



Internet Governance in **September 2016**

27 September 2016

Geneva Internet Platform

DiPLO

Main events in September

1-2 Sept: Bern Symposium on Global Cybersecurity Awareness Messaging (Bern)

5-8 Sept: Global ICT Capacity Building Symposium (Nairobi)

7-8 Sept: TLDCON 2016 (Tbilisi)

9 Sept: Internet Freedom: a constant factor of democratic security in Europe (Strasbourg)

13-30 Sept: Human Rights Council - 33rd session (Geneva)

21 Sept: InterCommunity 2016 (online & across cities)

26-27 Sept: European Cybersecurity Forum (Krakow)

27-29 Sept: WTO Public Forum (Geneva)

28-30 Sept: CyFy: The India Conference on Cyber Security and Internet Governance (New Delhi)

28 Sept-5 Oct: APNIC 42 (Colombo)

30 Sept: First meeting of the CSTD Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation (Geneva)

30 Sept-2 Oct: IGMENA Summit 2016 (Tunis)

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

Internet Governance BAROMETER (SEPTEMBER 2016)

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

Global IG architecture



At their annual summit, G20 leaders adopted the Blueprint on Innovative Growth,¹ emphasising the role of the digital economy and the new industrial revolution. The leaders, who met in Hangzhou, China, committed to a series of policies and actions, including bridging the digital divide; leveraging opportunities and coping with the challenges brought by emerging technologies; fostering favourable conditions for achieving trust and security in the digital environment; protecting and enforcing IPR; and improving training and skills for science, technology, and innovation.

China and India are now the world's largest Internet markets, according to new country-by-country data released by the UN Broadband Commission. The *State of the Broadband 2016*² also reveals that 55% of the total population still offline is from just six nations.

Preparations for the 11th IGF are under way: registrations for participation and remote hubs are open.³

Sustainable development



Sustainable development goals cannot be achieved without affordable and universal access to ICTs and broadband connectivity, members of the Broadband Commission said during their annual meeting.⁴ The Commission addressed two issues: how broadband can support the equitable provision of health and education in all countries, and how the investment levels required for the rollout of global broadband infrastructure that connects everyone, everywhere, can be achieved.

Security



The fifth UN Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (UN GGE)⁵ met in New York; the next meeting is in November.

The USA is investigating whether recent hacks of the Democratic National Committee are part of a covert Russian operation to influence the upcoming US elections.⁶ The US Democratic presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton, confirmed concerns that Russia could be interfering with the US electoral process.⁷

Following a meeting with the Russian President at the side lines of the G20 meeting in China, the US President warned of the cyber-arms race by the countries that have significant cyber capacity, which could turn cyberspace into a 'wild Wild West'.⁸

Officials from Nordic and Baltic states and the USA gathered for joint cyber-consultations⁹ in which they agreed that states have the responsibility to promote cybersecurity and human rights online, and affirmed that no state should conduct or knowingly support industrial cyber-espionage. They also endorsed the reports of the UN GGE.

Associated Press, Vice Media, and the USA Today have sued the FBI for not disclosing the Apple exploits it used.¹⁰ The news organisations are requesting the FBI to disclose details about the vulnerability and to report how much the US government paid for it.

Privacy and human rights



The theft of massive amounts of user account information from Yahoo! is believed to have been performed by a state-sponsored actor.¹¹ More than 500 million users were affected.

Internet Governance BAROMETER (SEPTEMBER 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 is proposing an ambitious overhaul of EU telecoms rules. President Jean-Claude Juncker announced a WiFi4EU programme,[a 5G Action Plan](#),[and Electronic Communications Code](#) (which will introduce new legal obligations for over-the-top service providers),[during the annual State of the Union 2016 address](#).

Major Chinese telecom companies are assessing opportunities to enter the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) market, where the Internet penetration rate is low.[This could be part of China's One Belt One Road initiative](#),[a \\$40 billion initiative launched in 2014 to recreate the legendary Silk Road](#).

In the USA, AT&T revealed plans to deliver low-cost, high-speed Internet access using power lines.[Project AirGig will install plastic antennae, which deliver data signals, on already existing power lines, creating an electromagnetic field to guide the signals across the wires](#).

The US Department of Transportation issued a Federal Automated Vehicles Policy,[which provides guidelines for the development and testing of self-driven cars prior to commercial sale or operation on public roads](#). The Department of Justice formed a threat analysis team tasked with studying potential national security challenges posed by Internet-connected devices such as self-driving cars and medical devices.

Net neutrality



The new EU guidelines on the implementation of net neutrality rules, issued by the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC),[are welcomed by net neutrality advocates](#) (join our webinar on the BEREC guidelines, on 6 October).

The European Commission's ruling which ordered Apple to pay Ireland up to €13 billion in taxes over unlawful state aid,[has sent shockwaves through the technology market, as debates continued this month](#). Both Apple and Ireland are expected to appeal.

