GeoIGF

Georgian Internet Governance Forum 2016

Report

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Executive Summary

The Second Georgina Internet Governance Forum took place in Tbilisi on **September 5th, 2016** at **Tbilisi Techno Park** of the **Georgian Innovations and Technologies Agency.**

More than 180 participants from Georgia and 39 foreign speakers and guests discussed important for Georgian Internet space issues at the eight following sessions:

1. Multi-stakeholder Approach to Internet Governance and Internet Governance Goals in Georgia
2. Internet Access and Broadband Gap
3. Domain names and Internet
4. E-Governance Achievements and Challenges
5. Protection of Copyright
6. Online Protection of Children
7. New Media and the Internet
8. Personal Data protection in Internet and cyberspace

The Georgian IGF2016 was organized by multi-stakeholder organizing committee established by more 30 institutions and individuals and representing Georgian Public and Private sectors, civil society and Academia.

The forum was supported by Georgian state, several international organizations as well as local sponsors, supporters and volunteers.

Preparatory Activities

In December 2015, Council of Europe organized the First Internet Governance Forum in Georgia. The aim of the forum was to highlight the issues important for Georgia's Internet space. The representatives of the non-governmental sectors and other stakeholders together with governmental and private groups were involved in the development of the agenda of the forum.

Early in 2016, Non-governmental originations "Internet Development Initiative" and "Association of Small and Medium Telecom Operators", established the Primary Initiative Group, which united the representatives of the National Regulatory Commission of Georgia, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, ISOC Georgia and the public and the private sectors of Georgia.

On May 4, 2016, the Forum Initiative Group held a founding meeting of the Forum at the Library of the Parliament of Georgia. The founding meeting approved the Charter of the Forum and elected an Organizing Committee. At the same meeting the Organizing Committee discussed and approved following timeline for the preparatory activities:

Time frames	Activity
2016 January - February	The meeting of the founding group and initial agreements
2016 March - April	Communication with the potential members of the Forum, preparation of the draft of the Action Charter of the Forum members
May 2016	Establishment of Internet Governance Forum
June 2016	Presentation of internet site test version
June 2016	Elections of Executive Committee and the Board coordinators
July 2016	Presentation of the draft agenda and commencement of the voting process
July – August 2016	The preparatory works of the Forum, meetings in the groups, forming of the agenda, relationship with donors and supporters.

Internet Governance Forum united up to 30 organizations and 16 individuals expressed interest to become individual members of the Executive Committee of the Forum.

The following Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forum was held on June 2, 2016. The Meeting elected the Forum Working Group, the host organizations and the coordinator for 2016 event. The meeting also highlighted the draft agenda of the forum. The Executive Committee approved September 5 as the date of the event. The test version of the Forum web page - www.geoigf.ge, was also presented and approved by the Meeting.

The representatives of the Council of Europe (CoE), ISOC - European Office, RIPE NCC and ICANN as well as LEPL "Georgia's Technology and Innovation Agency" expressed their willingness to support the Forum. At present, local commercial companies and the public sector members are considered as the forum contributors.

Key Principles

Georgian Internet Governance Forum brings together individuals interested in Georgian Internet Governance issues. Any interested person may join and participate in the Forum. It is organized in accordance with the main IGF principles: open and transparent, inclusive, bottom up, multistakeholder and non-commercial.

The Forum aims to support public consultation processes and involvement of all stakeholders in the identification and discussion of the local problems,   ensure direct or remote participation of all interested parties in the forum or other similar events, and ensure the involvement of the public sector, the civil society, the private sector, academia and technical societies.

Participation in the Internet Governance Forum is voluntary. Admittance to the membership is performed without state registration and does not originate any financial or other obligations. Membership of the Community is open to the public and all interested persons may, at request become its member upon submission of the application.

For the regulation of the organizational issues, the "Internet Governance Community" elects in the manner prescribed by this Charter, the "Georgian Internet Governance Forum Committee" for the period of one year according to the parity quota. In the Committee, the stakeholders are distributed in the following five (5) groups, namely: governmental, commercial, non-governmental, academic (as well as technical field experts and the representatives of information society) and representatives of international organizations.

The major principles of the Forum activity are presented in the Multilateral Agreement are as follows:

- Protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms on Internet, support of democratic process and the rule of law;
- Support of implementation of the internet governance with the participation of all stakeholders;
- Support of harmonization of international regulations and local legislation;
- Support of enhancing of internet users' rights and capabilities;
- Promotion of the universalization of the Internet;
- Support of internet security and reliability, sustainability and credibility;
- Support of formation of the decentralized approaches of the Internet governance based on social responsibility;
- Support of introduction of innovation, new technologies and services in the Internet sector;
- Introduction of the principles of open access and freedom of user's choice;
- Facilitation of the cultural and linguistic diversity in the internet as well as support of development of local content increase.

The Charter of the Forum is based on the recommendations and best practices of the United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) represented by the IGF Secretariat, the Council of Europe, the Internet Society (ISOC) and implies the multilateral engagement model of development of the Forum agenda, organization of the Forum with minimal costs and maximum transparency, and maximum involvement of the parties. The national Internet Governance Forum of Georgia is based on the cooperation of all stakeholders, bringing together 5 interested groups: government, private sector, civil society, the experts of scientific and educational and technology fields and the representatives of international organizations. All the participants are taking part in the forum as equal partners.

