



Internet Governance in **January 2016**

26 January 2016

Geneva Internet Platform

DiPLO

Internet Governance BAROMETER (JANUARY 2016)

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

Global IG Architecture



WSIS+10: Rough consensus reached on development, security, and human rights issues; ambiguous compromise around enhanced cooperation arrangement. IGF mandate extended for 10 years. Main focus will be on the implementation of the decision to strengthen the IGF. [\[link\]](#)

World Economic Forum report: In light of recent concerns over the Internet's stability, WEF's latest report looked at technical, governmental, and commercial challenges that, if left unattended, could lead to fragmentation of the Internet. [\[link\]](#)

Sustainable development



WSIS+10 outcomes linked to sustainable development, as all SDGs will rely on digital technologies in the implementation process. [\[link\]](#)

2016 World Development Report: While digital technologies have been spreading, digital dividends have not; countries need to support 'analog complements'; two actions proposed. [\[link\]](#)

Security



Ukraine the target of cyber-attacks: electrical substations disconnected from the grid; Kiev's main airport hit. [\[link\]](#)

In the UK, Internet companies stressed that encryption is 'a fundamental security tool'; [\[link\]](#) while civil society groups and experts signed an open letter requesting governments worldwide to reject proposals – such as the implementation of backdoors – that would undermine encryption. [\[link\]](#)

Privacy and human rights



European Court of Human Rights ruled that employers may read private communications made during office hours. Court did not consider it unreasonable for an employer to want to verify that the employees are completing their professional tasks during working hours. [\[link\]](#) In a separate judgment, Hungary's surveillance of private individuals on anti-terror grounds was ruled illegal. [\[link\]](#)

Infrastructure



European Commission to present legislative proposal in February to harmonise the use of radio spectrum in the EU. [\[link\]](#)

LiFi – a data transmission method that is 100 times faster than WiFi – gained attention in the media. [\[link\]](#)

Internet Governance BAROMETER (JANUARY 2016)

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

Net neutrality



Council of Europe adopted recommendation on the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and the right to a private life with regard to net neutrality. Users' rights should not be restricted by means of blocking, slowing down, or discriminating Internet traffic.[\[link\]](#)

Free Basics was banned from India and Egypt.[\[link\]](#) World Development Report raised concerns on the protection of net neutrality principles.[\[link\]](#)

E-commerce and Internet economy



UK government pressure on intermediaries continued over backdoors into encrypted software and products.[\[link\]](#)

Debates on taxation took place in different countries: USA debated permanent ban on Internet access taxes; Indian intermediaries sought tax exemptions for start-ups; Pakistan urged to remove taxes on broadband and data services.[\[link\]](#)

Jurisdiction and legal issues



EU Data Protection Regulation to put 'one-stop-shop' approach in motion, through which companies with operations in more than one EU country will be regulated by the national Data Protection Authority in that country where the company has its 'main establishment'.[\[link\]](#)

New European Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) Platform is launched; platform to help consumers and traders settle online disputes through dispute resolution rather than through court proceedings.[\[link\]](#)

IANA transition



Implementation efforts under way, as work needs to be completed for transition to occur. CCWG-Accountability received comments over its third draft proposal.[\[link\]](#)

Support anticipated for ICANN accountability proposal.[\[link\]](#)

Main events in January

- 9-11 Jan: 2016 IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics (Las Vegas)
- 11-13 Jan: CSTD 2015-2016 Inter-sessional Panel (Budapest)
- 20-23 Jan: World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2016 (Davos-Klosters)
- 20 Jan: WSIS Open Consultations First Physical Meeting (Geneva)
- 26 Jan: EuroDIG Planning Meeting (Brussels)
- 27 Jan: RIPE NCC Roundtable Meeting (Brussels)
- 27-28 Jan: Geneva Engage: E-participation for International Geneva (Geneva)
- 27-29 Jan: Computers, Privacy and Data Protection Conference (Brussels)

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

Global IG architecture

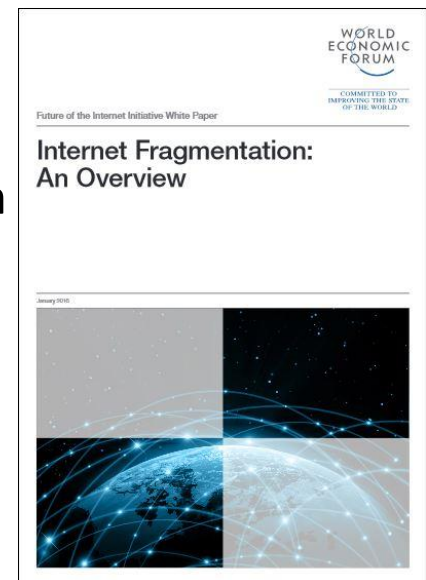
WSIS+10: Rough consensus on development, security, and human rights issues; ambiguous compromise around enhanced cooperation arrangement. IGF mandate extended for 10 years. Main focus will be on the implementation of the decision to strengthen the IGF.