E-commerce and Internet economy



The Indonesian government is also expected to launch an investigation into Google,[accusing it of owing unpaid taxes from its advertising revenue to the Indonesian state](#). There may be more than \$400 million in unpaid taxes in 2015 alone.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation argues that law enforcement authorities (LEA) are increasingly misusing and misunderstanding IP addresses as electronic evidence to investigate crimes,[and offer suggestions on using addresses responsibly](#).

Jurisdiction



The European Commission has published a set of proposals to modernise copyright rules.[The rules may have an impact on the way online services, such as video-on-demand and news aggregators, handle copyrighted material](#).

The Court of Justice of the European Union has ruled[that a business offering free Wi-Fi to customers cannot be held liable for copyright infringements by users, following an earlier advice issued by the Advocate General](#).

The transition of the US Government's stewardship role over the IANA functions is set to expire on 30 September. Will it be delayed? Uncertainty looms.

IANA transition



Organisations including the Internet Society and the Internet Architecture Board, and tech companies including Google, Yahoo!, Amazon, and Facebook are urging the US Congress to support the transition; US Presidential candidate Donald Trump is opposing it. (Read more: [the next steps](#);[arguments for and against](#);[the transition in detail](#)).



Top 5 trends in digital policy September

1. IANA transition and the final mile



- Contract between US government and ICANN set to expire on 30 Sept
- Culmination of 18 months of work of IG community since NTIA's announcement (March 2014) of intent to transition oversight
- NTIA gave nod of approval to proposal in August
- Uncertainty of impediment still looms (recent US Congress hearings, statements by Presidential candidate, other arguments that may delay transition)
- What happens next?



Internet Assigned Numbers Authority

2. E-commerce, trade, and innovation



- E-commerce remained in focus, picking up momentum from last month with new initiatives such as UNCTAD's eTrade for All
- E-commerce linked to development aspects, including SDGs and reducing digital divide in developing countries
- World Trade Organization's Public Forum this week to focus on commerce, trade, and innovation



Inclusive
Trade

*The GIP will report live from WTO Public Forum (27-29 Sept):
dw.giplatform.org/events/wto-public-forum*

3. Taxation: sweetheart deals & unpaid taxes



- European Commission ordered Apple to pay Ireland €13 billion in taxes over unlawful state aid
 - Concern over possible effects on trade, investment, job creation in Europe
 - For US multinationals: a question of where should taxes be paid
 - For EU Commission: a matter of unfair competition
- Indonesia expected to launch an investigation into Google, accusing it of allocating a low percentage of advertising revenue in Indonesia, resulting in unpaid taxes from advertising



4. Net neutrality and the BEREC guidelines



- EU regulation on net neutrality (Nov. 2015) set out strong rules but left unanswered questions
- New guidelines adopted by BEREC (Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications) offer guidance on implementing net neutrality regulation
- Guidelines are result of consultations with stakeholders, legal and technical experts, and public consultations
- Application in the hands of the national regulators



5. Tackling extremist content



- Need to tackle extremist content: a recurrent theme on political agendas
- Tackled also by private sector. Is it enough?
- UK Home Secretary: extremist material is spreading online at such a fast rate that UK security services are unable to keep up. Social networks not doing enough
- UK Home Affairs Committee report: Zero-tolerance approach must be adopted
- Tech incubator experimenting with search results to re-direct those searching for propaganda to anti-terror content



Main events in October

3-4 Oct: ENOG 12 / RIPE NCC Regional Meeting (Yerevan)

5-7 Oct: eCrime Cyber-Security Symposium (Bratislava)

5-8 Oct: AoIR 2016 Berlin: Internet Rules! (Berlin)

10-14 Oct: ITU Council Working Groups meetings (Geneva)

11-14 Oct: AfICTA Summit 2016 (Windhoek)

17 Oct: 4th BEREC Stakeholder Forum Meeting (Brussels)

17-18 Oct: Freedom Online Conference 2016 (San José)

24 Oct: Global Standards Symposium (Hammamet)

24-28 Oct: RIPE 73 (Madrid)

25 Oct-3 Nov: World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2016 (Hammamet)

25-27 Oct: IoT Solutions World Congress (Barcelona)

31 Oct-2 Nov: MAPPING Second General Assembly (Prague)

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

From the Geneva Internet Platform & DiploFoundation

Upcoming...

- 27-29 Sept: Just-in-time reporting from the WTO Public Forum (dw.giplatform.org/events/wto-public-forum)
- 29 Sept: Session 'Inclusive Digital Trade and Sustainable Development: Exploring Creative Solutions and Ways Forward' (dw.giplatform.org/upcoming-events)
- 30 Sept: Issue 14 of the *Geneva Digital Watch* newsletter is out (dw.giplatform.org/newsletter)
- 6 Oct: [Webinar] Net neutrality in Europe: The BEREC guidelines and beyond: (dw.giplatform.org/events/webinar-net-neutrality-europe-berec-guidelines-and-beyond)
- 25 Oct: [Briefing] Internet governance in October 2016 (dw.giplatform.org/events/briefing-internet-governance-october-2016)

Local hubs & regional perspectives

Brazil

Indonesia

Tunisia

South Eastern Europe

More: dw.giplatform.org/events/briefing-internet-governance-september-2016

Next steps...

Time for your
questions &
suggestions