What Is Internet Governance?

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We will address:

- What is the internet?
- Core internet protocols (layers model)
- What is governance?
- Internet governance by scopes
- Internet governance issues (group discussions)
- Internet governance ecosystem
- Internet and multistakeholder governance
What is the Internet?
(Question to the class)
"A network of autonomous networks of computing devices, which share the same core protocols enabling them to interoperate regardless of the endpoint applications and devices."
1970s: DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) creates ARPANET

1980s: ARPANET expands to include universities, research facilities and gov’t agencies: Internet

1990: NSF assumes responsibility for the management and coordination of the non-military portion of the Internet.
**Historical references**

1992: NSF signs an agreement with Networks Solutions Inc. to manage domain name registrations.

1998: the U.S. Department of Commerce signs an MoU establishing ICANN as a nonprofit entity in charge of the management of the DNS and IP addresses.

See: http://...
Core internet protocols: Layers model
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Layer</th>
<th>Protocols/ Technologies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Layer</td>
<td>HTTP, DNS, SMTP, FTP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport Layer</td>
<td>TCP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet Layer</td>
<td>IPv4, IPv6, IPsec</td>
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<tr>
<td>Link Layer</td>
<td>Ethernet, Address Resolution Protocol</td>
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</table>
What is governance?
Defining governance

"Entails the task of steering a given community or sector of activity.

"The community concerned may be defined by the boundaries of an activity domain or of geography, or still by any other identity criteria.

"The purposes or goals of governance may include the protection or thriving of the governed.
Internet governance by scopes
“Internet governance narrowly refers to the handling of technical coordination required for, and policy issues related to, the interoperability and smooth functioning of the different components of Internet infrastructure and the exchange of information/contents over the Internet.”
Narrow scope IG

1) Technical standardization

2) Resource allocation and assignment

3) Policy formulation, policy enforcement, and dispute resolution
“Internet governance is the development and application by the Governments, private sector and civil society in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet. (WGIG Final Report 2005)
Internet governance issue areas
Critical Internet resources

"Internet logical resources, globally unique identifiers

• IP addresses
• Domain name system
• Autonomous system numbers
Other issue areas

" Intellectual property protection
- Patents, copyright, trademark

" Competition policy

" Security & survivability of public infrastructure

" Communication rights
- Freedom expr. & asso., privacy & data protection vs surveillance & censorship

" Internet protocol design
Internet governance ecosystem
The IG ecosystem

ICANN (and the IANA function)

RIRs

ISOC

IAB

Internet Operators' Groups

Etc.

Operators' Groups

Network Interconnection
The IG ecosystem: standard-setting bodies

- IETF: Internet Engineering Task Force
  - TCP, IP, UDP
- W3C: World Wide Web Consortium
  - Application-layer standards for the Web
- ITU
  - Security & VoIP
- IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
  - Ethernet LAN & Wi-Fi standards
- ISO, MPEG
Internet and multistakeholder governance
Multistakeholder Internet

Governing the Internet impacts all people regardless of national borders.

Given the open and distributive nature of the Internet architecture, its governance will have to involve a lot of coordination and cooperation.
“The Internet community comprises all internet users, including end users as well as any levels of actors that seek to shape the evolution of the Internet or to put it within reach for any other users.

“ All may have a say in the way decisions are made or implemented about the global Internet.
What is Internet governance?

- Institutions and practice
- The technical community
- The IG ecosystem
- The community of users & organized civil society
- Other stakeholders

Scholarship and research
- Science & Technology Studies
- Policy studies
- Globalization politics
- Law
We have tried to

“Define what the internet is”

“Define what governance is”

“Define Internet governance by a narrow scope as well as by the broader scope”

“Identify a number of Internet governance issues”

“Identify the main actors in the Internet governance ecosystem”

Articulate
Thank you

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