WSIS+10 
United Nations General Assembly
High-Level Meeting

UN CSTD continues consultations on enhanced cooperation

World Economic Forum report: Internet fragmentation could materialise if technical, governmental, and commercial challenges are left unattended



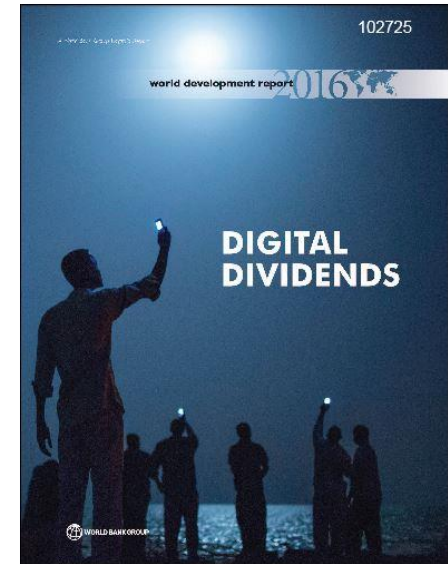
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Sustainable development

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IG Barometer:



2016 World Development Report:
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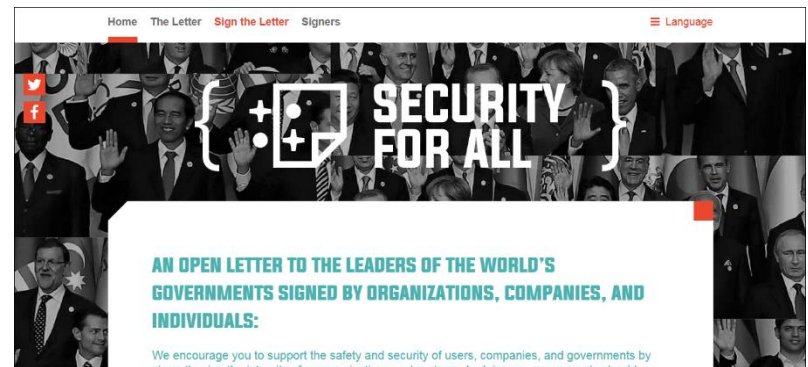
Security

Ukraine the target of cyber-attacks: electrical substations disconnected from the grid; Kiev's main airport hit

USA: Encryption discussed during US security officials' meeting with Internet industry (San Jose, Calif.); new Countering Violent Extremism Task Force and a Global Engagement Center announced

UK: Internet companies stress that encryption is 'a fundamental security tool'; so-called Snooper's Charter remains controversial

Global: Civil society groups, experts sign open letter requesting governments worldwide to reject proposals – such as implementation of backdoors – that would undermine encryption



IG Barometer:



Privacy & human rights

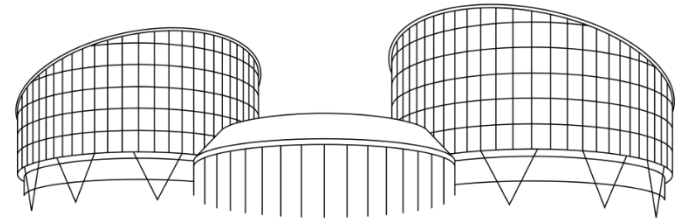
European Court of Human Rights:

- *Barbulescu vs Romania*:

Employers may read private communications made during office hours.

Court does not consider it unreasonable for an employer to want to verify that employees are completing their tasks during working hours.

- *Szabo vs Hungary*: Hungary's surveillance of private individuals on anti-terror grounds ruled illegal



EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS
COUR EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME

IG Barometer:

