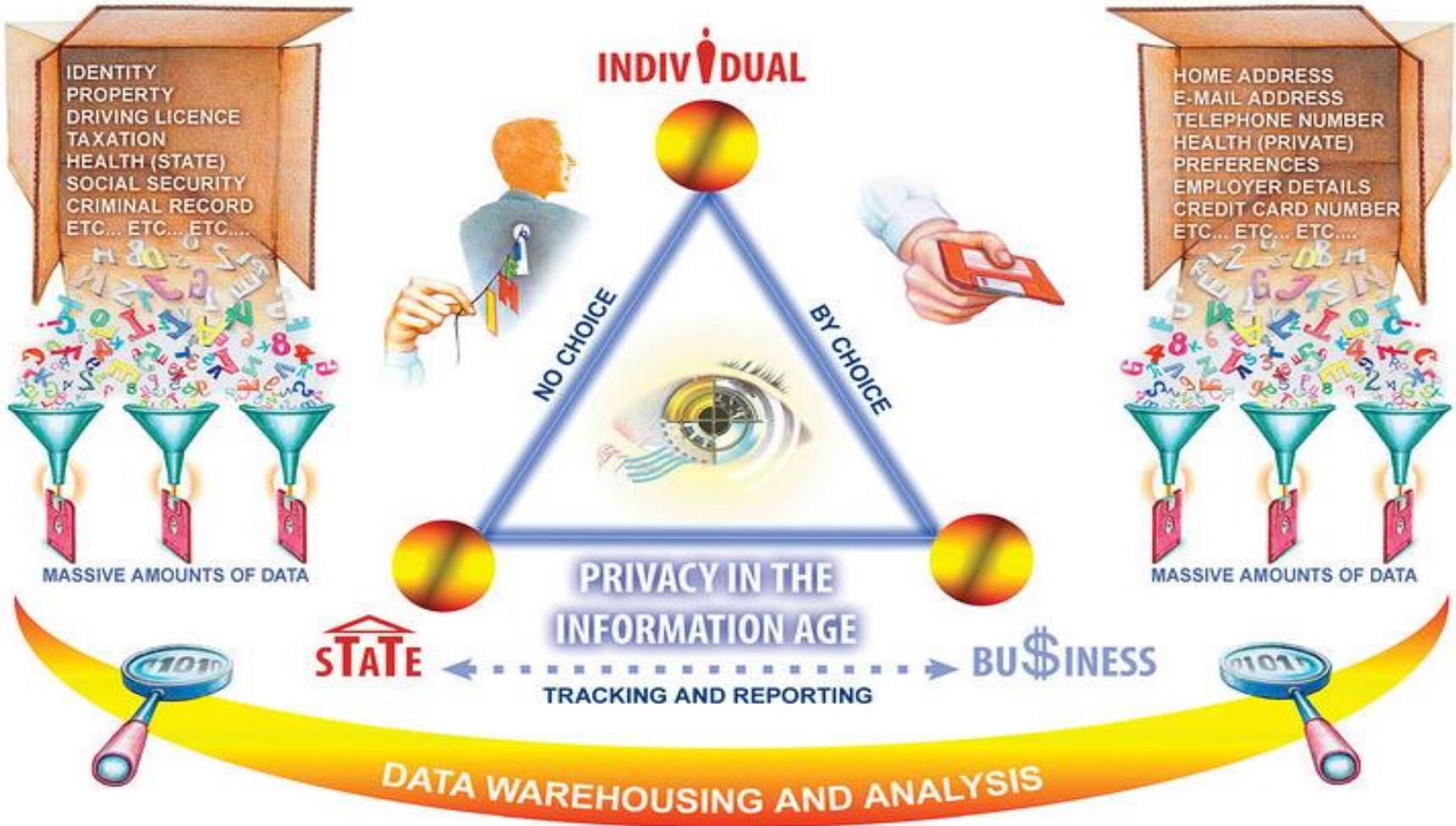
European Central Bank plans to introduce a system that would allow consumers to transfer money using phone numbers or email addresses, rather than a bank account number; EU plans to propose measures for transactions in virtual currency



IG Barometer: 

 **bitcoin**

Security: new ways of collecting data



Concept: BALDI • GELBSTEIN • KURBALIJA Illustration: ZORAN MARČETIĆ • MARČA
More information is available in the Information Society Library at <http://www.diplomacy.edu/>

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SECURITY

Cybercrime
Cybersecurity
Critical infrastructure
Cyberconflicts

INTERNET
STABILITY

TRANSPARENCY

PROTECTION OF
DIGITAL ASSETS

IDENTIFICATION AND ANONYMITY

INCREASING
TRUST

RESPONSIBLE USE
OF THE INTERNET

DEVELOPMENT & ECONOMY

Digital divide
Access to information
Telecommunication infrastructure

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
RIGHT TO ACCESS
NETWORK NEUTRALITY

