

MEAC School on IG 2021v

Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance 2021 Virtual (MEAC-SIG 2021v)

4-8 July 2021

Virtual

Organizers



The Internet has become a fundamental component in the economic, social, and political spheres around the globe. It currently connects close to four billion people. The stable and flexible functioning of the Internet is therefore increasingly important for developed, emerging, and developing countries and their citizens.

The governance of the Internet Ecosystem has long been the concern of a selected group of stakeholders, but the number of interested parties, both state and non-state stakeholders, is increasing as global connectivity spreads.

Internet Governance is a contested topic, where the Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance (MEAC-SIG) will try to offer understanding, framing, and actions to be taken in this Internet governance environment. It will offer potential governance scenarios and analyse its international, regional, and national implications at the political, economical and technical levels.

Objective

As Middle East stakeholders are under-represented in Internet governance deliberations, the objective of the Middle East and Adjoining Countries School of Internet Governance (MEAC-SIG) is to address this problem.

MEAC-SIG is one of the few Internet governance education platforms in the Middle East. It provides a rare opportunity for regional stakeholders to learn about and participate in deliberations on Internet governance issues. MEAC-SIG prepares them to take part in governance processes, empowering them to become advocates of important local issues in global Internet governance fora.

MEAC-SIG is one of the few tools available in the Middle East to introduce the various stakeholders groups, especially youth, to an independent perspective on Internet governance. We also believe that the MEAC-SIG will greatly benefit the region by disseminating the principles of openness, collaboration, and inclusiveness upon which the Internet's success has been based.



MEAC-SIG 2021v

The 2021 edition of MEAC-SIG will be conducted in English. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 edition will be held entirely virtual using ZOOM. Compared to previous editions, the 2021 edition will be condensed, and successful participants will have to conduct more offline work.

MEAC-SIG 2021v will take place on 4-8 July 2021, and the time for the sessions on each day is 08.00 - 11.30 AM UTC. Prior to the start of the SIG, participants will be requested to read some material and enroll in some online courses.

MEAC-SIG 2021v is organized by ICANN, ISOC, and the RIPE NCC.

MEAC-SIG 2021v Pre-Work

Participants are requested to fulfill some pre-work before the start of the MEAC-SIG 2021v on 4 April. This pre-work includes:

- What is Internet Governance | Internet Governance Project ([webpage](#))
- The History of Internet Governance | Wolfgang Kleinwächter ([video](#))
- 3 ICANN Learn Courses ([ICANN Learn](#))
 1. Introduction to ICANN,
 2. DNS Fundamentals, and
 3. Policy Development Fundamentals

Optional Reading

- An Introduction to Internet Governance ([webpage](#))
- Internet Governance at the Point of No Return ([webpage](#))

MEAC-SIG 2021v Agenda

Date /Time (UTC)	Session	Description	Faculty
Sunday 4 July 08.00 - 08.15 UTC	Opening Remarks (recording)	The organizers of MEAC-SIG 2021v will share some opening remarks, and officially start the SIG.	Nermine El- Saadany and Chafic Chaya and Baher Esmat
Sunday 4 July 08.15 - 09.45 UTC	The History of the Internet and Internet Governance (recording)	The lecture goes through the history of the Internet from the 1960s to the 2020s. It explains the specifics of a "Network Society" and its political, economic, social and legal implications. It covers today's geo-strategic conflicts and the efforts by the United Nations to strengthen the stability and security of the Internet.	Wolfgang Kleinwäch- ter
Sunday 4 July 10.00 - 11.00 UTC	Introductio n to Internet Governanc e and its Stakeholde rs (recording slides)	The session will talk about Internet Governance, its definition, importance, its different pillars, and the different stakeholder groups.	Nermine El- Saadany
Monday 5 July 8.00 - 9.00 UTC	ICANN, Policy Developme nt, and the Domain Name System (recording slides)	The session will give an introduction to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, and then talk about domain names and its underlying system.	Baher Esmat and Fahd Batayneh
Monday 5 July 9.15 - 10.15 UTC	Introductio n to Regional Internet Registries and RIPE NCC (recording slides)	The session will talk about the work of the regional Internet registries, and zoom in on one such organization; the RIPE NCC.	Gergana Petrova
Monday 5 July 10.30 - 11.30 UTC	Standards and the Internet Engineerin g Task Force (IETF) (recording slides [OK , NBA])	The session will talk about the Internet Engineering Task Force and its work on standards, and why it is important for the evolution of the technical underlyings of the Internet.	Olaf Kolkman and Nabil Benamar
Tuesday 6 July 8.00 - 9.00 UTC	National, Regional, and Global IGFs and SIGs (recording slides)	The session will talk about the Global IGF, regional IGFs, national IGF, and the different schools on IG.	Anriette Esterhuys- en and Anja Gengo

Tuesday 6 July 9.15 - 10.15 UTC	Internet Policy Developme nt Processes (recording slides [RD , MS])	The session will talk about Internet policy development by sharing two real life examples from two different Internet organizations on two different topics.	Rafik Dammak and Marco Schmidt
Wednes day 7 July 8.00 - 9.00 UTC	Cybersecur ity and Encryption (recording slides [AH , HK])	The session will talk about both cybersecurity and encryption in cyberspace.	Amin Hasbini and Hanna Kreitem
Wednes day 7 July 9.15 - 10.15 UTC	Internet and Privacy (recording slides)	The session will talk about the ever growing battle for privacy in cyberspace.	Robin Wilton
Wednes day 7 July 10.30 - 11.30 UTC	Fragmentat ion and role of national governmen ts in IG (recording slides)	There is a mismatch between the territorial jurisdiction of national governments and the globally interconnected cyberspace created by the internet. The conflict caused by that mismatch is a major driver of internet governance. This talk explores the tension between national and transnational internet governance.	Milton Muller
Thursday 8 July 8.00 - 9.00 UTC	Internet Governanc e and Economic Developme nt (recording slides re search)	With the advancement of multistakeholderism as a governance model in Internet governance, determining which governance model is appropriate will be a challenge. However, the stronger the Multistakeholder Internet Governance structure is, the better the Internet and economic performance will be. This session examines the impact of Internet and its governance on country's economic development and growth	Chafic Chaya
Thursday 8 July 9.15 - 10.15 UTC	Content Regulation and Platforms (recording)	This session will talk about how content is regulated over some of the online platforms widely used today.	Marwa Fatafta and George Salama
Thursday 8 July 10.30 - 11.00 UTC	Feedback Session (recording)	Participants of MEAC-SIG 2021v will share their feedback in a candid manner. The purpose of this session is to improve on future MEAC-SIG editions.	Moderated by Fahd Batayneh

All times above are in UTC.

Past MEAC-SIG Editions

- [MEAC-SIG Kuwait 2014](#)
- [MEAC-SIG Tunisia 2015](#)
- [MEAC-SIG Beirut 2016](#)
- [MEAC-SIG Ankara 2017](#)
- [MEAC-SIG Cairo 2018](#)
- [MEAC-SIG Rabat 2019](#)