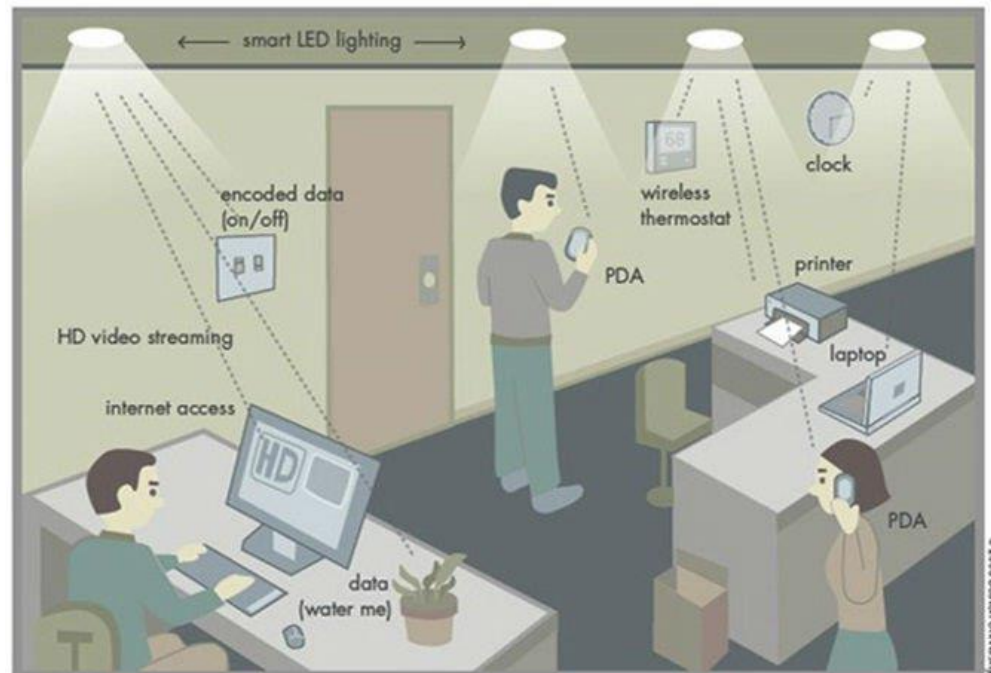


Infrastructure

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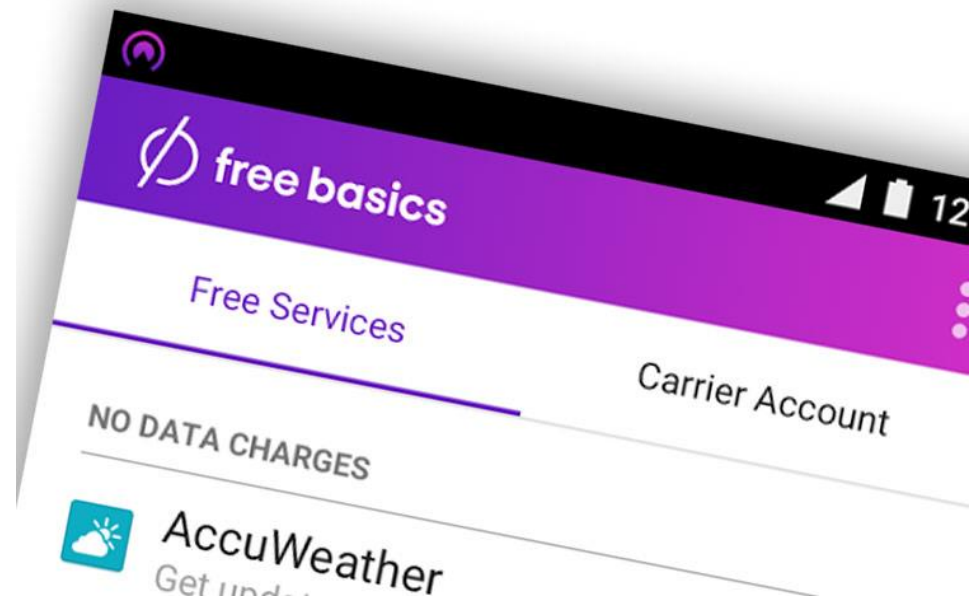
Net Neutrality

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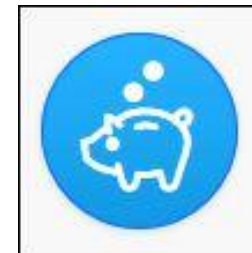
UK government pressure on intermediaries continues over backdoors into encrypted software and products

Debates on taxation taking place in different countries:

- USA debates permanent ban on Internet access taxes;
- Indian intermediaries seek tax exemptions for start-ups;
- Pakistan urged to remove taxes on broadband and data services

France: protest of taxi drivers against Uber

IG Barometer: 



Jurisdiction and legal issues

EU Data Protection Regulation to put 'one-stop-shop' approach in motion, through which companies with operations in more than one EU country will be regulated by the national Data Protection Authority in that country where the company has its 'main establishment'

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IG Barometer: 



IANA Transition

Implementation efforts under way, as work needs to be completed for transition to occur

CCWG-Accountability received comments in December over its third draft proposal: majority of comments support proposal; concerns raised over the status of GAC advice



IG Barometer: 

Main events in February

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

9 Feb: Safer Internet Day 2016

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

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

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

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

From the Geneva Internet Platform & DiploFoundation

Past events...

19 Jan: Digital Policy at the Start of 2016. A view from Indonesia (Jakarta)

Ongoing...

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

Upcoming...

27-28 Jan: Geneva Engage: E-participation for International Geneva (Geneva)

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

Local hubs & regional perspectives

Next steps...

**Time for your
questions &
suggestions**