

A Couple of Words about APTLD: Our Region at a Glance



APTLD: Some Hard Facts

- A non-profit, non-governmental association, one of four sister regional orgs
- 62 Members: 45 Ordinary and 17 Associate
- From Afghanistan (A) to (New) Zealand (Z)
- From the Baltic sea to the Antarctic area, to the Latin America
- From Niue (1,200 residents) to China and India (over 1.5bn residents)
- From very small members (a few hundreds of registrations) to giants (China- 20m registrations), yet all enjoying equal rights
- From universities' IT departments to commercial companies, to nations' cyberadministrations and Telecom regulators

Hard Facts:

We are serving >60% of the global population

We are extremely diverse in every regard: size, legal form, operation, you name it...

We share the same mission - we are trustees of our nations' online identity



Russia's IG Policy

Russia's Underestimated Feature

Slavofiles

You will not grasp her with your mind
Or cover with a common label,
For Russia is one of a kind –
Believe in her, if you are able...

Emotio

Westernizers

Russia sees its salvation ...in successes of civilization, enlightenment , humanism.
She does not need preaching...but awakening ...the sense of human dignity for centuries lost in dirt, rights and laws consistent not with the church's teachings, but with the common sense and justice, and their strict, as much as possible, enforcement...

Ratio

The Runet: the Background

Until 2000: Westernizers rule	After 2000 Slavofiles rule
Stable gradual expansion	Boom (fueled by DotComs) (since 2003)
Moscow and St. Petersburg as major drivers of expansion (the Internet for a few)	Regions as major drivers of expansion (the Internet is ubiquitous and fairly cheap (e.g my unlimited plan at 100 MBps + landline phone – a. 20USD/month))
No Government in the Net	The Government becomes keenly aware of the Runet's agitprop potential and uses it intensively aggressively at home and overseas
The rise of the future Internet sector leaders: Yandex, Mail. RU, Kaspersky, VK, etc.	The national industry leaders go global; their domination on the domestic market and THEIR PHYSICAL EXODUS from both Russia and the West
No censorship	Establishment of the official censorship
Security concerns low, no strategy adopted	Security concerns high, strategic policy documents developed, VPN and TOR banned; chaising Telegram messenger

Pillars of Russia's IG Policy

- The all-time strongest **anti-West &** US sentiments
- Manichean (B&W) mindset
- Living on and with myths:
 - 1) Besieged fortress mentality +conspiracy-mindedness
 - 2) Red button (held by ICANN – of course!)
 - 3) Sovereign Internet
 - 4) Multilateralism (ITU) as the only solution
 - 5) Two superpowers on the Internet: Russia and US (sorry, China, no room for you)

The Sum of All Fears: 2011 Initiative: Concept of the Draft UN Convention on International Information Security

The main threats to international peace and security in the information space

1) the use of information technology ... to engage in hostile activity and acts of aggression;

2) **purposefully destructive behavior** ... aimed against critically important structures of the government of another State...

4) actions in the information space aimed at undermining the political, economic, and social system of another government, and **psychological campaigns** carried out against the population of a State with the intent of destabilizing society;

5) the use of the international information space by governmental and non-governmental structures, organizations, groups, and individuals for terrorist, extremist, or other criminal purposes;

6) the **dissemination of information across national borders**, in a manner counter to the principles and norms of international law, as well as the national legislation of the government involved;

7) the use of an information infrastructure to **disseminate information** intended to inflame national, ethnic, or religious conflict, racist and xenophobic written materials, images or any other type of presenting ideas or theories that promote, enable, or incite hatred, discrimination, or violence against any individual or group;...

8) **the manipulation of the flow of information in the information space** of other governments, disinformation or the concealment of information with the goal of adversely affecting the psychological or spiritual state of society, or eroding traditional cultural, moral, ethical, and aesthetic values;

9) the use, carried out in the information space, of information and communication technology and means to the detriment of fundamental human rights and freedoms;

10) the **denial of access to new information and communication technologies**, the creation of a state of technological dependence in the sphere of informatization, to the detriment of another State;

11) information expansion, **gaining control over the national information resources** of another State.

Russia's major potential allies

China? Has its own IG agenda; pragmatic; a “big brother” sentiment – no trailing behind Russia; *Wuzhen Summit as an alternative to IGF*

India? the biggest democracy, voiced support for MS; unpredictable (repetitiously changed sides)+ controversies between China and India
Hosted IGF (twice) and ICAN meeting (once)

Brazil? Could be (mentality is close), but has recently defected to the US. *Hosted IGF (twice) and had NetMundial as a new track for MS*

South Africa? No clear IG agenda and ambitions (*hosted ICANN twice*)

So, most likely Iran+ **some** “stan” countries- hardly credible allies and hardly visible on the global Internet development map....

In a Nutshell

- ~~No vision, no strategy, no IG policy.~~ An extremely conservative policy as a background of a sweet talk about Digital Economy- a hard sell to anyone in the country and overseas
- Cold war sentiment ~~driven fundamentals of (whatever)~~ underlies the IG Policy without due any account to the Internet's technical fundamentals and socio-economic institutional pillars
- Strive to address challenges
 - through oppressive measures;
 - By excluding stakeholders from the dialogue
 - Self-isolation on the global arena
- In a direct conflict with best practices and contrary to interest of Russia's 100% literate, relatively well educated (except for foreign languages) population and a high penetration rate (over 670%)
- Such a policy should be short-living (hopefully)

**Yet, believe it or not - we are hosting Asia Pacific Regional IGF in 2019,
regardless!
Come join us in Vladivostok, the Federal Far Eastern University 16-19 July 2019!**

