

## Global Digital Compact Thematic Deep-Dive – Internet Governance (13 April 2023)

**ABOUT:** The second thematic deep dive on the Global Digital Compact (GDC) was held on 13 April 2023 at the Trusteeship Council Chamber. The Permanent Representative (PR) of Rwanda – H.E. Mr. Claver Gatete and PR of Sweden – H.E. Ms. Anna Karin Eneström, who are [Co-Facilitators](#) of the intergovernmental process negotiating the GDC, co-moderated the session. The meeting started with briefings from Mr. Vint Cerf, Internet pioneer; Ms. Helani Galpaya, CEO at LIRNEasia; and Ms. Tripti Sinha, Chair of [ICANN](#). Member State (MS) and civil society representatives made their interventions after the briefings.

### HEADLINES

Multilateralism and cooperation between multi-stakeholders were mentioned repeatedly by several MS as well as many stakeholders. In addition to that, many of them also highlighted the importance of building on what was done before, such as, but not limited to, [ICANN](#), [IETF](#), and the [IGF](#).

### Common Themes

Several MS emphasized the importance of multilateralism, democracy, and an inclusive system of Internet Governance to close the digital divide and ensure an inclusive, and sustainable digital future. Several MS called for international legislation following international law and stressed the need to keep the fundamentals of the Internet out of geopolitics. There was also stress on putting the human being and human rights at the center of digital development and dialogue; consultation, and cooperation in cyberspace were highlighted as key factors for success. Finally, there was a shared sense of urgency to enhance and foster more effective participation, particularly from developing countries.

### Highlights

<a href="#">Helani Galpaya, CEO of LIRNEasia</a>	✚ They (emerging economies) are desperate to see in their coffers at least a small portion of the global taxation revenues that their users generate for a handful of global north countries
Tripti Sinha, Chair of <a href="#">ICANN</a>	✚ The multistakeholder model of Internet Governance (IG) that includes the technical community, among others, has been a success and is the only solution when shaping new policies and regulations
Estonia	✚ We do not need to create new international conventions but apply the existing ones in the cyberspace as well, otherwise in reality such new conventions will be used to increase a single state's control over the use of Digital Society and ICT
Spain	✚ The GDC has a crucial role because it precisely offers the opportunity to bring all these processes that are happening at the national and the regional level to the UN and enshrine a rights-oriented governance framework in a global multilateral setting
Switzerland	✚ As the Secretary-General's High-Level panel on Digital Cooperation had put it we are living in an age of digital interdependence where siloed thinking and top-down approaches are inadequate.
Singapore	✚ GDC should reiterate the importance of interoperability as a key principle of IG
El Salvador	✚ Ensure and enhance investment in digital infrastructure, digital skills, training and digital literacy to close the digital divides between and within countries

Indonesia	✚ Global Internet Governance must have strong development dimension; it needs to empower developing countries and provide policy space to countries to adjust with the digital world which still continues to grow and take shift
Bangladesh	✚ We emphasize the need to continue dialogue through forums to build bridges between New York, Geneva and other multilateral forums among all stakeholders
Norway	✚ We remain particularly concerned by initiatives to change the global IG in the direction of a more state-controlled domain system to have more influence on the management of domains in their own countries, while at the same time, without disconnecting permanently from the existing domain system
United States of America	✚ The multi-stakeholder approach has been the bedrock that facilitated the incredible growth and resilience of the internet, including through the important work of multi-stakeholder fora that have sprung up to support it including <a href="#">ICANN</a> , the <a href="#">IETF</a> , <a href="#">IGF</a> and many others the UN system
Kenya	✚ A truly inclusive internet is one that is accessible, fairly priced and has relevant content to enable positive social, economic and political outcomes
Mexico	✚ It is necessary to recognize the different capacities and infrastructures of all stakeholders particularly of the developing countries when we discuss IG process
Russian Federation	✚ It is thus fundamentally important that through the collective efforts of all countries interested in maintaining their own information sovereignty to achieve the internationalization of IG while increasing the role of states in this process
Netherlands	✚ The GDC should commit avoiding a fragmentation of the technical infrastructure of the internet impeding the ability of systems to interoperate and threatening the general integrity and availability of the core internet infrastructure
Iran	✚ We should also emphasize the accountability and responsibility of digital platform owners and operators as well as the protection of national and personal data
Denmark	✚ Building on previous efforts, including within the UN, the GDC should clearly define the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders, including governments and companies, to ensure responsible and human rights-based approach to governance of the internet at all its layers
India	✚ There is an incredible trust deficit between stakeholders that has become more apparent within the scope of Internet, especially in matter of cyber security and allied discussions. GDC should promote greater transparency and accountability of institutions and processes of IG, which will help in building confidence and trust among stakeholders

## RESOURCES

1. [Letter from the Co-Facilitators – 5 April 2023](#)

## STATEMENTS

2. [Remarks by Ms. Helani Galpaya](#) (CEO, LIRNEasia)
3. [European Union](#)
4. [Cuba on behalf of G77 and China](#)