ISOC @ MEAC-SIG

Ceren Unal
unal@isoc.org
surname@isoc.org

7 August 2017
The Internet Society (ISOC)

A nonprofit organization founded in 1992 to provide leadership in the areas of Internet-related standards, education, and policy.

ISOC’s mission is to promote the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world. We pursue our mission by:

- Serving as a facilitator and coordinator of Internet-related initiatives around the world.
- Offering leadership positions on issues related to Internet development and public policy.
- Providing an organizational home for groups responsible for the technical Internet standards-making processes.
Organizational Structure

The Internet Society, with headquarters in the United States in Washington, D.C., and in Geneva, Switzerland, with staff located throughout the world, consists of more than:

• 80,000+ Individual Members, and 140+ Organization Members,
• 110 Chapters located throughout the world.
• 6 Special Interest Groups (SIG)
• 5 Regional Bureaus
Partners & Collaborators

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
Internet Governance Forum (IGF)
Public Interest Registry (PIR)
Online Trust Alliance (OTA)
African Union (OAU)
Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)
Council of Europe (CoE)
Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID)
Human Rights Council

Inter-American Telecommunication Commission of the Organization of American States (CITEL)
International Telecommunications Union (ITU)
New Partnership for Africa’s Development Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA)
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
Building a better Internet.

**Technology**
Protocol standards, global interoperability.

**Economy**
Permissionless and innovation driving new business models.

**Political**
Openness is possible across many different policy regimes.

**Society**
The Internet as a social medium for users.
Trust: Increasing trust in the Internet

Four key components of increased trust in the Internet: User trust, trust in technologies, trusted networks and trust in the ecosystem that encompasses all stakeholders affecting how the Internet is operated and governed.

Four interrelated ISOC trust initiatives:

- **Identify and advocate for best practices** in privacy, security, and ethical data handling;
- **Collaborate with and support partners** to make more pervasive and usable the technologies that underpin digital identity, confidentiality of communications, and data privacy;
- **Strengthen and expand practices by network operators** that increase the security and resilience of routing mechanisms and protocols; and
- **Advocate for policies** that enhance security and privacy, and promote the ecosystem of transparent, multistakeholder Internet governance.
Access: Connecting the unconnected

Integrating the physical and intellectual capital requirements for increasing Internet access, ISOC undertakes four initiatives to:

— **Provide more network infrastructure development**, including wireless community networks and Internet Exchange Points (IXPs);
— **Empower communities to translate Internet access into opportunities for development**;
— **Invest in the next generation of leaders across technology, policy, and business** that will make the right decisions for the future of the Internet; and
— **Equip existing leaders in government and industry** with frameworks that adopt global policy approaches to local and regional conditions and requirements.
Next Generation Leaders Programme

The NGL curriculum (academic and field-based components, can be completed separately)

- Moderated eLearning course: “Shaping the Internet – History and Futures”
- The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Ambassador programme
- Fellowship to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Technology Foresight Forum

Who can benefit from the NGL programme?

Young Internet professionals aged between *20-40 (from academia, the public sector, industry, and civil society, from all over the world); seeking to develop a career in Internet technology, policy, and business

What is the expected outcome?

- accelerate your training in diplomatic skills,
- master the drivers of Internet-based innovation and growth, and
- experience the technical development of the Internet.
Youth IGF Programme

For young individuals between ages 18-25:

1. Online course work (4 weeks) (En/Fr/Sp)
   - Introduction to Internet Governance
   - Internet Actors and Stakeholder Groups
   - Internet Infrastructure, Standards, and Protocols
   - Internet Policy Principles

2. Travel fellowship to IGF 2017

3. Webinar lecture series

4. Onsite Collaborative Leadership Exchange (in partnership with Internet Society Ambassadors to IGF, Youth Fellows from other programs, and IGF attendees more generally)

applications currently open-deadline 15 August!
Beyond the Net Funding Programme

- **Who can apply?:** Applications from Internet Society Chapters or projects with an Internet Society Chapter actively involved.

- Funding for projects that support ISOC mission and use the internet to help change lives that help the community, providing tools and skills and creating visibility to Chapters

- Several programmes offered:
  - Small projects you can finish in a short time funding (up to 3 500 USD);
  - Medium-scale funding (up to 10 000 USD) and;
  - Large-scale funding (up to 30 000 USD) and;
  - Chaperthon; working together for a common goal.
Special edition of InterCommunity 2017, ISOC’s global membership meeting on 19 September 2017

**Schedule**

Live presentation of the 2017 *Internet Hall of Fame* induction ceremony.

