Global Digital Compact (GDC)

What is it? How can we contribute?

D. Miloshevic | April 5, 2023 | SEE 11, Split, Croatia SEE Roundtable

What is the GDC?

- Proposed in the UN Secretary-General's *Our Common Agenda* report

- Aim: 'to outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all'

- Coordinator: The UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology

- UN co-facilitators: Rwanda and Sweden

Timeline

- 2019: "The age of digital interdependence"

- 2020: "Roadmap for digital cooperation"

- 2021: "Our Common Agenda"

- 30th of April 2023: Contributions deadline

- 2023-2024: GDC finalisation

- 2024: Summit of the Future

How to contribute?

- UN Survey

  - Deadline: 30th of April 2023

- Thematic Deep-Dives

  - Digital Inclusion and Connectivity, 27 March

  - Internet Governance, 13 April

  - Data Protection, 24 April

  - Human Rights Online, 8 May

  - Digital Trust and Security, 25 May

  - Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies, 2 June

  - Global Digital Commons, 9 June

  - Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 14 June

Registration link: https://www.un.org/techenvoy/global-digital-compact/intergovernmental-process

UN contribution survey: structure

- 8 areas

  - 1. Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools

  - 2. Avoid internet fragmentation

  - 3. Protect data

  - 4. Apply human rights online

  - 5. Accountability for discrimination and misleading content

  - 6. Regulation of artificial intelligence

  - 7. Digital commons as a global public good

  - 8. Other areas

- 2 sub-divisions

  - a) Core principles

  - b) Key commitments, pledges, or actions

RIPE NCC's Key Messages (1)

- Connect all people to the Internet

  - a) Core principles:

    - Cooperation amongst stakeholder groups is necessary in ensuring and enabling access to the Internet. It is necessary to collaborate with the private sector, since stakeholders cannot work alone

  - b) Key commitments:

    - RIPE NCC commits to supporting the development and deployment of IPv6 addresses and RPKI protocols in its service region.

- Avoid Internet Fragmentation

  - a) Core principles:

    - At the technical level, fragmentation refers to a lack of interoperability between networks

  - b) Key commitments:

    - RIPE NCC pledges to contribute to knowledge/information sharing and coordination among stakeholders. Moreover, this cooperation should not be affected by political issues

RIPE NCC's Key Messages (2)

- Digital commons as a global public good

  - a) Core principles:

    - Digital Public Goods are services that play an essential role in the functioning of the open, global Internet and are beneficial to a resilient and innovative Internet ecosystem

  - b) Key commitments:

    - Governments and international institutions should support the development and deployment of Digital Public Goods

- Other areas: Internet Governance and Participation

  - a) Core principles:

    - An inclusive bottom-up approach is fundamental for the governance of the Internet

  - b) Key commitments:

    - RIPE NCC pledges to maintain and strengthen a multistakeholder approach to Internet governance in order to allow cooperation among stakeholders

RIPE Cooperation Working Group Remote Session

- Wednesday 19th of April

- https://www.ripe.net/participate/ripe/wg/active-wg/coop/remote-sessions/ripe-cooperation-working-group-remote-session-the-global-digital-compact

Of Note

- The Global Digital Compact (via the Summit of the Future) will be finalised one year ahead of WSIS+20

  - The GDC may inform the WSIS+20 negotiations and contribute to outcomes

- WSIS laid the foundations of institutional support for a multistakeholder approach to Internet governance

  - The 20-year review of WSIS and its agreements (including the Tunis Agenda) may revisit or rescind that support

- Consultations are being conducted NOW!

  - Both online via the Office of the Tech Envoy, and in various formations being organised by the Co-Facilitators (the UN delegations of Sweden and Rwanda)

Questions