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Internet Governance

Issues & Stakeholders



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Our Journey Today will Cover

First Stop

- **Introduction:** Key developments in the creation and evolution of the Internet.
- Explain the term "Internet ecosystem";
- Describe the basic Internet governance issues,
- Describe the multi-stakeholder model of Internet governance
- Shed the light on the Internet Way of Modeling (IWN)

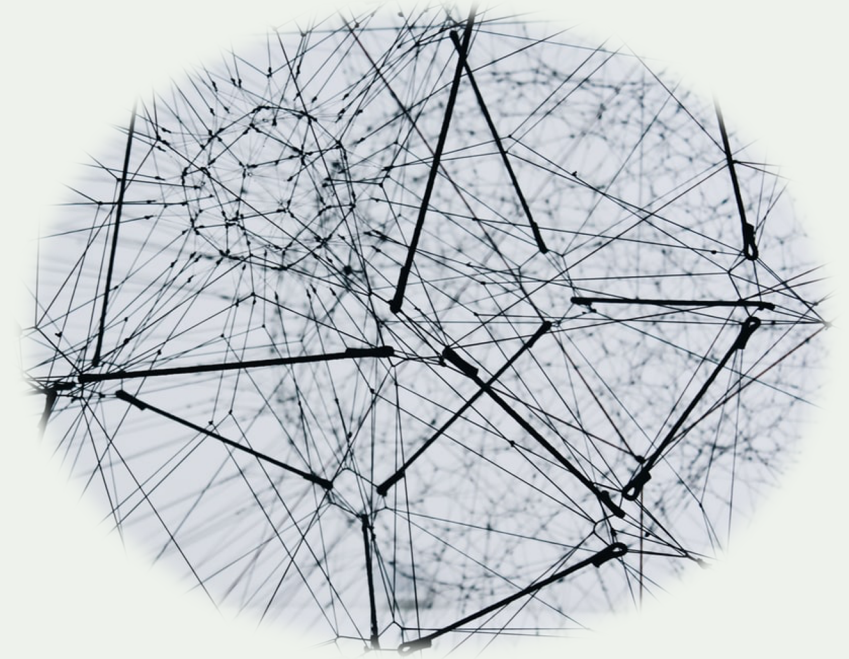
Where & How The Internet Started

When communications were still in its infancy; researchers, academia, military people wanted a medium to reach out to counterparts or even to information where they feel secure and timely.

The Internet emerged then to fill a gap that existed, and its creation has never had any boundaries or ownership, into a way to:

- Spread information
- Allow collaboration and interaction and
- Overcome limits of geographic location.

In the 1960s & early 70s, the Advanced Research Projects Agency Network or **ARPANET** & other packet switching networks started to emerge within the realm of the US Department of Defense & a collaboration of effort between 4 cooperating universities ;





The Emergence of the Network of Networks: Quick Introduction

The founders focused on creating standardized and inter-operable 'building block' technologies that could be used by others to continue building on their basic structure, within a participatory, open environment.

This was a new model for developing a communications network, referred to as the Internet Model.

Key Dimensions Emerged from the Evolution of the Internet

The technological evolution of the Internet began with research on packet switching and practical implementation in the ARPANET.

This experienced gained through this network was a key foundation in the development of the Internet.

Robert E. Kahn and Vint Cerf in the 1970s *invented packet switching, TCP/IP, DNS, NTP* and the World Wide Web. Those were the evolutionary steps in Internet technology.

Technology

Commercialization

Management

Community

The Commercialization of the Internet

Allowed many more organizations and users beyond government and academia to benefit from the Internet.

