

The Internet Generation Forum Hungary 2019

The first national IGF of Hungary
September 12, 2019
Hungexpo, Budapest

IGF

INTERNET GENERATION FORUM

12 SEPTEMBER 2019

BUDAPEST

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**DISCUSSING THE INTERNET OF TODAY
AND TOMORROW**
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Introductory section

On September 12, 2019, the beautiful city of Budapest hosted its very first Internet Governance Forum (IGF) Hungary, focusing on the youth under the dedicated theme 'Internet Generation Forum'. The one-day conference, held in English, was aimed at discussing future Internet Governance matters of relevance to Hungary and the region. This year, the conference was organized in conjunction with the [ITU Telecom World](#), which was also organized in Budapest, between September 9-12.

Initiative's main objectives and guiding principles

In planning the event, the Organizing Team sought to involve all stakeholder groups in the preparatory and organizational processes (government, academia, technical, private and civil society). Prominent members of the local telecommunications and internet sector have been invited to join the steering committee accordingly. As a *target group*, the conference aimed to attract the local and regional Internet community, including market players, technical supporting organisations, government officials, academics and young talents (approximately 200 participants).

Regarding the structure of the *agenda*, the conference had the overarching theme and section topics decided following a survey consulting the local community. In this regard, a call for proposals, in line with the IGF general guidelines, was launched early in the preparatory process. To further emphasize the importance of new talents, the event also hosted an Internet Governance related competition for students and young innovators in the region.

The Internet Generation Forum Hungary 2019 was organized in accordance with the five core IGF principles, which are:

- *Open and transparent*
- *Inclusive*
- *Bottom-up*
- *Multistakeholder*
- *Non-commercial*

Steering Committee

- Károly Balázs Solymár, Deputy Secretary of State for Infocommunications, the Ministry of Innovation and Technology. Government.
- Ottó Dalos, CEO Hungary, CISCO. Private sector.
- Ervin Kajzinger, Director of International Affairs and Strategy, National Media and Infocommunications Authority. Government.
- István Erényi, Senior Advisor, HU ICANN GAC Representative, Ministry of Innovation and Technology. Government.
- Erzsébet Bánkuti, Secretary General, Scientific Association for Infocommunications, Hungary. Civil Society.
- Gábor Magyar, Head of the Media and Telecommunications Department, Budapest University of Technology and Economics. Civil Society/Academia.

- János Zsakó, Managing Director, Council of Hungarian Internet Providers, registrar, .HU. Technical community.
- Béla Bödecs, Member of the Board, Council of Hungarian Internet Providers, registrar, .HU. Technical community.

Major highlights of the preparatory process

- December 2018: Initial discussion on IGF
- March 2019: Decision on IGF
- May-June 2019: Planning of the IGF initiative and submission of all forms required
- June 2019: Official recognition of the IGF initiative by the IGF Secretariat
- June 2019: Open call for contributions (panels, topics, speakers) addressed to the wide community
- June 2019: Open call for submissions (student competition) addressed to students and young innovators in the region
- August 2019: Panels, speakers and keynotes selection and sending invitations
- August 2019: Partnerships (SEEDIG, Compact Budapest Symposium)
- September 12, 2019: IGF Hungary 2019
- September-October: Post-IGF reporting and emailing

Organizing Committee

- Máté Mester (CEO, MSpire), Head of the Organizing Committee – civil society
- Péter Nagy (Operations Director, Scientific Association for Infocommunications, Hungary (HTE)) – civil society
- Ioana Stupariu (SJD at Central European University), Member of the Organizing Committee – academia

Contact

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Contact person: Máté Mester - mate.mester@mspire.hu

Informational details about the annual meeting

Date: September 12, 2019, 8.30-15.30

Venue: Hungexpo, Albertisai street, Budapest, Hungary – Forum Area, room 4 - Helicopter

The overarching theme

The very first IGF Hungary was held under the theme of *Internet Generation Forum*, focusing on getting the youth and innovators more involved in matters of Internet. The conference had three panels of discussion to further promote this, the conference included a call for student contributions from all over the region, encouraging students from region's universities and young innovators to think creatively about solutions for the most pressing problems of the Internet.

Information about the Host of the meeting

The event was organized by two associations, the [Scientific Association for Infocommunications \(HTE\)](#), and the [ICT Association of Hungary \(IVSZ\)](#).

The Scientific Association for Infocommunications (HTE), founded in 1949, is a voluntary and autonomous professional society of engineers and economists, researchers and businessmen, managers and educational, regulatory and other professionals working in the fields of telecommunications, broadcasting, electronics, information and media technologies in Hungary. Besides its more than 800 individual members, the Scientific Association for Infocommunications has more than 50 corporate members as well. Among them there are large companies and small-and-medium enterprises with industrial, trade, service-providing, research and development activities, as well as educational institutions and research centers.