HUMAN RIGHTS

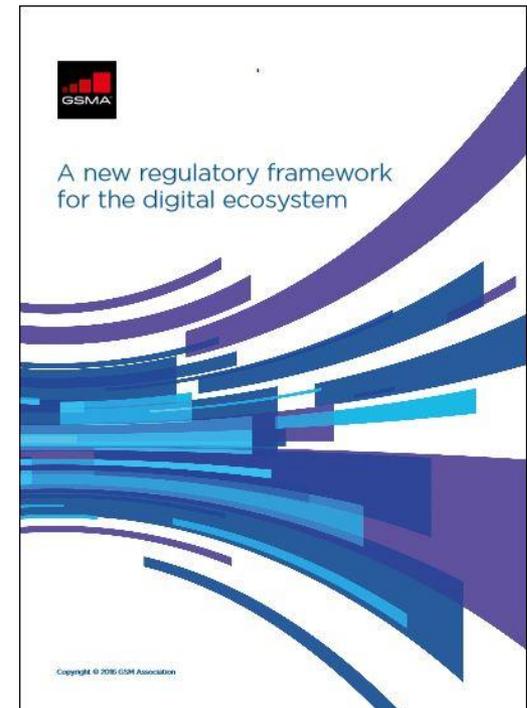
Privacy
Freedom of expression
Women's rights
Disability rights

Global IG architecture

GSMA report on *A new regulatory framework for the digital ecosystem*:

-recommends a 'reset' of legacy regulations, which are considered outdated

-puts forward principles for policy-makers, with an impact on access regulation, barriers to entry and exit, privacy and data protection, merger review, spectrum management, and universal availability and access



IG Barometer:



Sustainable development

Global indicator framework:

-Will act as a basis for annual progress reports on SDGs is under development;

-UN Statistical Commission expected to reach agreement next month

-Digital aspects are likely to feature prominently in the creation of the indicators



IG Barometer:

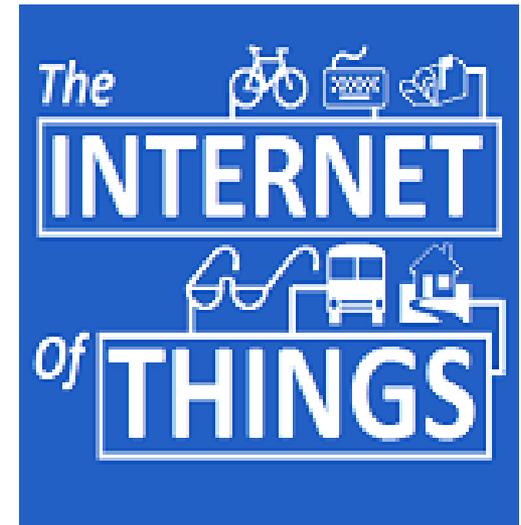


Infrastructure

Cisco predicts considerable increase in the adoption of mobile technologies that will make the Internet of Everything more sustainable

Research suggests the Internet of Things in the utility market will be worth more than \$10 billion by 2020

Microsoft is testing whether data centres can operate below the surface of the ocean, in a bid to prevent computer services from overheating



IG Barometer: 



Jurisdiction and legal issues

French court rules that Facebook can be sued in French courts, despite terms of service stating that its jurisdiction lies in California

French data protection authority orders Facebook to comply with formal notice within 3 months or face sanctions. Notice requests Facebook, among others:

- to stop tracking browsing activity of users who do not have a Facebook account
- to provide account holders with the means to object to the compiling of their data for advertising purposes



IG Barometer: 

IANA Transition

New CEO for ICANN: Göran Marby, Director-General of the Swedish Post and Telecom Authority (PTS), will assume office in May, replacing outgoing CEO Fadi Chehade

Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) published its supplemental final proposal on accountability recommendations under Work Stream 1, which need to be in place during the transition phase



IG Barometer: 

Main events in March

- 29 Feb-3 Mar: Internet Research Fair (Amsterdam)
- 29 Feb-24 Mar: Human Rights Council – 31st session (Geneva)
- 1 Mar: #DigitalDestination: Creating Value and Improving Lives, hosted by Welsh Government (Brussels)
- 1-6 Mar: Internet Freedom Festival (Valencia)
- 4-6 Mar: Africa Domain Name System Forum 2016 (Marrakech)
- 5-10 Mar: ICANN 55 (Marrakech)
- 14-18 Mar: CeBIT 2016 (Hannover)
- 23-25 Mar: Nonprofit Technology Conference 2016 (San Jose)
- 30 Mar: IP and Trademark in the DNS (Washington)
- 30 Mar-1 Apr: RightsCon Silicon Valley 2016 (San Francisco)

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From the Geneva Internet Platform & DiploFoundation

Past events...

9 Feb: Digital policy and technological challenges in 2016 – What to expect? (Geneva)

Ongoing...

18 Jan - 14 Mar: Just-in-time course on Internet governance 2016

Upcoming...

Mar-Apr: Training for assistant curators for *GIP Digital Watch* observatory

Local hubs & regional perspectives

Next steps...

Time for your
questions &
suggestions