

Internet Governance BAROMETER (APRIL 2016)

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

Global IG architecture



A Joint Communiqué of the G7 Foreign Ministers [expresses concern](#) over threats posed by terrorists' use of the Internet and social networks. It reconfirms that existing international law applies to cyberspace, and reaffirms the commitment to a multistakeholder approach to Internet governance.

The 11th Internet Governance Forum meeting, in Guadalajara, Mexico, is scheduled for 6-9 December.

Sustainable development



G7 Foreign Ministers commit to 'utilizing ICTs in addressing global issues and achieving progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'.

Online discussions on science, technology, and innovation for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are ongoing among stakeholders; [discussions will feed into the first multistakeholder forum on science, technology, and innovation for the SDGs \(New York, 6-7 June\).](#)

Security



Further high-level discussions on cybersecurity: Senior US and Russian officials renew efforts to prevent the countries from mistakenly attributing attacks to each other. [Russia, India, and China reaffirm the UN's key role in addressing issues of security in the use of ICTs and support the adoption of universal rules on state behaviour.](#)

The Panama Papers leak [wreaks havoc](#) among many governments; the breach exploited a common website vulnerability.

Mobile apps and Internet services - including Whatsapp [, Viber](#) [, and Wordpress](#) [- switch on encryption.](#)

The EU's data protection advisory group - Article 29 Working Party - expresses concerns over the complexity of the new EU-US Privacy Shield, and the public authorities' access to data transferred under the framework, among others.

The European Union adopts the General Data Protection Regulation, [which allows for more user control of data, including the right to request the erasure of personal data, and provides for the right to data portability, among other features. The main challenge relates to its implementation.](#)

Privacy and human rights



The Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers adopts a Recommendation on Internet Freedom, declaring that the European Convention on Human Rights applies both offline and online.

UNCTAD's report on Data Protection Regulations and International Data Flows [suggests that a 'core set' of data protection principles can serve as a useful starting point for more compatibility and harmonisation. It identifies seven areas where action is needed, and offers policy options for national, regional, and international initiatives.](#)

The 2016 World Press Freedom Index, by Reporters Without Borders, reveals a 'deep and disturbing decline in respect for media freedom'.

Internet Governance BAROMETER (APRIL 2016)

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

Infrastructure



The European Commission launches the European Cloud Initiative as part of a wider package of measures for digitising European industry. The initiative envisions the creation of an European Open Science Cloud and the deployment of a European Data Infrastructure. [↗](#)

The telecom regulatory authority in Morocco is sued for blocking VoIP services. [↗](#)

A report from security company Trustwave confirms that spam volumes continue to decrease. [↗](#)

Net neutrality



The White House has threatened to veto the passage of an anti-net neutrality bill (Rate Regulation of Broadband Internet Access Act), [↗](#) which could remove the US Federal Communications Commission's authority to set broadband rates or review whether a rate is reasonable. Earlier, the House voted in favour of the bill.

Egypt's decision to block Facebook's Internet.org came after the company refused to accede to surveillance requests, Reuters reveals. [↗](#)

E-commerce and Internet economy



Google has breached the EU antitrust rules, according to the European Commission. Google 'abused its dominant position by imposing restrictions on Android device manufacturers and mobile network operators'. [↗](#)

Data protection, e-trade, and measuring e-commerce is the focus of UNCTAD's E-Commerce Week, with the launch of the Data Protection Report (above), and the B2C E-commerce Index (2016). [↗](#) The sustainability and emerging economic models of the digital content was the focus of the WIPO Conference on the Global Digital Content Market. [↗](#)

Jurisdiction and legal issues



The EU's new GDPR expands its territorial reach to non-EU entities processing the personal data of Europeans. In addition, where a company has multiple establishments in different EU countries, it will fall under the responsibility of a lead authority (one-stop shop) in the country of the company's main establishment. [↗](#)

IANA transition



ICANN and Verisign will run a parallel test of the root zone management system. [↗](#) The test, which will run for 90 days, is intended to verify the integrity of the data contained in the root zone file following the transition of the IANA functions stewardship.

ICANN launched a public comment period on the draft of its new bylaws. [↗](#) The new bylaws reflect changes resulting from recommendations contained in the IANA stewardship transition proposal and in the accountability proposal. [↗](#)