Agenda

Time	Topic	Panelists
09.30-10.00	Registration/ Welcome coffee	
10.00-10.30	**Welcome Speech**	1. **David Khutsishvili,** Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia 2. **Vakhtang Abashidze**, Chairman, Georgian National Communications Commission (GNCC) 3. **Cristian Urse,** Head of Office, Council of Europe Office in Georgia 4. **Maarit Palovirta,** European Regional office, Internet Society (ISOC) 5. **Irakli Kashibadze,** Chairman, Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) 6. **Michael Yakushev,** Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia And Central Asia, ICANN 7. **Thomas Schneider,** Swiss Government / Chair, ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
	First Session	
10.30-11.30	**Multistakeholder Approach to Internet Governance and Internet Governance goals in Georgia**	**Moderator: Olivier Crepin-Leblond,** PhD, EuroDIG, EURALO, ISOC UK England **Speakers:** 1. **David Khutsishvili,** Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia 2. **Merab Katamadze,** Commissioner, Georgian National Communication Commission (GNCC) 3. **Dusan Stojicevic**, SEEDIG **(**Serbia**)** 4. **Mark Carvell,** The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (UK)
11.30-11.50	Coffee break	
	Second Session	
11.50-13.00	**Internet Access and Broadband Gap**	**Moderator: Maarit Palovirta,** European Regional Affairs Manager, Internet Society (ISOC) **Speakers:** 1. **Besarion Abuladze,** Project Coordinator, World Bank GENIE (Georgia) 2. **Nino Kubinidze,** Director, Open Net (Georgia) 3. **Gediminas Šečkus,** Head of Legal and Corporate Affairs PE „Plačiajuostis internetas" (Lithuania) **Mariam Sulaberidze,** Strategy Development Department, GNCC, (Georgia)
13.00-13.15	Discussion, Q&A	

Time	3rd Session		4th Session	
14.00-14.50 **Domain names and Internet**	**Moderator: Michael Yakushev,** Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia And Central Asia, ICANN **Speakers:** 1. **Thomas Schneider,** Chair, ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), (Switzerland) 2. **Mzia Gogilashvili,** Strategy Development Department, GNCC (Georgia) 3. **Sopho Elizbarashvili** ITDC, .გე Manager (Georgia) 4. **Lianna Galstyan,** ISOC.AM, .հայ (Armenia) 5. **Sopho Kiziria**, Caucasus Online, .ge Manager (Georgia), **Genadi Rostomauli,** Magticom (Georgia)		**14.00-14.50** **E-Governance achievements and challenges**	**Moderator: Giga Paitchadze,** Administration of the Government of Georgia **Speakers:** 6. **Ivar Tallo -** TWINNING Program, e-Governance, Estonia 7. **Irakli Gvenetadze,** Data Exchange Agency (DEA) Chairman (Georgia) 8. **Levan Avalishvili,** Chairman, NGO „ Institute for Development of Freedom of Information" (IDFI) (Georgia)
14.50-15.00	Discussion, Q&A			
	5th Session		6th Session	

15.00-15.50 **Personal data Protection and the Internet**	**Moderator: Nini Sarishvili,** Office of the Personal Data Protection Inspector of Georgia **Speakers:** 1. **Marie Georges,** independent expert, (France) 2. **George Pirveli,** Cybercrime Division, Central Criminal Police, Ministry of Interior of Georgia 3. **Lika Sajaia,** Transparency International Georgia, "Civil society against illegal surveillance: „This affects you!"(Georgia)	**15.00-15.50** **Copyright and Internet**	**Moderator: Natia Kuprashvili,** CEO, Regional Broadcasters Association of Georgia, GARB, (Georgia) **Speakers:** 1. **Eka Kubusidze,** Head of Telecommunications, Information and Modern Technologies Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia 2. **Ivane Makharadze -** Head of Broadcasting Regulation Department, GNCC (Georgia) 3. **Manana Pruidze,** Head of Department of Legal and International Affairs, Sakpatenti (Georgia) 4. **Yuriy Kargapolov -** Ukrainian Network Information Center/UANIC
15.50-16.00	Discussion, Q&A		
16.00-16.20	Coffee Break		
	7th Session		**8th Session**
16.20-17.20 **Online Protection of the Children**	**Moderator: Jaba Nachkebia** UNICEF (Georgia) **Speakers:** 1. **Tamta Tepnadze-** Public Defender of Consumers Interests, GNCC (Georgia) 2. **Nikoloz Varnazashvili –** parliament of Georgia 3. **Irina Verdzeuli,** Head of Strategy Development Department, GNCC (Georgia)	**16.20-17.20** **New media and the Internet**	**Moderator: George Gvimradze,** Director of News and Current Affairs, Georgian Public Broadcaster (Georgia) **Speakers:** 1. **Nata Dzvelishvili,** Executive director of the Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics (Georgia) 2. **Thomas Schneider,** Swiss Government representative to the Council of Europe steering committee on media and information society (CDMSI) 3. **Maya Metskhvarishvili,** Editor, netgazeti.ge (Georgia)
17.20-17.30	Discussion, Q&A		
17.30-18.00	Closing Session **Mamuka Andguladze** (Council of Europe Georgian office, media program head), **Michael Yakushev** - Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia, ICANN**; Igor Mikirtumian** (ISOC Armenia, president) and **Maxim Burtikov** (RIPE NCC, regional bureau head) addressed the participants of the Forum.		

Agenda was developed using a bottom up and multi-stakeholder approach. Topics ware selected based on open voting on Georgian IGF 2016 web site. Final agenda was approved by the executive committee of the IGF 2016 forum

Opening Speeches and Panel discussions

Mr. Ucha Seturi, the Forum Coordinator, gave opening remark and declared Second Georgian Internet Governance Forum as open.

The welcoming speeches were given by **Davit Khutsishvili** (Deputy Minister, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia), **Vakhtang Abashidze** (Chairman, Georgian National Communications Commission), **Christian Urse** (the Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia), **Maarit Palovirta** (Regional Office for Europe, Internet Society (ISOC), **Irakli Kashibadze**, Chairman, Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency, **Michael Yakushev**, Vice-President of Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia And Central Asia, ICANN and **Thomas Schneider**, the Swiss Government / ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee.

Mr. Davit Khutsishvili, Deputy Minister, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia - Internet governance implies transparency and active involvement of parties and all interested participants in the governance process, and availability of information. This kind of governance represents a priority and the most important task of the government.