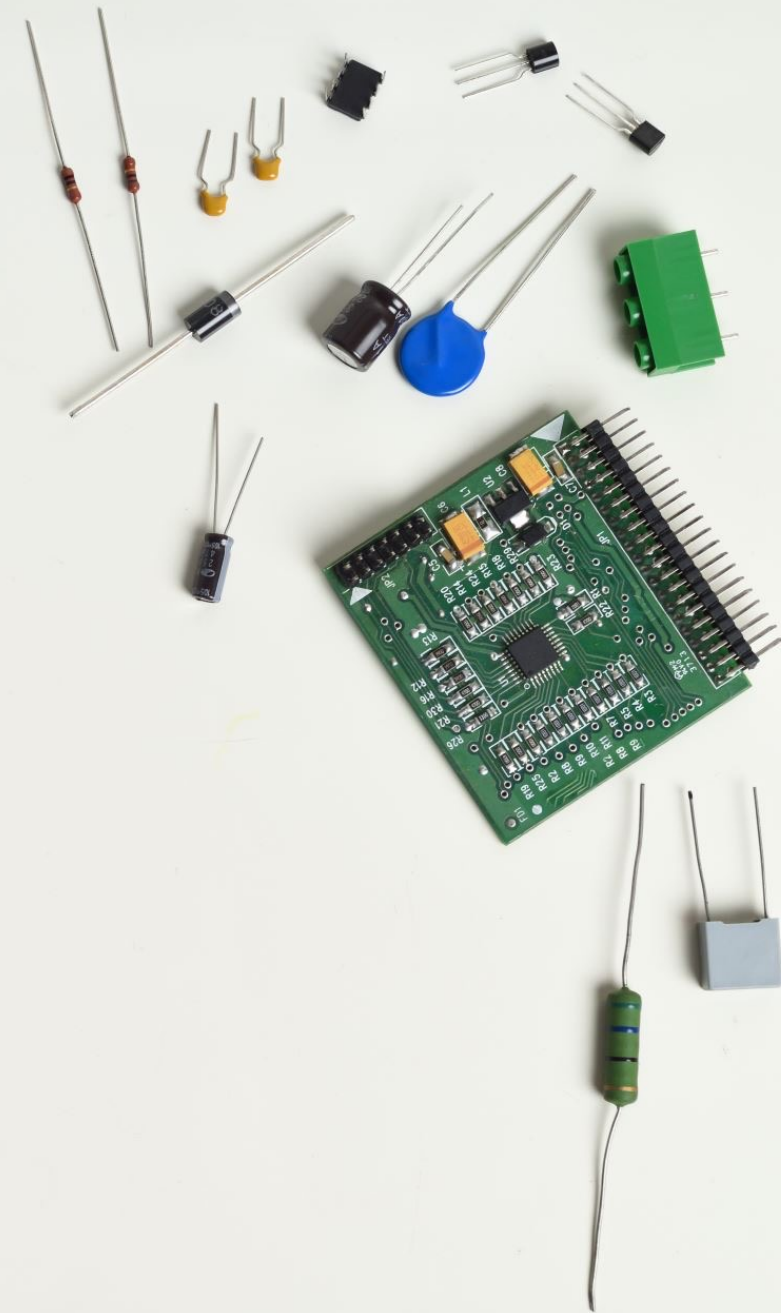
As commercial demand for access to the Internet increased, *the National Science Foundation (NSF) decided to transfer NSFNET and various functions, such as the DNS, to the private sector.*

In 1991, the High-Performance Computing Act was passed, which laid the foundation for the Clinton Administration's National Information Infrastructure initiative (NII) in 1993.



