Internet Governance

Introduction, History & Principles

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Information Society

Agricultural Society (Feudalism) – Land & Labour

- Absolutistic Monarchies

Industrial Society (Capitalism)

- Industrial Revolution
- Land, Labour & Capital
- Decentralization of Power (Executive, Legislative, Judiciary)
- Power Shift from the Palace to the Parliament

Information Society (Dataism)

- Information Revolution
- Land, Labour, Capital & Data
- Further Decentralization of Decision Making
- Power Shift from Parliament/Government Mechanisms to Multilayer/Multiplayer (Multistakeholder) Mechanisms

Internet Specifics

Architectural Design
– Decentralized Network of Networks based on the end-to-end-

- Principle

Nature of Resources

- Protocols, Names and Numbers are unlimited, non-territorial and

- re-usable resources

Form of Regulation

- Mix of Technical Code and Non-technical Self-Regulation & Co-Regulation on Top or Underneath of National Laws & International Treaties

The Five Waves of Internet Governance

- Wave 1: Military (1957 – 1970s) DARPA-Net

- Wave 2: Academic (1970s – 1990s) – TCP/IP

- Wave 3: Commercial (1990s – 2000) – WWW

- Wave 4: Masses (2000 – 2010) – WSIS

- Wave 5: Everybody & Everything (2010+)

- The New Internet Complexity Beyond *2018

World Summit on Information Society WSIS

- The concept of holding a summit on ICTs emerged in 2003, the framework was based on traditional UN summits.

- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2002 set the parameters for WSIS by adopting Resolution 56/183, the UNGA designed the Summit as an intergovernmental process, but at the same time it invited "non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to contribute to, and actively participate in the intergovernmental preparatory process of the Summit and the Summit itself.

Source: http://www.mediachange.ch/media/pdf/publications/IG_10_Final.pdf

WSIS

- WSIS was not about Internet governance, but about how best to bring the benefits of the Internet and information and communication technologies (ICTs) to the developing world and to bridge the so-called "digital divide".

What WSIS was not about?

- Internet governance came to the fore during the preparatory process for WSIS-I. While the debate was confused at times, it was less about technology than about geopolitics and in particular about the preponderant role of one government, the United States.

WSIS

- WSIS can also be seen as an attempt by some governments to take the up- per hand in a sphere of economic activities that developed outside their influence.

- It was the recognition by governments of the importance of the Internet. The origins of WSIS can be traced back to the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) held in Minneapolis in 1998.

Working Group on Internet Governance

WGIG envisioned for the Internet Governance Forum IGF the following possible functions:

- Interface with intergovernmental bodies and other institutions on matters under their purview which are relevant to Internet governance, such as IPR, e-commerce, trade in services and Internet/ telecommunications convergence.

- Identify emerging issues and bring them to the attention of the appropriate bodies and make recommendations.

WGIG and the Internet Governance Forum

- Address issues that are not being dealt with elsewhere and make proposals for action, as appropriate

- Connect different bodies involved in Internet management where necessary.

- Contribute to capacity-building for Internet governance for developing countries, drawing fully on local sources of knowledge and expertise.

- Promote and assess on an ongoing basis the embodiment of WSIS principles in Internet governance processes.

What is Internet Governance

Internet governance is the **development** and **application** of

- **shared principles**,
- **norms**,
- **rules**,
- **decision-making procedures**,
- **and programs**

that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

Internet Governance

development and **application** of

- **shared principles** (behaviour)

- **Norms** (the usual standard)

- **rules** (explicit or understood regulations or principles)

- **decision-making procedures** (process of making choices by identifying a decision, gathering information, and assessing alternative resolutions)

- **and programs** (a planned series of future events)

shaping the evolution and use of the Internet

Internet Fragmentation - World Economic Forum

- A growing number of thought leaders have expressed concerns over the past two years that the Internet is in some danger of splintering or breaking up into loosely coupled islands of connectivity.

Internet Fragmentation

- A number of potentially troubling trends driven by technological developments, government policies and commercial practices have been rippling across the Internet's layers, from the underlying infrastructures up to the applications, content and transactions it conveys.

Thank you