Mr. Vakhtang Abashidze, Chairman, Georgian National Communications Commission - Internet Governance Forum is held for the second time in Georgia, which indicates the commitment of Georgian society to promote introduction of principles of internet governance in our country; namely - protection of the consumer's right in the internet space, development of standards of freedom of expression in the Internet, information security and protection, online journalism, etc. The Internet Governance Forum plays an important role in upgrading knowledge and education as well as in discussing and policy-making with regard to key issues related to Internet.

Ms. Maarit Palovirta, European Regional Affairs Manager, Internet Society (ISOC) - the issues on the agenda are relevant no only to at the national level, but at the global level as well. The issues on the agenda are also in line with ISOC's priorities – Interne t access for those who do not have Internet access yet. It is also important to strengthen and maintain the credibility towards the Internet.

Mr. Christian Urse, Head of Office, Council of Europe Office in Georgia -The First Internet Forum was held in December 2015 with the involvement of the Regulatory Commission and local interest groups. The agenda of the event correspond to the priorities which are promoted by the Council of Europe and the European Union, which primarily implies freedom of expression

and independence of the media, as key issues of the Internet governance. No less important is personal data protection and right to privacy, but the most important issue of the meeting was the joint participation of all interested groups in the process and the organization of the event.

Mr. Michael Yakushev, Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia, ICANN – He talked about the internet governance issues and its meaning due to country's internet regulation policy. He underlined ICANN's important role in this process. Mr. Yakushev gave the presentation about the IANA transition, when USA government will delegate the control processes to ICANN.

Mr. Thomas Schneider, The Swiss government and ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee - The main elements of the Internet Governance Forum is interaction and engagement level and the opportunity to give a greater voice to one's views.

1ˢᵗ Session – Multi-stakeholder Approach to Internet Governance and Internet Governance Goals in Georgia

Moderator: Olivier Crepin-Leblond - PhD, EuroDIG, EURALO, ISOC UK England - The moderator made presentation on the origin, essence and importance of the Internet Governance Forum.

Speakers:

Mr. Davit Khutsishvili, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia – according to **Davit Khutsishvili**, the development of the Internet and the provision of equal availability of the Internet for everyone are the priorities of the Government of Georgia. He discussed the high-speed Internet infrastructure development project of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. The goal of the Project is the construction of 2 000 settlements of fiber-optic cable systems, arrangement of access points, and hence the promotion of access of the population to broadband services and high-speed Internet. The Deputy Minister of Economic Development also noted that the growth of internet users, the issues regarding respect of private life and right to privacy, censorship and self-censorship, copyright infringement, hate speech and calling for violence, protection of juveniles from the harmful effects on the Internet has become particularly important in recent years. These issues are directly related to freedom of expression, presentation of thoughts, receiving and dissemination of information, disclosure of information on the Internet and other key issues.

Mr. Merab Katamadze, a member of the Commission, Georgian National Communications Commission (GNCC) - As Merab Katamadze said, according to the statistics, more than half the world's population lives without the Internet, and the same tendency is observed in Georgia. This means that the Internet still has a lot of resources for development. Merab Katamadze reviewed the measures that are necessary for addressing these challenges, including the adoption of appropriate regulatory framework and its implementation in the country. Merab Katamadze also discussed on the Action Plan for 2015-2017 of Georgian National Communications Commission, under which Internet governance issues represent priority for the Commission, and the major goal of the Commission is introduction of the multiple stakeholders. He also underlined the European directives and Georgian law compliance issues, and spoke about a special working group working thereon. The representative of the National Communications Commission also referred to issues regarding the protection of personal data, competition, access, consumer and copyright protection and children's protection policy.

Mr. Dušan Stojićević, SEEDIG (Serbia) - the representative of South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance Dušan Stojićević discussed about the experience of Eastern Europe. He underlined the uniqueness of the South-East European region and outlined the reasons why 3 years ago it was decided to create in South-Eastern European Dialogue on Internet governance issues. He discussed such topics as domain names, the digital division in all countries of the

region, cyber-crime related problems, access of the rural population to the Internet and other problematic issues which are common in the region. Dušan Stojićević also shared the experience of Serbia with regard to the domains to the Forum participants.

Mr. Mark Carvell, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) (UK) - Mark Carvell discussed UK experience and the reality, cooperation between Great Britain and the Government of Georgia. The goal of cooperation is to develop better policy and improve outcomes in the sphere of the Internet governance. Carvell also discussed the UK's multiple stakeholder Internet governance mechanism; underlined the importance of involvement of all the participants, the exchange and the sharing of information, the participation in international meetings and conferences, and the significance of correcting and commenting the Government policy.

2nd Session - Internet Access and Broadband Gap

Moderator: Maarit Palovirta, European Regional Affairs Manager, Internet Society (ISOC)

The Session addressed such issues as the international goals of sustainable development of Internet, Internet access, experience of various countries and regions. Internet access was admitted as a major component of sustainable development. According to the data provided by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), 45% have Internet access in Georgia, 58% - in Armenia and 66% in Azerbaijan. Accordingly, increase of Internet access level for the population still remains as one of the main challenges.

Speakers:

Mr. Besarion Abuladze, **Project Coordinator, World Bank GENIE (Georgia)** - Besarion Abuladze talked about the project GENIE, which is a major element of the latest partnership strategy between "World Bank" and Georgia. He underlined the importance of the steps that will be taken in the framework of the project for increasing Internet access and development of innovation infrastructure in Georgia. This includes creation of 8 regional hubs and 50 regional innovation centers across the country. According to **Besarion Abuladze**, the second component of the project will be to offer innovative services, which includes the development of education component through infrastructure which was created within the framework of the first component; 3 000 individual trainings in the field of IT, which will be competitive not only in Georgia, but also on the international employment market. The innovation funding will be the third component of the Project. Finances will be allocated not only for startups, but also companies that have innovative ideas. **Besarion Abuladze** also discussed the problems of access to the Internet by the population. He underlined the importance of such issues as non-availability of computer equipment, high costs of initial installation and lack of computer skills. GENIE project aims to eliminate the problems and break down barriers.