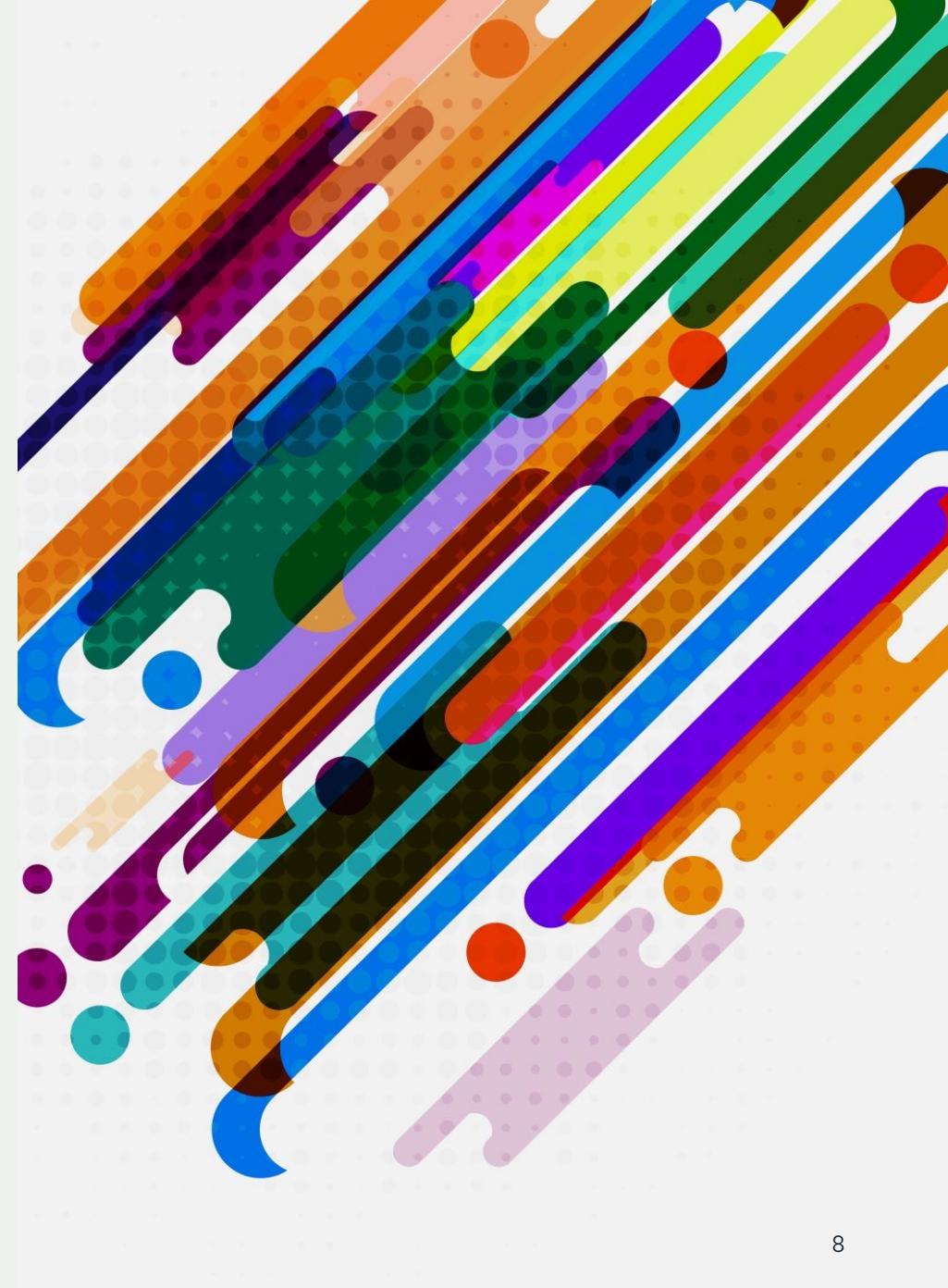
It was the policy of the Clinton Administration, as laid out in the NII, *to promote private investment.* This laid the groundwork for private sector, rather than government, leadership in the evolution of the Internet.

More than 70 years passed since "the first message was sent over the ARPANET in 1969 from computer science Professor Leonard Kleinrock's laboratory at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) to the second network node at Stanford Research Institute (SRI)".



When we think about the history of the Internet, *it is important to think not only about the technology but also about the new processes and organizations that emerged alongside the technology.*

There are several important organizations and decisions that are useful to understand in that regard;



Who takes care of the day-to-day business on the Internet?

How come a young programmer in Senegal can easily create a new application that runs very smoothly on the Internet and a user in Australia benefit from?

You are on a road trip, and you need to reach your destination quickly, easily & accurately; no one really likes to get lost

Without accurate system for naming and addressing over the Internet, no ordinary user will be able to reach his destination (information he needs) appropriately.

Government, regulators, telecom operators and international organizations

Have an important role starting from setting their national plans to include technology, innovation and communications within their core value for development,

