

Global IG Architecture



French President Emmanuel Macron launches Paris Call for Trust and Security in Cyberspace, a high-level declaration on developing common principles for securing cyberspace, during Paris Peace Week.

Facebook and Google sign Sir Tim Berners-Lee's Contract for the Web, which appeals to governments, companies, and 'netizens' to improve Internet accessibility, privacy, confidentiality of user data, and to keep the Internet free and safe.

Sustainable development



During the ITU's Plenipotentiary Conference (ITU-PP18), member states approved a revised resolution on the use of ICTs to bridge the digital divide; the ITU is to continue its task of preparing adequate ICT reference indicators for measuring the digital divide, collecting statistical data, measuring the impact of ICTs, and facilitating a comparative analysis of digital integration.

The OECD's latest report on Bridging the Digital Gender Divide: Include, Upskill, Innovate reconfirms that women have less access to technology, services, and educational opportunities in information technology than men.

Security



Two new cybersecurity resolutions are adopted by the UN General Assembly's First Committee. Russia's resolution establishes an open-ended working group to develop the 11 norms of the 2015 UN GGE report, on a consensus basis; the USA's resolution calls for the establishment of another UN GGE.

Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace proposes six new norms for state and non-state behaviour.

The EU updated its cyber defence policy framework, with six priority areas, including the development of cyber defence capabilities.

E-commerce and Internet economy



same relevance

The work force landscape is changing with the gig economy, and traditional social protection systems may no longer be adequate, according to a new OECD study. New rules for the gig economy are expected in the UK, while in Australia, the Fair Work Commission ruled that a driver for a food delivery company was an employee, and not an independent contractor.

Economic Ministers at the 33rd ASEAN Summit agreed on new e-commerce rules that aim to facilitate cross-border transactions and promote confidence in the use of e-commerce in the region to drive economic growth and social development.

The fourth largest cryptocurrency, Bitcoin Cash, which emerged from a Bitcoin fork in August 2017, has split further, following a dispute over its consensus mechanisms. Visa will be deploying a blockchain-based digital identity system for cross-border payments.

Digital rights



increasing relevance

A new UN GA's Third Committee resolution calls on states to prevent privacy violations, and on businesses to inform users on the collection, use, sharing, and retention of their data.

Internet freedom declines for the 8th consecutive year, according to Freedom House's latest report

Facebook announced it will appeal the UK's Information Commissioner's Office's fine over the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

Google's takeover of UK-based AI lab Deepmind raises concerns over the company's future access to patients' health data collected from UK's National Health Service (NHS).

Jurisdiction and legal issues



increasing relevance

France reaches an agreement with Facebook to allow government officials to monitor the company's hate speech policies and removal procedures.

An Indian High Court rules that an e-commerce platform is liable for counterfeit goods sold on its platform, even though the items are sold by third parties listing their products.

Infrastructure



same relevance

Elon Musk's SpaceX receives approval by USA's FCC to send over 7 000 very-low-Earth orbit satellites to provide global internet connectivity from space.

A resolution on self-driving cars by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) makes several recommendations for automated driving systems and their users.

Net neutrality



same relevance

AT&T CEO urges US Congress to pass net neutrality laws in order to avoid a patchwork of state legislation.

US senators ask major wireless carriers for a written statement regarding throttling of video services. The deadline for replying is 6 December.

New technologies (IoT, AI, etc.)



increasing relevance

Malta establishes a task force to develop a national strategy on AI; Germany to invest €3 billion in research and development by 2025; the UAE establishes a lab to develop AI regulations.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe calls on member states to evaluate the impact of algorithmic systems on human rights. A second document warns about the 'manipulative capabilities' of algorithmic processes, and the risks of using large amounts of personal data for such process.

The UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights has called for more transparency around AI.

An AI-powered lie detector program is being tested at airports in Hungary, Latvia, and Greece.