Ms. Nino Kubinidze, Director, OpenNet – Nino Kubinidze discussed the ways of increasing Internet access in the country. The Director of "Open Net" discussed the projects of Innovative Development Agency of the Economy and Sustainable Development. The main focuses of the projects are access to the Internet. For the implementation of the State program of development of broadband, fiber optic infrastructure in Georgia, in 2015 "Innovation and Technology Agency" of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development founded "Open Net". Nino Kubinidze underlined the main areas of its activities, which includes the promotion of the private sector for broadband infrastructure development through financial support and construction and operation of broadband, fiber-optic infrastructure. As Nino Kubinidze noted, the program is designed to support high-speed Internet access across the country, construction of infrastructure, network planning and installation and finally, transfer into receivership.

Mr. Gediminas Šečkus, Head of Legal and Corporate Affairs PE "Plačiajuostis internetas" (Lithuania)

- discussed the experience of Lithuania in this area and the results of the measures taken. During this panel the Lithuanian case of broadband development has been discussed. The Head of Legal and Corporate Affairs of PE „Plačiajuostis internetas" Mr. Gediminas Šečkus explained in details the whole idea of the project and its impressive results. Facing economic and geographical challenges, Lithuanian Government decided to establish a special vehicle Plačiajuostis internetas which has become an important player of broadband deployment in rural areas. Since 2005, Lithuania has achieved significant results concerning broadband availability. Moreover, Lithuania has developed its unique institutional model of deployment of public broadband. During the panel broadband development perspectives of Georgia as well as related, ongoing projects have been discussed.

The details explanation of **World Bank GENIE** project was presented by Project Coordinator Mr. **Besarion Abuladze**. The project aims to increase innovative activities of firms and individuals in Georgia and their participation in the digital economy. This will be achieved through investments in regional and community innovation centers, enabling wider adoption of Internet by households and small businesses, developing digital economy skills and capacity of businesses to be innovative, and improving access to finance for innovators. The project also boosts shared prosperity through activities that mobilize and include more rural residents and businesses to participate in the innovation and knowledge-based economy by improving services provided to them, developing skills, and expanding access to infrastructure.

The upcoming amendments to the Georgian law on Electronic Communication related to the construction and deployment of high-speed electronic communication networks in accordance with the EU 2014/61 Directive has been presented by **Ms. Mariam Sulaberidze**. During the presentation

the importance of infrastructure sharing concept as well as steps undertaken in this direction has been introduced. It has been highlighted that there is a national and even regional need and demand for more connectivity as broadband markets are expanding both in terms of coverage and speeds. Amongst other things, the new rules, envisaged by the amendments, are focusing on infrastructure sharing, information sharing and co-ordination of civil works between communications operators and utilities operators with a view to facilitating the roll-out of high speed broadband networks. During the presentation it became clear that this concept is relevant and important not only to telecom operators but to utilities networks operators also.

3rd Session - Domain names and Internet

Moderator – Mr. Michael Yakushev, Vice-President, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Internet Corporation for Assigned names and numbers (ICANN)

Speakers:
Mr. Thomas Schneider, Chair, Governmental Advisory Committee of ICANN Switzerland - made a very interesting presentation on "ICANN, Governments and Domain Names" covered the most important topics on Internet Governance, namely: ICANN's Multistakeholder Model, private sector leadership at the heart of Internet Governance, issues of contention between private sector and governments, relationships between governments and their ccTLD managers – GAC activities and Switzerland case, etc.
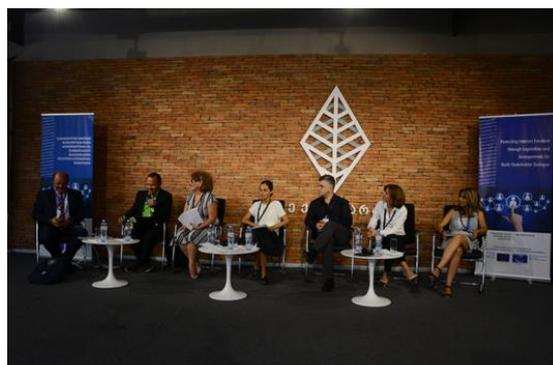
Ms. Mzia Gogilashvili, GAC/ICANN Georgia Representative, Chief Specialist of International Relations, GNCC (Georgia) - made a presentation on possible regulation of .ge ccTLD and .გე IDN ccTLD administration as a multistakeholder model of ccTLD management; she presented briefly the NRA -GNCC consultation document on this issue and the results of responses on this document.

Ms. Lianna Galstyan, ISOC.AM, .հայ (Armenia) - has presented .հայ Armenian IDN ccTLD.

Ms. Sopho Elizbarashvili, ITDC, .გე Georgian IDN ccTLD Manager (Georgia) - made a presentation on .გე Georgian IDN ccTLD.

Mr. Genadi Rostomauli, „Magticom" (Georgia). M**s. Sopho Kiziria Caucasus Online, .ge Georgian ccTLD Manager (Georgia)** - as current manager of .ge Georgian ccTLD and Mr. Genadi Rostomauli, as its former manager, presented the developments and challenges related to Georgian ccTLD.

The questions and debates followed the presentations. The Session has been assessed as one of the interactive sessions.

Parallel Sessions:

4th Session - E-Governance Achievements of Georgia and Challenges

Moderator: Giga Paichadze, Administration of the Government of Georgia

Speakers:

In the opening speech of the panel, **Mr. Giga Paichadze** discussed the projects planned by the executive authorities, e-Governance development services created in 2015 at the Ministry of Government Administration of Georgia, which includes various ministries and LEPL's i.e. grouping of the agencies under one umbrella. In order to avoid overlapping and spending of money on one and the same projects, coordination with donors and financing of the state projects and the initial management and support is often made centralized from the government administration and then the executive ministries or agencies continue projects. Giga Paichadze also discussed the main task of the Government Administration of Georgia - resuming works on e-georgia-, e-georgia-'s strategy

means renewal of outdated e-government project plans considering future trends for the need of updating the strategy.