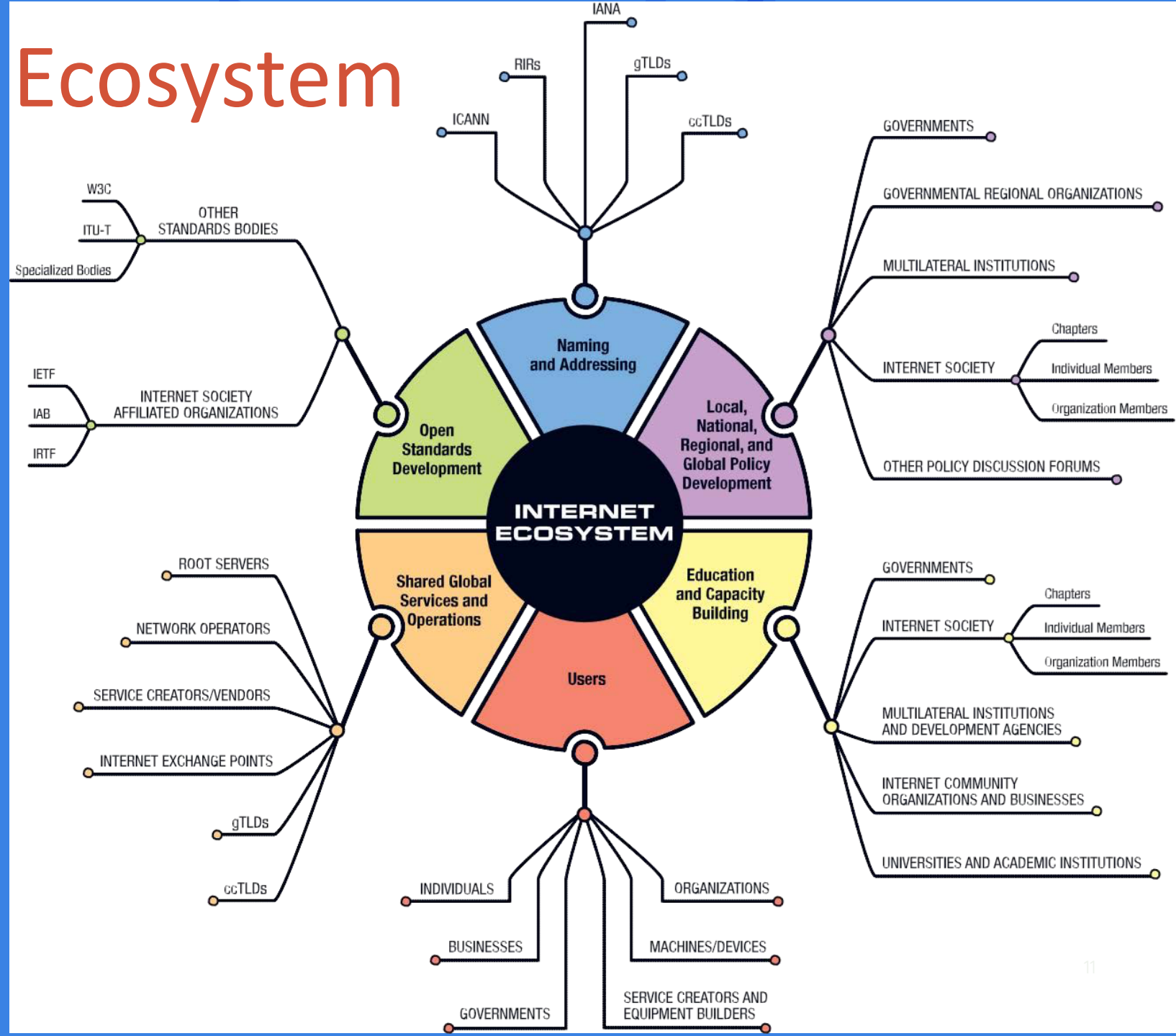
In addition to enabling the environment in a way that preserves the Internet as an open, globally-connected, trustworthy, and secure Internet for everyone

The technical community and standard development, civil society, normal users, ... are key components of what we can
Internet ecosystem

The Internet Ecosystem

The term 'Internet ecosystem' describes the organizations and communities helping the Internet work and evolve.

The Internet ecosystem is a way to describe the actors, events, and processes that come together under the Internet Model. The participation processes in this model are open to all interested stakeholders, including decision-making in a bottom-up approach.



- Open technical standards
- Freely accessible processes for technology and policy development
- Transparent and collaborative governance
- Distributed responsibility for technical management, and administrative functions

Internet Ecosystem

Decision Making



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Second Stop

There are two ways of understanding Internet Governance

Narrow Understanding

Refers to the running of the technical infrastructure of the Internet, including Internet protocol numbers, domain names, Internet protocols, and root servers. This is what is referred to as the day to day management of the Internet.