The ICT Association of Hungary (IVSZ) is the largest and most significant leading interest group of the Information and Communication Technologies industry in Hungary. The association operates as a joint platform for the information technology, telecommunications and electronics sectors ever since it was founded in 1991. Due to ICT being one of the most dynamically expanding and developing industries in the world, it has a significant role in the economic prosperity of Hungary. Therefore, with reference to the increasing dominance of the sector, the Association of Hungarian ICT started having a serious role in the Digital Transformation of Hungary. With clearly communicating the innovative industry trends and relevant concerns, the association is also dedicated to implement and spread the importance of the digital economy. Therefore, IVSZ has always been aspired to effectively represent the sectorial and social interests and strategic goals of the Hungarian information society and the ICT sector. As the association has approximately 450 precious member companies, representing their interests is also critical.



The event was also supported by the Ministry of Innovation and Technology of Hungary, with the [Internet Governance Forum Secretariat](#), [ICANN](#) and [SEEDIG](#) as partners.

Information about the multistakeholder Organizing Team

The Organizing Team has been formed respecting the multistakeholder principle of the IGF initiatives. It is comprised of two bodies: the Organizing Committee, with executive responsibilities, and the Steering Committee, with supervisory and advisory role.

Reflection to the records and information regarding preparatory meetings

The Steering Committee met several times, especially in the preparatory phase, to discuss the strategy and make decisions with regards to calls for contributions, the list of speakers, the topic panels, partnerships and entries for the student competition. However, most communication took place in written form, via email, as quick feedback and reactions were needed to ensure deadlines were being followed.

With regards to the Organizing Committee, most of the preparatory meetings took place on Skype, as they had to happen more often. Weekly meetings were needed in order to ensure that the calendar was being followed, that all stakeholder groups were consulted, and that all communication with speakers, participants and partners was being carried out in a timely, transparent and efficient manner.

All in-person and online meetings have been documented through note taking and sharing of the meeting notes on the Organizing Team meetings.

Reflection of IGF Principles on the preparatory process

Open and transparent. As a general rule, it is important that the IGF is conducted in a transparent manner. This means that wider relevant communities, beyond the organizing team, need to be properly informed about the work plan. At IGF Hungary 2019, this was done by keeping interested stakeholders and the wider community informed, by posting news on the website, updating regularly the conference agenda and other relevant information, sharing the open calls on lists and social media pages, and answering emails sent on the conference email. The conference was open to anyone in the community, regardless of field, profession, gender, country age, as long as they were filling in a registration form and there were seats available.

Inclusive. The organizing committee of the IGF had the responsibility to organize the conference and develop an agenda that reflected the views of the wider community. To this end, the Organizing Team conducted a public consultation on the substantive meeting program, via a call for contributions, as ways to ensure inclusiveness. The call allowed any individual, company or organization to submit speakers, panels and topics for the conference, which then constituted the basis for the conference agenda.

Bottom-up. As the decision-making process of the IGF is bottom-up by nature, the manner in which we organized the meeting included incorporating and reflecting the views of the community directly from the source into the agenda and processes. This was done through a direct and open public consultation, as well as by incorporating in the Steering Committee representatives from all stakeholder groups.

Multistakeholder. The multistakeholder approach refers to collaboration between all stakeholder groups on an equal footing (private sector, civil society, government and technical community), around development and implementation of an array of Internet-related principles, norms, rules, decision making procedures, and policies and programs. We sought to ensure this through a diverse speakers' line-up and a representative Steering Committee.

Non-commercial. Given that, as a rule, all IGF initiatives are non-commercial (not-for-profit), this event was not organized for the purpose of gaining profit. This means that the attendance at the annual meeting as well as the cost of participation for interested stakeholders during the preparatory process and the meeting day were free of charge.

Agenda of the meeting (including speakers/presenters)

The one-day conference, which took place on September 12, started at 9.00 and ended at 15.15. It comprised 3 keynote speeches and three panels of discussions, ending with student presentations, following the student competitions for solutions to matter of internet and technology.

After welcoming its audience, the event started with **three keynote speeches**: Mr. Károly Solymár from the Ministry of Innovation and Technology (Hungary) and Mr. Ervin Kajzinger from the National Media and Infocommunications Authority (Hungary) have both spoken about the importance of youth involvement in discussions on matters of technology and Internet, while and Ms. Agnieszka Gładysz from the Office for Electronic Communications (Poland) gave an overview of the telecommunications sector in Poland.

The Keynote speeches were followed by **three panels of discussions**, which have been composed following an open call for proposals addressed to the broad IG community, in line with the open, transparent, inclusive, non-commercial and multistakeholder participation principles. Anyone willing to contribute to shaping the internet governance agenda in the region was free to submit proposals both for topics as well as for speakers.

The first panel, moderated by Ms. Joanna Kulesza (ICANN At-large), talked *about the future of Internet in Central and Eastern Europe*, with panellists sharing from their own experience in their countries or the institutions represented. The discussions had as panellists Ms. Oliana Sula (South Eastern Europe Dialogue on Internet Governance Ambassador, Albania), Ms. Liljana Pecova-Ilieska (Impetus - Center for Internet, Development and Good Governance, Macedonia), Ms. Ivett Paulovics (MFSD Intellectual Property Dispute Resolution Center, Italy), Mr. János Zsákó (.hu Registry, Hungary) and Mr. Péter Major (Hungarian ICANN GAC member, United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development).