Mr. Levan Avalishvili, Chairman, NGO "Institute for Development of Freedom of Information" (IDFI) (Georgia) - discussed the main areas of IDFI's working in connection with e-Governance issues in Georgia. He highlighted such issues as the development of e-Democracy in the country, support of participation mechanisms, electronic transparency, and the provision of citizen participation with different mechanisms. He also mentioned the United Nation's e-Government research results. UN e-Government rating conveys two main components - e-Governance rating and e-Participation rating. In 2012, out of approximately 192 countries, Georgia was ranked 76th in the e-Government sphere, in 2014 was ranked 56th and in 2016 - 61st. As for the involvement rating, in 2014 Georgia's ranking was 49, and in 2016 - 76. He underlined the significant problems revealed as a result of research - including literacy levels of human capital and the telecommunication infrastructure development quality. As for the involvement rating, it is also divided into 3 parts - e-publishing of information, existence of electronic consultation mechanisms and citizens' participation in decision-making process. In 2016, the third component was assessed by score 0 in Georgia. There is a regress with regard to an electronic access to information. Levan Avalishvili discussed the recommendations for overcoming these challenges, such as e.g. creation of a system of petitions in the parliament or the government; there will be as many electronic services on my.gov.ge as possible; digital signature reforms, etc.

Mr. Irakli Gvenetadze, **Data Exchange Agency (DEA) Chairman (Georgia)** - discusses the reforms that have contributed to the improvement of e-governance in Georgia and their importance, including the Public Registry, the Civil Registry, the Finance Ministry, the police, e-procurement, e-auction, the university entrance exams and other reforms. He stressed the importance of IT. The aim of the reform is the introduction of operation of the government as a single body and creation of citizen-oriented system. In 2010, there was established Data Exchange Agency. It works in the three main directions - the development of e-Governance, formation of data exchange infrastructure and cyber security. Irakli Gvenetadze also spoke about the initiative, which will soon be implemented and aims at the creation of business house. Business services will be provided in one building. There will be a single channel of communication with the business, where the business representative will receive and request all kinds of information, as well as complaints. my.gov.ge will be become a unified portal for business and citizens. He also discusses the importance of cyber security and Georgian practice in this direction.

Mr. Ivar Tallo, TWINNING Program, e-Governance, Estonia underlined the importance of the tax system, the value added tax for the Country, its efficiency, and the possible tax system within the framework of e-Governance. He also discussed the cyber security and crime-related issues, international regulation and international cooperation mechanisms.

5th Session - Personal Data protection in Internet and cyberspace

Moderator: Ms. Nino Sarishvili- Head of International Relations Department, Office of the Personal Data Protection Inspector

Speakers:

Ms. Marie Georges - Council of Europe Independent Data Protection Expert (France). Ms. Marie Georges discussed legal nature and the challenges related of personal data protection in the digital era. As Ms. Marie Georges noted, technological progress is accompanied by several major challenges, such as data security in the internet, illegal access and treatment of personal data and transfer thereof to third parties. Data breaches, exploitation of data through unlawful collection and access, illegal modification, error, loss or transmission of the data by third parties especially affect transborder data flows. Fostering international cooperation and promotion of world wide data protection standards along with reinforcement of local data protection authorities are the essential elements of the global strategy to fight against cybercrime and guarantee effective data protection. Ms. Marie Georges also discussed the European Union experience in data protection along with the case law of the European Court of Justice.

Mr. Giorgi Pirveli - Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia, Special Cybercrime Unit. Mr. Girogi Pirveli discussed the structure of the Special Cybercrime Unit and specific steps to detect, suppress and prevent illegal activities in cyberspace. Mr. Pirveli went on to explain the most widespread types of cybercrime related to personal data, such as phishing, vishing and smishing and the damage these breaches of data protection standards can bring to individuals. Mr. Pirveli examined the practical aspects of interactions between law enforcement agencies and internet service providers highlighting the obstacles caused by the absence of respective legal regulations. As Mr. Pirveli recommended, in order to refine the existing regulations, legal working group should be established.

Ms. Lika Sajaia- Parliamentary Secretary of "Transparency International - Georgia", "This Affects You" civil campaign against unlawful surveillance. Ms. Lika Sajaia outlined the challenges to personal data protection and discussed the legal framework in detail. She examined the specific laws and reforms carried out since 2014. She also discussed the powers and obligations of law enforcement agencies and internet service providers in terms of data protection standards. According to Lika Sajaia, the legislative proposal elaborated in the scope of "This Affects you" campaign calls upon creation of independent agency accountable to the Parliament of Georgia and enhancement of supervision mechanisms of the Personal Data Protection Inspector.

6th Session - Protection of Copyright

Moderator: Natia Kuprashvili, CEO, Georgian Association of Regional Broadcasters (GARB)

Speakers:

Ms. Eka Kubusidze, Head of Communication, Information and Modern Technologies Department   Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development - Eka Kubusidze discussed the legislative norms, which protect copyrights on the Internet as well as involvement of Sakpatenti (The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia), service providers and other parties in the process of improving the legislative base. She also stressed the importance of the commitments that the Georgian side has undertaken with regard to making changes to the law of copyright and related rights the adoption of new legislative base within the framework of DCFTA.

Mr. Ivane Makharadze, the Head of Broadcasting Regulation Department,

GNCC - Ivane Makharadze reviewed the issues of protection of lawful content on the Internet. He discussed the measures which the Commission conducts in terms of protection of copyrights, Including for content cleaning on the broadcasting market. Ivane Makharadze spoke about the processes that exist to prevent the spread of unacceptable content and   highlighted a problem that is particularly sensitive at this stage, namely non-existence of mechanism for locking specific links and not the whole website. From Ivane Makharadze's point of view, this is a problem that must be taken into account when drawing up the legislation.