Wide understanding

Refers to the impact of the Internet on society, usually described as "public policy issues", including content control, cybercrime and intellectual property.

WSIS, held in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005), officially placed the question of Internet governance on diplomatic agendas.

Internet governance was introduced to the WSIS process during the West Asia regional meeting in February 2003; after the Geneva summit, it became the key issue of the WSIS negotiations.

The WSIS Geneva summit in 2003 agreed to establish the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG), which prepared a report used as the basis for negotiations at the second WSIS meeting held in Tunis (November 2005).

The term “Governance” has been quite controversial, especially among governments. Why?

- Government stakeholders understood the term to imply the involvement of governments, and that issues should be addressed at an intergovernmental level
- The word carries different meanings in other languages.

Hence, the definition that was reached, then, reflects a very “delicate” balance that reflected a good compromised text that could suit all views and concerns.

“

Internet Governance is the development and application by Governments, the private sector, and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programs that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

”

WSIS Definition of Internet Governance 2005



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Third Stop

Multi-stakeholder Approach to Internet Governance



Different actors working together towards common goals in Internet Governance, must be able to understand each other:

- Across multiple languages
- Across different cultural and political perspectives.
- Definitions in policy processes are not just a matter of linguistics — they are important tools.
- The way a policy issue is defined impacts the way in which the policy solution is shaped and implemented.

Multistakeholder model

- Politicians
- Business
- IT commun.
- NGO
- Academics
- Media
- ... others...



snake spear fan tree wall rope



Government &
Intergovernmental
Organizations

PRIVATE SECTOR

Private Sector



Technical Community



Civil Society

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

- Facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue on public policy issues
- Accomplishes through annual meetings, dynamic coalitions and best practice forums
- Forum helps inform and influence decision-making processes
- Many national and regional IGFs (NRIs) have been formed



The multistakeholder element was not an issue in itself; it was rather the phrase “in their respective roles” that created confusion.

But what were those roles?

How would they be agreed upon?

Although the working definition became widely used, the debate continued, and gave rise to a new term: “**enhanced cooperation**”.

Some actors, *mainly governments, believe that this term implies the establishment of an additional international governmental body* to address international Internet policy issues, or somehow, new control mechanisms. *Others believe enhanced cooperation is simply a natural way in which actors cooperate in existing and emerging settings.*

WSIS Definition of Internet Governance



- “Multi-stakeholders” meant a wide range of actors
- “In their respective roles” created confusion
- “Enhanced cooperation” term arose
 - Establishment of an additional international governmental body?
 - Natural way in which actors cooperate?
 - Continues to be explored, debated and discussed
- Setup WGEC to recommend ways of implanting “enhanced cooperation”
- Unable to do so, term continues to be debated

