



# What is internet governance?

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# Overview

- What have you all always wanted to know about IG?
- A bit of history: concept and discourse
- Scope of IG
- Distributed IG
- Key institutions involved in IG
- Multistakeholder vs. multi-lateral approaches
- Where next?



# What I am not covering!

- ICANN in any detail
- WSIS +10
- Human rights and IG
- ICT for development and IG
- History of IG in any detail
- Anything in any detail....



# What is the internet: techie definition

“Text book” definition: 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.

Is this still sufficient?



# What is the internet: public policy definition

“...the Internet is a global resource which should be managed in the public interest”

From the NETmundial statement developed at the NETmundial, a multistakeholder event on IG held in Sao Paulo in 2014



# Who runs the internet?

The answer depends on what your definition of the internet is....

- Phone networks? Mobile? Landlines? Undersea fibre? Satellite?
- People?
- Content?
- Applications?
- Facebook

Network neutrality?



# What is 'governance'?

- Task of steering a given community, or sector of activity (set of processes)
- This community may be defined by the boundaries of an activity or of geography, or still by any other identity criteria.
- The purposes or goals of governance may include the protection or best interests of the governed.
- It may also entail control or repression of the community...



# The WSIS and IG

- World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005)
- 2003 Geneva Declaration of Principles
  - Key outcomes: multistakeholder, human rights, people-centered development
- 2005 Tunis Agenda (Internet Governance Forum)
  - Key outcomes/debated points: role of government, “enhanced cooperation”, “equal footing”, “respective roles and responsibilities of stakeholders”
- WSIS ten year review 2015
  - Key outcomes: Renewed IGF, inclusion of women, affirmed WGIG definition of IG and multistakeholder process, requested more work on enhanced cooperation (role of governments)





# IG: narrow definition

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 definition: examples

Names, numbers, protocols:

- Internet logical resources, globally unique identifiers:
- IP addresses
- Domain name system
- Autonomous system numbers
- Protocols:
- TCP/IP
- IPV4 and IPV6



# IG: broad definition - accepted and used by UN

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 and included in the Tunis Agenda)



# Broad definition: examples

- Human rights apply online as they do online (HRC resolution 2012)
- Domains such as .Africa and .Amazon
- South African Film and Publication Board online content regulation
- YouTube ban in Pakistan
- African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms



# Broad definition: broader issues

- Patents, copyright, trademark
- Competition policy
- Security and survivability of public infrastructure (essential facilities)
- Freedom expression and association
- Right to privacy – data protection
- Liability of intermediaries
- Platform responsibility
- Surveillance
- Shutdowns



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What are the implications of this definition?



# IG milestones up to 2000

1970s: DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) creates ARPANET

1980s: ARPANET expands to include universities, research facilities and government

1990: US's National Science Foundation responsible for coordination of the non-military portion of the Internet

1996: African Information Society Initiative and NICI plans

1998: Establishment of ICANN

1999: African Development Forum



# IG milestones in Africa

Meanwhile in Africa....

What was happening from 1990 to 2000?





# IG milestones contd.

2001-2003: World Summit on the Information Society Geneva phase > Geneva Declaration and Plan of Action

2004-2005: Working Group on IG

2004-2005: WSIS Tunis Phase > Tunis Agenda

2006-2015: IGF

2012: Working Group on IG Improvements

2014: Working Group on **Enhanced Cooperation**

**2015: WSIS +10**

**2016: IANA TRANSITION**



**Who should run the internet?**

Should anyone run the internet?



# Narrow approach: institutions

- ICANN (gTLDs)
- The IANA function
- Country code domain authorities (ccTLDs)
- RIRs
- ISOC and IETF and IAB
- Internet Network Operators' Groups
- ISP associations



# Narrow approach: institutions

- Internet Engineering Task Force: TCP, IP, UDP
- W3C: World Wide Web Consortium - application-layer standards for the Web
- ITU: Security & VoIP & spectrum & digital migration
- IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - Ethernet LAN & Wi-Fi standards



# Broad approach: institutions

National telecoms regulators

UN agencies: WIPO, HRC

Ministries of information and communication

Civil society coalitions

Regional bodies such as African Union Commission

Courts: national and regional e.g. European Court of Justice



# The overlapping IG jigsaw

## TECH

- Local Loop (Last Mile)
- Telecommunications liberalisation
- Management of spectrum
- Limitation of IP Numbers
- Cybersecurity
- DNS
- Network Neutrality

## ECONOMIC

- Internet Content Economy
- E-commerce
- Internet Access Economy
- E-payment and cyber-currency
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## LEGAL

- Patents
- Copyright IP issues
- Cybercrime
- Trademarks
- Privacy Protection
- Data protection
- Intermediary liability

## SOCIAL

- Human Rights
- Rights of People with Disabilities
- Child abuse
- Education
- Content Policy
- Universal Access
- Gender
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# The overlapping IG jigsaw

- Global
- Regional
- National



# Meanwhile.. in Africa

- African Union Commission
- Regional economic communities (SADC, ECOWAS, COMESA)
- Regional regulatory associations (WATRA)
- IGFs
- National bodies, e.g. regulators
- What else?





# Distributed IG

Given the open and distributive nature of the Internet architecture, its governance will have to involve a lot of coordination and cooperation

Governing the Internet impacts all people who rely on it, regardless of national borders.



# Multistakeholder poker

Multilateral

Multistakeholder

Who are the stakeholders?

Roles of stakeholders?

Enhanced cooperation

Geo politics

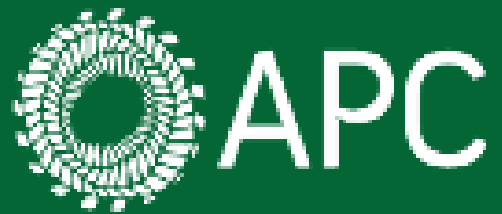
To regulate or not?



# Your questions

... what has not been answered yet?





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