Mr. Irakli Kasradze, the Head of Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Design Department, Sakpatenti - Irakli Kasradze discussed the situation in Georgia in the field of copyright and related rights, the issues related to the legislative regulation and the compliance of international and local law. As Mr. Irakli Kasradze noted, e-commerce law is currently being developed and amendments are made to the existing the legislation.

Mr. Yuri Kargapolov, Ukrainian Network Information Center/UANIC - Yuri Kargapolov discussed the experience of

Ukraine, where since 2013 the Ukrainian Information Network began active working on the protection of copyright on the Internet for which a special working group was established in Ukraine. A multi-stakeholder model was developed in Ukraine together with Ukraine Communications Regulatory Commission with the participation of the representatives of business, government, and non-governmental organizations.

7th Session - Online Protection of Children

Moderator: Jaba Nachkebia, UNICEF (Georgia)
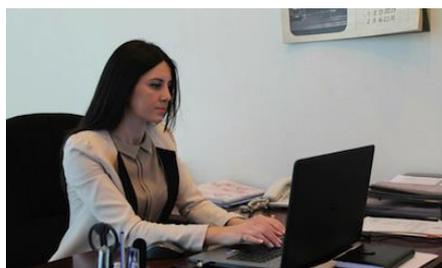
Speakers:
Ms. **Tamta Tepnadze,** Public Defender of Consumers Interests
Mr. **Nikoloz Varnazashvili**: Chairman of the Healthcare Committee of the Parliament of Georgia
The State coordinates the establishment of common strategy, which will define acceptable legal norms, action plan and budget specifying the precise objectives and performance indicators, determine the governmental agencies and public institutions, which will be responsible for certain measures; promote the development of mechanisms for the involvement of non-governmental organizations and determine the role and responsibilities of the private sector;

While developing a common strategy we should be guided by three main principles: 1. Strengthening of capacities for the parents and children - the parents play a predominant role in assessment and reduction of online risk posed to children, and other interested parties are only helping to strengthen the capabilities of the parent; 2. The proportionality and the principle of fundamental rights – the policies and methods developed must be proportional to the risk, efficient and well-balanced, should not limit the opportunities and benefits for children and other citizens, and must comply with the fundamental principles of a democratic society; 3. The developed methods should be targeted on the long term perspectives, should be technologically neutral and incorporate technological developments.

Ms. Irina Verdzeuli, Head of Strategic Development Department, GNCC - Other countries'
experience demonstrates that the effective policy for the protection of the rights of children in the internet imply multiple approaches, which should cover a variety of direct or indirect mechanisms. These include education, awareness raising of parents, teachers and children, establishing specific regulations, and the technical methods. It should also include stakeholders' participation and cooperation (government agencies, public institutions, non-governmental organizations, civil society, private sector) and of course, different levels of

cooperation, bilateral and multilateral cooperation both with national and international organizations.

8th Session - New Media and the Internet

Moderator: Giorgi Gvimradze, Director of News and Current Affairs, Georgian Public Broadcaster

Speakers:

Ms. Nata Dzvelishvili, Executive Director of Georgian Charter of Journalistic Ethics - Nata Dzvelishvili discussed the legal problems related to removal, blocking or deleting of the material on the Internet. She stressed the fact that there exists no law in the Country that would regulate placement or removal of the materials from the Internet. Instead there are different legal regulations in different legal acts, which regulate the legal relations in this direction. He also discussed legislative base and international ratified norms. She also reviewed the various practical examples of the removal of inadmissible products from the Internet.

Mr. Thomas Schneider, Swiss Government representative to the Council of Europe steering committee on media and information society (CDMSI) - Thomas Schneider discussed regulation of the media, and particularly the new media regulation in the Council of Europe, EU directives and regulations in this regard. He reviewed various documents, the Convention and recommendations of the Council as well as the meaning of relevance of EU directives with the local laws. He underlined the importance of new media, the ways of its interpretation and various practices and experience of the European countries.

Ms. Maya Metskhvarishvili, Editor, netgazeti.ge - Maya Metskhvarishvili discussed the media self-regulation mechanisms that are envisaged by the Charter of Journalistic Ethics in the form of guidelines and recommendations. She reviewed the cases of Charter of Journalistic Ethics regarding inaccurate information dissemination in online media and further amendments. He also referred to copyright protection issues in the media.

Closing Session

Mr. Mamuka Andguladze (Council of Europe Georgian office, media program head), **Mr. Michael Yakushev** - Vice President, Global Stakeholder Engagement, Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia, ICANN; **Mr. Igor Mikirtumian** (ISOC Armenia, president) and **Mr. Maxim Burtikov** (RIPE NCC, regional bureau head) addressed the participants of the Forum.

GeoIGF Tbilisi 2016 meeting took place during an important time, for making sure that Information and Communication Technologies and the Internet will support and help to enable best practice in Georgia for Sustainable Development. Output-oriented debates and discussions during the sessions addressed both opportunities and challenges under the following themes: Multistakeholder Approach to Internet Governance and Internet Governance Goals in Georgia; Internet Access and Broadband Gap; Domain names and Internet; E-Governance Achievements and Challenges; Personal Data protection in Internet and cyberspace; Copyright and Internet; Online Protection of Children and New Media and the Internet.

Participation Analysis: Institution, Gender, Age.

