

Who are the Stakeholders in Internet Governance?

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Internet governance is now an active topic of international discussion. Interest has been fueled by media attention to cyber crime, global surveillance, commercial espionage, cyber attacks and threats to critical national infrastructures. Many nations have decided that they need more control over Internet-based technologies and the policies that support them.

Concept of Multistakeholder IG

How to make “public policy” for the internet?

What is the approach ?

The aim of multi-stakeholder processes are to promote better decision making by ensuring that the views of the main actors concerned about a particular decision are HEARD and INTEGRATED at ALL stages through dialogue and CONSENSUS building.

Importance of MS approach

- Importance of MS model as a way to govern the Internet.
- The approach aims to create Trust between the actors and solutions that provide mutual benefits. The approach is people-centered and everyone involved takes responsibility for the outcome.
- Because of the inclusive and participatory approaches used, stakeholders have a greater sense of ownership for decision made. They are more likely to comply with them.

Who are the Stakeholders in Internet Governance?

At the moment, Internet governance involves a wide variety of actors, or stakeholders, as they are often called. Internet actors include national governments, international organizations, the business sector, civil society, and the technical community

Who are the Stakeholders in Internet Governance?

- Governments
- Business sector
- Civil Society
- Technical Community
- Academia

I- Governments

The governments have had to simultaneously train officials, develop policy, and actively participate in various international Internet meetings.

II- Business sector

The main concerns of the business sector was the protection of trademarks. Many companies were faced with cybersquatting and the misuse of their trademarks by individuals who were fast enough to register them first.

II- 1. Domain-name companies

- Domain-name companies include registrars and registries who sell Internet domain names (e.g. .com and .net). They have also been involved in the broader IG policy process with the main objective of reducing the risk of a potential take-over of ICANN's role by intergovernmental organisations.

II- 2. Internet service providers (ISPs)

- The key online intermediaries, it makes them particularly important for Internet governance. Their main involvement is on a national level in dealing with government and legal authorities.

II- 3. Telecommunication companies

- Facilitate Internet traffic and run the Internet infrastructure. The main actors include companies such as Verizon and AT&T.
- Their primary interest in IG is to ensure a business-friendly global environment for the development of an Internet telecommunication infrastructure.

II- 4. Internet content companies

- Google, Facebook, and Twitter are increasingly active in IG. Their core business model could be directly affected, for example, by government arrangements related to data protection and privacy.
- Content producers, such as Disney, are also prominent players, concerned about preserving the global outreach and dominance of its products and models for local content development, as well as to protect its copyrights globally.

III- Civil society

- Civil society has been the most vocal and active promoter of a MS approach to IG. The usual criticism of civil society participation in previous multilateral forums had been a lack of proper coordination and the presence of too many, often dissonant, voices.

IV- Technical community

- Includes institutions and individuals who have developed and promoted the Internet since its inception.
- Created the initial spirit of the Internet, based on the principles of sharing resources, open access, and opposition to government involvement in Internet regulation.

Thank you