Interactive Regional Nodes around the world for a lively discussion on the critical factors that will shape the future Internet. The conversations will focus on key findings from our *2017 Global Internet Report*

Roundtable discussion featuring several Internet Hall of Fame inductees and next generation Internet leaders from our *25 under 25 program*.

**The next 25 years depend on you… Join us on September 19!**

#ICOMM17
Internet Futures

What will shape the Internet of the Future?
The Internet Society is 25 years old – we have been around the Internet space for a long time

We understand the history of the Internet to where it is today

On the basis of our experience and knowledge about the world, our community has some ideas on how the Internet is likely to develop over the next 5-10 years
Internet Futures Project

Introduction

A global, community driven endeavor initiated in 2016 to identify factors that could change the Internet as we know it.

- 2,500 survey responses from over 160 countries
- 130 expert interviews across the globe
- 15 roundtable discussions around the world

have been conducted that will result in the

2017 ISOC Global Internet Report

(Release in September 2017)
The Internet Futures Project aims to:

- Better understand the **forces of change** shaping the future of the Internet
- Gather a global perspective on the **trajectory of change** over the next five to seven years
- Make **recommendations** on how to shape the Internet’s future, for ISOC and for other stakeholders
The soon to be released report will reflect ISOC’s analysis, findings and recommendations that will include:

- Three “Impact Areas” and six “Drivers” identified through consultations
- Insights into how those drivers, and their interdependence, may shape the future of the Internet
- Preserving the fundamental properties of the Internet for governments and other stakeholders
What Will Shape the Future Internet?

**DRIVERS**
- Internet and the Physical World
- Role of Government
- Artificial Intelligence
- Internet Economy
- Cyber Threats
- Networks, Standards and Interoperability

**IMPACT AREAS**
- Personal Freedoms and Rights
- Digital Divides
- Media, Culture and Society
What is our Community Telling us?

“All access will not be achieved as hoped if trust is not addressed.”

- Technical expert, Middle East

All stakeholder groups across all regions see extremely high investment and innovation in Internet security in the future.

Having said that, those with a technology or academic background believe that the level of investment in Internet security technologies today is higher today than do their counterparts in public policy or civil society.
What is our Community Telling us? (cont.)

"The economy is changing far faster than the rules governing it. The system we have in place to regulate business is stuck in the 20th century notion of how the economy works."

- Private sector, Europe

Every stakeholder and region felt the future was likely to see the *level of government regulation* of the Internet *increasing* in the future.

Respondents from Africa seem to predict the greatest increase in regulation.

Business respondents perceive the level of regulation today to be lower than respondents with a public policy background.
What is our Community Telling us? (cont.)

"Liberal values are weakening around the world - doesn’t bode well for the Internet. 'Winter is coming.'"

- Civil society, Europe

Respondents from Europe and North America (while they agreed the benefits would outweigh the risks) predicted a trend toward greater risks than benefits.

Otherwise, most respondents believe that the benefits of the Internet will continue to outweigh the risks.
"You have the uncertainty of what the inputs are, the magic of what the process is doing at driving a conclusion which are for our “good” and that is a terrifying prospect in my mind, because we have no idea what is going on" - Technologist, Europe

"AI will enable greater transparency of data collection and provide users with greater control of its use" - Technologist, Europe

Logic

- AI and machine learning may become embedded in all forms of technology that incorporate data exchange and analysis, including the Internet and related applications.

- Raises uncertainties, including the potential loss of human agency and decision-making, lack of transparency in how algorithms make decisions, discrimination, the pace of technological change outstripping governance and policy, and ethical considerations.
Logic

- The growth and ubiquity of the Internet is a sign of progress and innovation.
- However, it may reach a tipping point where the risks to society and freedoms grow faster than the benefits.
- While the impact on personal freedoms and human rights in a future that is ever more connected is far from clear, it is likely that challenges related to surveillance and the loss of privacy and control over one’s data will become more pressing.

“The Future of the human race depends on a healthy, free and open internet.”
- ISOC member, India

“The Internet is not leading to a rights based society but rather to a surveillance society.”
- Civil society, Europe
Observations – Leading to Recommendations

• Notable that civil society is not seen as a driver of change in the Internet.

• Community still sees the Multistakeholder model as important for the future & in need of strong support.

• Empowerment of end users comes up repeatedly throughout the work in terms of rights, privacy, economics, new technologies, security, etc. There is a perception that users are losing power (linked back to MS model).

• The values and abilities that form ISOC’s foundation are still seen as highly relevant for the future BUT…

• People are worried that these values are in jeopardy.
Thank you.
Get involved.

There are many ways to support the Internet. Find out today how you can make an impact.