Participants by stakeholder groups

Stakeholder group	Percentage
Academic Circle	10%
International Organizations	19%
Private	22%
Government	23%
Civil Sector	26%

Participants by gender

Gender	Percentage
Male	64%
Female	36%
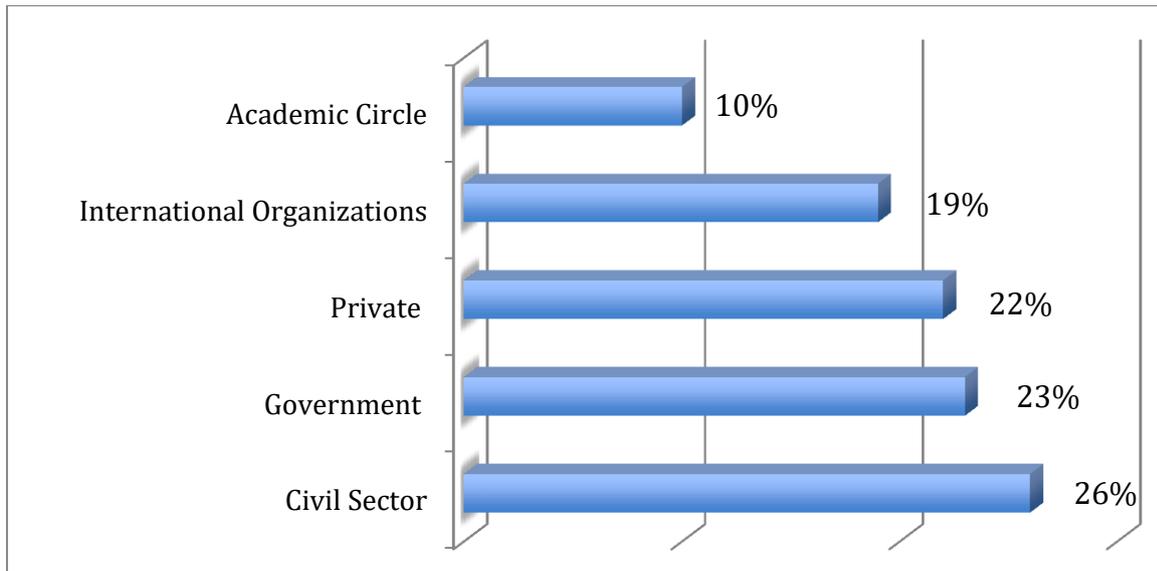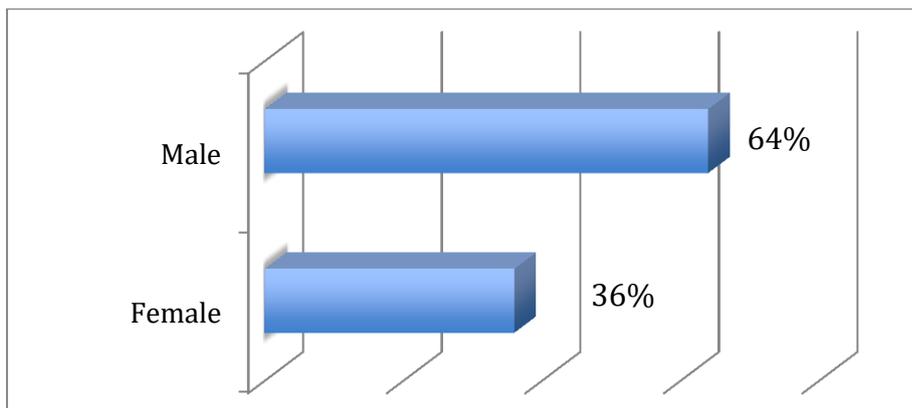
Participants by internal and external perspective

Perspective	Percentage
External	19%
Internal	81%
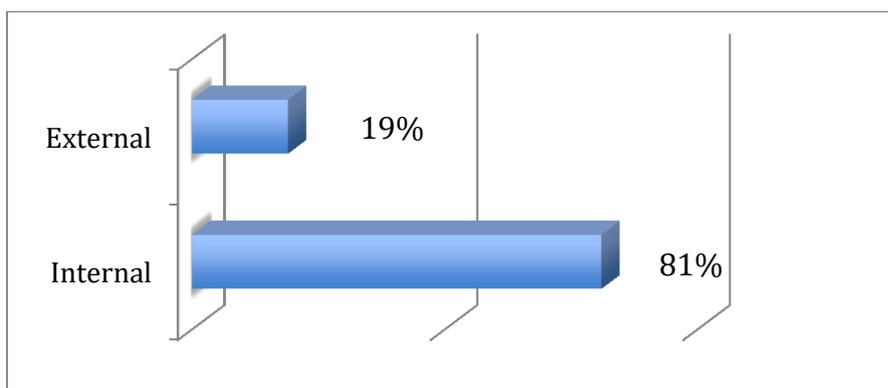
Budget

Organizational activities may be divided into several main areas, which were funded through donors' assistance as well as by the local supporters and of the members Internet Governance Forum. These activities may be divided into the following groups:

- **The preparatory works (meetings of members and the board members, searching for and arrangement of meeting spaces, preparation and sending of invitations, printing of charter and program, elections, approval of the charter and the programs and consultations with other supporters, etc.);**
- **Organizing Steering Committee meetings before event (searching for an arrangement of the meeting space, the preparation and sending of invitations);**
- **Preparation and launching of Internet web-site and social networks, and other related activities (searching for and purchase of a domain, creation and administration of website and social network sites);**
- **Branding related activities (creation and integration of forum and other printing materials, colors, logos, conducting surveys among the members of the Board);**
- **Organizational space preparatory works (searching for and selection of space, conference hall, screen, projector, etc.);**
- **Simultaneous translation (English and Russian);**
- **Meal and dinner for speakers and guests organized by ISOC;**
- **Printing activities (searching and selection of printing companies by survey of the company, agreement with Council members, invitations, badge, agendas, press banners and image);**
- **Media support (video and photo shooting, online broadcasting, live streaming, TV video preparations, preparation of announcements, media coverage of the event);**
- **Social events (excursion on the second day);**
- **Transportation services and transfers (airport - hotel - airport and hotel - conference space - the hotel).**

Forum online support and related events (domain web page and support, web-page administration, social media support live stream, Web-site hosting, interaction, online engagement support) - IDI, TOA, K. Stalinski, NEWTELCO Georgia / ALTERNET

Technical support - translation (CoE), room equipment (RIPE NCC), projector, remote control panel, screens, cameras GARB, Internet GITA, photographer, moderator, laptops and so on.