The second panel of the day was moderated by Mr. Levente Nyakas (National Media and Infocommunications Authority, Hungary) and approached the topic of *information in the age of Artificial Intelligence*. The members of the panel engaged in a lively discussion on what the approach to AI should be, both from the state and regulators, as well as from the private sector and citizens. Panellists included Mr. Arthur Keleti (Voluntary CyberDefence Collaboration, Hungary), Ms. Fanni Hidvégi (Access Now, EU AI HLEG, Belgium), Mr. Gergely Gosztonyi (ELTE Law School, Hungary), Mr. Krzysztof Izdebski (ePantswo, Poland), Ms. Gabriella Cseh (Facebook) and Ms. Elena Dodonova (Council of Europe).

The last panel of the day discussed topics of *security and protection of youngsters online* and was moderated by Mr. Ottó Dalos (CISCO, Hungary). The discussion was carried out between several reputable and experienced speakers: Mr. Predrag Tasevski (Cloud Security Expert, Germany), Mr. Dániel Berzsenyi (National Cyber Competition, Hungary), Mr. Jean-Jacques Sahel (ICANN) and Ms. Katalin Baracsi (HTE Information Security Section, EIVOK, Hungary).



The event ended with the Grand Final of a [student competition](#) dedicated to youngsters from the V4 countries (Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia) and the broader CEE, who have been encouraged to submit entries tackling the topic *What would you fix at the Internet of today for a better Internet of Tomorrow?* Four teams from universities from Hungary and Armenia have been selected to present in the Grand Final, with the jury declaring as winner the team representing Corvinus University of Budapest, made of Ms. Anna Kollár and Ms. Virág Kiss.

The event was moderated by Mr. Péter Major (Hungarian ICANN GAC member, United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development).

Overview of the main key points raised at each of the sessions

Panel 1 - Future of Internet in CEE, Moderator: Joanna Kulesza

- Security and privacy in 5G networks - is there a regional specific?
- Local brain drain - are we losing best professional to other regions?
- Universal Acceptance and IDNs - are we ready for non-latin scripts? How high is the local demand?
- What are specific end user needs in the region? How do we best represent them? Are our local concerns being reflected in the global discourse?
- Regional multistakeholder cooperation - do we need a local platform?

Panel 2 - Information in the age of AI, Moderator: Levente Nyakas

- Regulation and ethics. What kind of guarantees (tools) do you think the best serve the transparency of developing AI?
- Trust. What kind of guarantees (tools, policies) do you think the best serve the trust in AI from the side of politics and the user?
- Access to information (Freedom of Speech). What are the main characteristics of AI which can create obstacles to peoples' access to information? (AI and filter bubbles, AI monitoring and filtering/removing offensive content)
- Prejudice (problem of context). AI intelligence is accused of being biased (social, political, personal sense etc.). What are the objective criteria being unbiased? How unbiased treatment can be modelled? (cyber surveillance (serving security), labour market, political arena (access to diverse information))



Panel 3 - Keeping the Internet of tomorrow safe and secure for youngsters, Moderator: Ottó Dalos

- How can the cloud ensure young people's Internet security and data integrity?
- How do you see the GDPR's role here?
- What are the best practices in young people's cyber security education?
- What are the best security awareness trainings?
- How do you see the Internet of the Future, where young people can live more safely?
- How much do you think social media is dangerous?
- What would you recommend, how can we educate the youngsters? How can we convince them to understand security and that online presence is important?
- What is the role of manufacturers, of the state in enhancing the safety of young people online?

The organizing team declared the event a clear success, especially for its first edition, having solidified the regional interest for discussions on Internet and Internet governance matters. More information about the event can be obtained from the [official website](#) and the [Twitter account](#), as well as by contacting the organizing team.



Attendance statistics of the meeting

The event had a registration form, which had to be filled in and submitted before the event. The numbers showed that:

- 94 persons registered for the event directly, out of which
- 56 male and 38 female,
- 57 from Hungary, 7 from Poland, 3 from France, 1 from the UK, Germany, Estonia, Belgium, Italy, Macedonia, Switzerland as well as a few others from other countries.

In addition to this, the event was open to all ITU Telecom World participants, including more than 500 university students registered for the same day, out of which many have attended the Internet Generation Forum as well.

All stakeholder groups were represented, but the highest number of attendees were from academia, government and civil society.

Information about the meeting's budget

The meeting took place in a low-cost manner, having received in-kind and/or financial support of the Hungarian Government, the organising associations and partners of the event, as well as the Organizing Team and the wider community.

- The meeting was organized in conjunction with the ITU Telecom World 2019 conference hosted by the Hungarian Government in Budapest, through which **the venue and the tech capabilities** necessary for the event to take place were ensured.
- The organizers have covered the **lunch** during the one-day conference for participants.
- No payment has been provided for any speakers, and no travel or accommodation costs for any of the speakers have been covered.
- The organizers have also ensured **the awards** for the winning team at the student competition, comprised of a full-paid trip to Berlin at this year's IGF.
- The costs for **branding** (website, visual materials, designs for documents) have also been covered by the organizing associations.