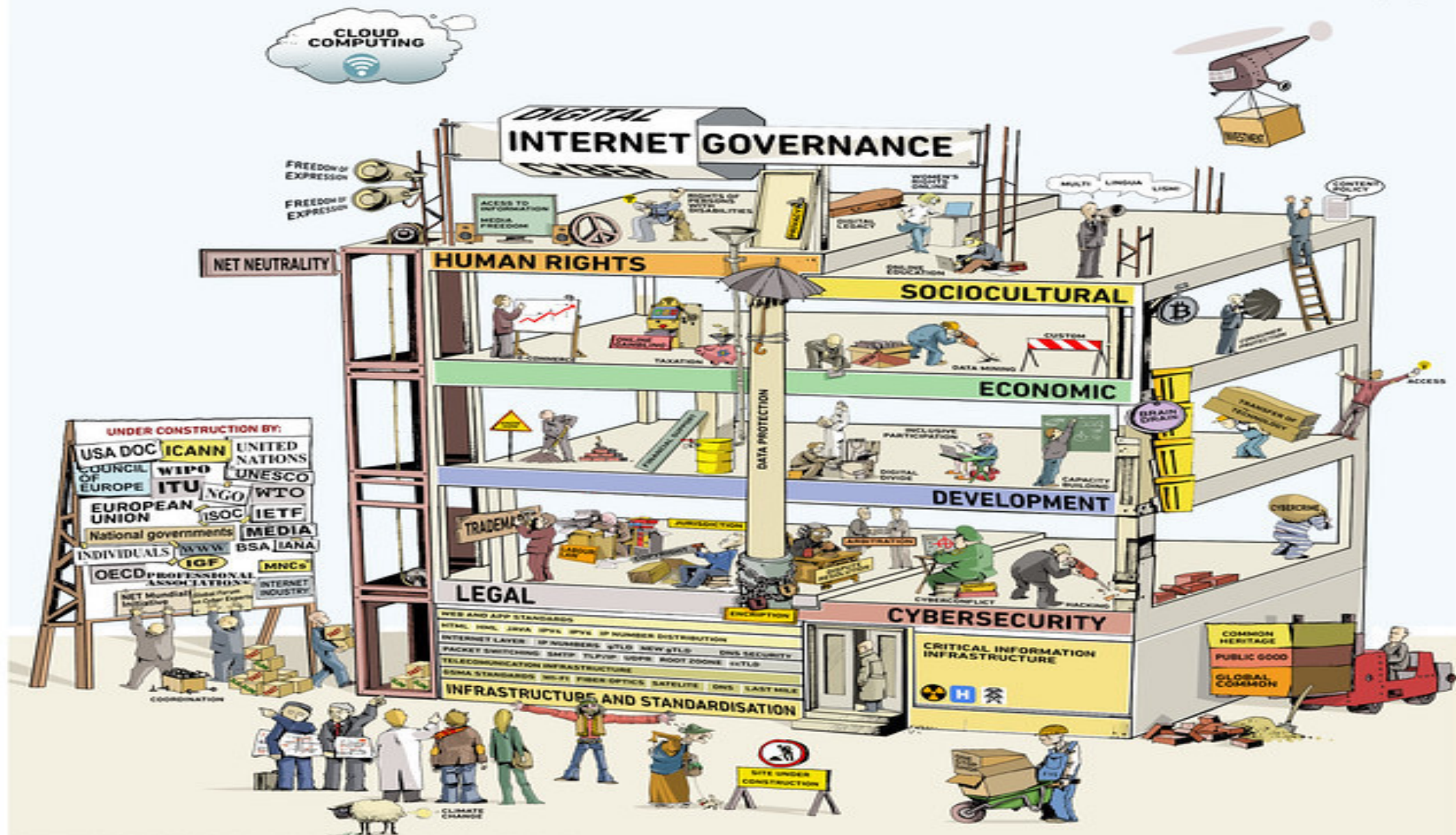
The Dilemma of the IG has always been



Multistakeholder vs. multilateral (Inter)governmental Control

Free and Open vs. Fragmentation

Issues of Internet Governance



Concept: Baldi - Gelbstein - Kurbalija Illustration: Veljašević

This is one of the oldest illustrations, developed by Diplo Foundation in 2004 (based on an older model, developed in 1997 by Diplo Foundation's founder).

The illustration introduced the concept of “baskets” or “categories”, each of which included issues which were predominantly related to that category.

The first version of the taxonomy included five baskets:

- Infrastructure and standardization
- Legal
- Economic
- Development
- Socio-cultural

Several years later, the taxonomy was expanded to seven baskets – the above five, plus **cybersecurity** and **human rights**.

Our Journey Today will Cover

Fourth Stop

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The Internet Society as part of the technical community took the lead to explain *what is the Internet Way of Networking* as people could better understand how the Internet works, and hence be in a better position to benefit from it..

What is the Internet Way of Networking?

The Internet owes its success not only to the technology, but to the unique way it operates and evolves.

This is what we call the Internet Way of Networking (IWN). It is how independent networks connect to one another, interoperate and, all together, form the global Internet.

When the Internet Way of Networking is under threat, so are the opportunities and benefit it offers. In other words, the Internet cannot fulfil its full potential.