	Content	Budgeted costs (euro)	Actual costs (euro)	Donors, Supporter
1	Conference Venue and Internet	700	In-kind support	GITA
2	Technical Equipment	1200	400	GARB, TOA, IDI, GITA
3	Web streaming, video record, photos	700	550	ICANN, GARB
4	Catering (coffee breaks and lunch) and Interpretation	3200	N/A	CoE
5	Printing material (event agenda, T-shirts, Press Banner, badges, etc.)	1200	800	ICANN, RIPE NCC, ITDC, TOA
6	Local transfers	200	200	GNCC, NEWTELCO Georgia, IDI, TOA
7	Communication and outreach (website, printing materials, etc.)	2400	1600	ICANN, RIPE NCC, TOA, IDI
8	Gala Dinner	5700	5400	ISOC
9	Social event(s), Excursion, dinners, other related activities	2100	2400	NEWTELCO Georgia, SYSTEM NET, IDI, TOA
		17 400	11 350	

Brief Information about Volunteers and Supporters

A group of volunteers involved in the final stage of the Forum organization was staffed via the registration form placed on the website. Despite the large number of applicants only 10 volunteers were selected. This number was optimal for the event and the preparatory works.

#	Activity	Number (10)	Note
1	Meeting guests, Assisting, giving badges, notebooks and writing facilities, booklets, searching in the lists, giving explanations at the registration desk	At the registration moment - 6 and 4 in the conference hall; During the event - 2 remains at the registration desk	In case of force majeure or some unforeseen circumstances promptly informs the organizers (
2	In the foyer, hall permanently	2	
3	Social networks	Facebook – 1; Twitter – 1	
4	Conference hall services, passing of microphones	in each hall 2 - 2	

Media Coverage

TV Broadcasters
GPB - http://1tv.ge/ge/videos/view/169479.html
Rustavi 2 – 18: 00 https://youtu.be/j6jVRABDLyQ
IMEDI 14:00 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmJg24Nj-l0&feature=youtu.be
Maestro 15:00 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSY-9P8-NxA&feature=youtu.be
Regional TVs

Radio
Fortuna - 14:30
Palitra- 09:30
Radio Freedom http://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/27951901.html

News Agency

Netgazeti: http://netgazeti.ge/news/139138/

On.ge: https://on.ge/story/3306-თბილისში-ინტერნეტმმართველობის-ფორუმი-იმართება

IPN 1: http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/sazogadoeba/395463-davith-khucishvilma-saqarthvelos-internet-mmarthvelobis-forumi-2016-gakhsna.html
IPN 2: http://www.interpressnews.ge/ge/sazogadoeba/395227-saqarthvelo-internetmmarthvelobis-masshtabur-forums-umaspindzlebs.html?ar=A
Medianews.ge
http://medianews.ge/ge/internetmmartvelobisforumi2016gaikhsna/11921
kvira.ge http://kvira.ge/278137
indein.net
http://indein.net/2016/09/17/in-order-to-promote-the-use-of-the-internet-you-need-the-excess-but-this-is-the-only-element/
http://indein.net/2016/09/17/we-dont-pretend-that-this-is-an-easy-process-but-we-have-a-transparency-and-hopefully-we-will-have-a-better-results-in-the-end/
http://indein.net/2016/09/17/317/
http://indein.net/2016/09/17/the-first-internet-governance-forum-geoigf-2016-has-successfully-completed/
Commersant.ge
http://commersant.ge/?m=5&news_id=41006&cat_id=2
gbc.ge
http://gbc.ge/index.php?m=tst
newpost.ge http://www.newposts.ge/?l=G&id=118179-ხუციშვილი,%20ფორუმი

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http://www.info9.ge/sazogadoeba/154438-saqarthvelo-internetmmarthvelobis-masshtabur-forums-maspindzlobs.html?lang=ka-GE
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http://www.ghn.ge/com/news/view/158949
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http://epn.ge/?id=30448

Special Thanks to GeoIGF 2016 Supporters
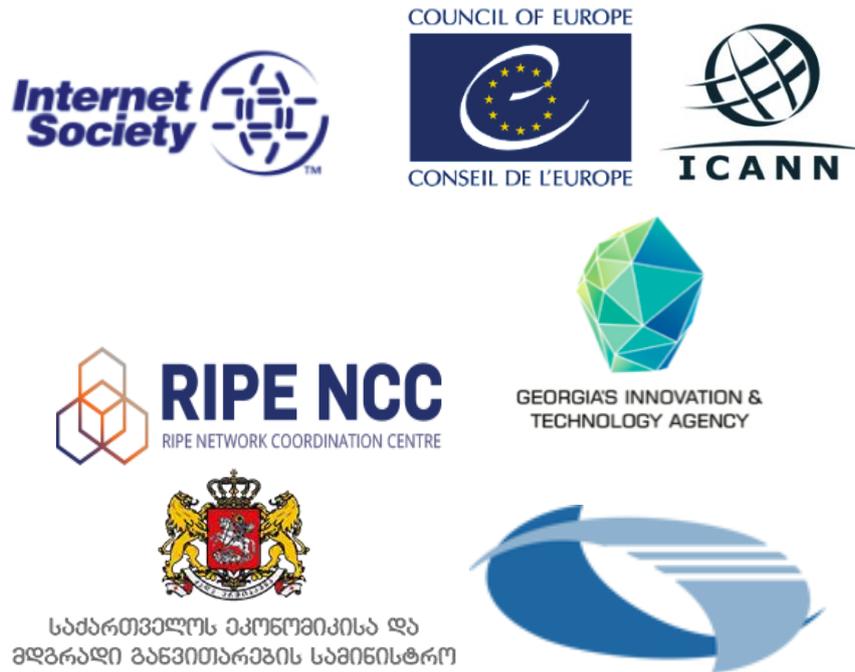
Authored By: Coordinator Ucha Seturi
Maka Ghaniashvili