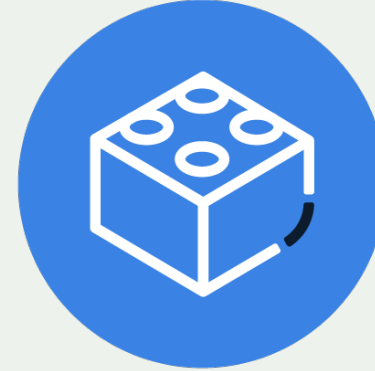
Five Critical Properties of IWN – The ideals to strive for



Accessible
Infrastructure with
a Common
Protocol



Technology Neutral,
General-Purpose
Network



Open Architecture of
Interoperable and
Reusable Building
Blocks

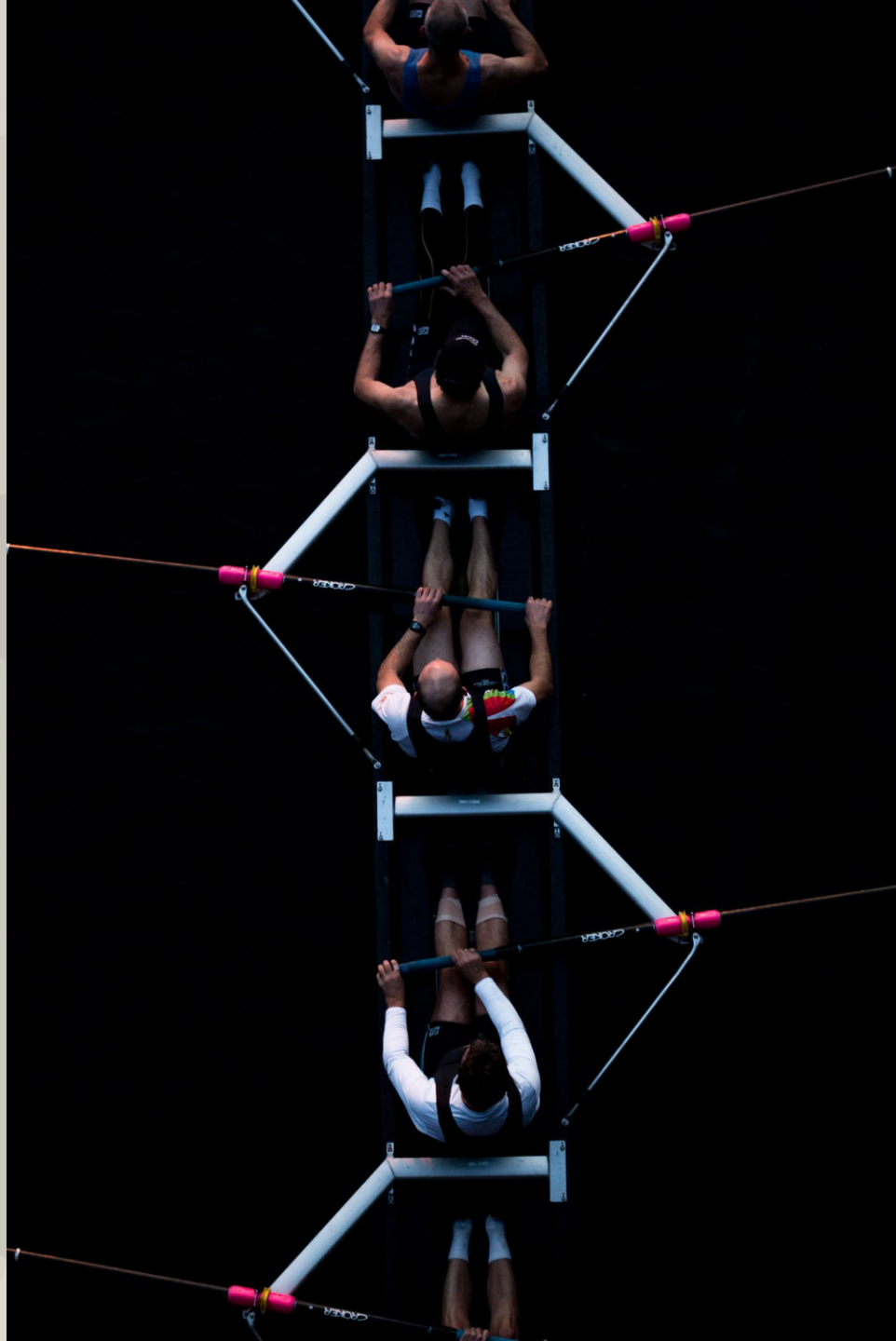


Common Global
Identifiers



Decentralized Management
and a Distributed Routing
System

Enrol to our course to learn more: <https://www.internetsociety.org/learning/iwn/>



Collaboration is KEY

Thank you

