ANNUAL REPORT

ARMENIAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

arm igf
2018

10 OCTOBER
YEREVAN, ARMENIA

ARMIGF.AM

IGC

INTERNET GOVERNANCE COUNCIL OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

The Internet Governance Council (IGC) of the Republic of Armenia has been formed to find the solutions for emerging challenges of Internet governance in the country. The Council members are representatives of different stakeholder groups such as the Government, Private Sector, Academia and Non-governmental organizations. The IGC of the Republic of Armenia is headed by the Deputy Minister of the Transport, Communication and IT - Mr. Hakob Arshakyan, the Secretary is Mr. Grigori Saghyan, the Vice President of the "Internet Society" NGO.
The Secretariat is the "Internet Society" NGO.

The ArmIGF is organized by the multistakeholder Internet Governance Council (IGC) of the Republic of Armenia with the support of the Ministry of Transport,Communication and Information Technologies (MTCIT) and the Internet Society NGO.

The main objectives of the forum are:
- to provide an open and transparent platform for all stakeholder groups;
- to bring up and discuss the Internet governance related issues;
- to give the floor to the wide community;
- o deliver the messages to the policy makers.

AGENDA

THE 4TH ARMENIAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

08:30–09:30	REGISTRATION
09:30–10:00	OPENING
10:00–11:00	Personal Data Protection: National Legislation Compliance to GDPR
11:00–11:30	COFFEE BREAK
11:30–12:00	Arbitration Centre of Settlement of Domain Name Disputes Foundation
12:00–13:00	Blockchain Talk
13:00–14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00–14:40	".հայ" IDN and Universal Acceptance
14:40–15:50	Online Educational Platforms in Armenian
15:50–16:00	WCIT 2019: UPDATE
16:00–16:30	COFFEE BREAK
16:30–16:45	Disability Challenges: Autism and the Society
16:45–17:00	Urban Ecology Monitoring Systemusing IoT
17:00–18:00	Sub-Regional Geo-targeting of Digital Advertisement

OPENING

Hakob Arshakyan, Minister of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies
Markus Kummer, IGFSA, Chairman
Frédéric Donck, Internet Societay European Bureau, Director
Alexandra Kulikova, ICANN, Head of Global Stakeholder Engagement for EE & Central Asia (remote)
Chris Buckridge, RIPE NCC, External Relations Manager

At the opening ceremony, the keynote speakers made their opening speeches, also evaluating the importance of the work of the conference as a platform for highlighting issues and strengthening community relations and exchange of ideas.

Besides, the Alumni of the 2nd Armenian School on Internet Governance were given certificates.

ArmSIG Graduates Certificate Award

Personal Data Protection: National Legislation Compliance to GDPR

Gevorg Hayrapetyan, Head of PDP Agency
Alexandra Kulikova, ICANN
Vahagn Harutyunyan, RA Police, Head of Cybercrime Department

Starting his speech, Gevorg Harutyunyan told that the Law on Personal Data Protection on RA adopted in 2015 is fully in line with GDPR. However, the RA legislation does not require the same fines required by GDPR. Vahagn Harutyunyan noted that requesting a personal data from foreign organizations just needs a properly formulated request from the national focal point to that country's focal point. The focal point functions in Armenia are being implemented by the Police of RA. Later, Alexandra Kulikova presented ICANN initiatives that will help improve the existing WHOIS database, providing some protection against the personal data in that database. The participants mentioned, that further developments, the study of the emerging practice in different countries will enable to develop rules for the protection of personal data that do not conflict with each other.

Arbitration Centre of Settlement of Domain Name Disputes Foundation

Ani Varderesyan, Lawyer

Ani Varderesyan mentioned that the problem of resolving domain name disputes has come from the 90s. The development of the field was initiated in 1999 by the World Intellectual Property Organization's report, suggesting that alternative solutions be sought for resolving domain name disputes. So, the Arbitration Center of Settlements of Domain Name Disputes enables the process to be implemented faster and more efficiently, excluding the contradictions of different legislation. Following the global experience, Internet Society NGO approved a new domain name registration policy for ".am" and ".հայ" ccTLDs. Then, on January 2018 the "Arbitration Center of Settlements of Domain Name Disputes foundation" was created.

Blockchain talk

Vigen Arushanyan, Nooor – Blockchain technologies association

The founder of the Nooor – Blockchain technologies association Vigen Arushanyan had a talk about Blockchain technologies. The main features of the Blockchain system are decentralization and distribution. Decentralization secures users' personal data, so that no one can have access to that. Distribution provides data access for all members of the network.

Vigen also told about the goals, advantages and issues of Blockchain technologies and Bitcoin.

He told, that the initial goal of the system is to make online payments for users without an intermediator and, therefore, without commission fees.

Bitcoin is the first product of Blockchain, which was created 10 years ago.

There was an electronic currency system that worked without an intermediator (banks, PayPal, etc.), the currency has a set price.

The goal of the Blockchain is to not send the same fee to two different people, where we use the cryptographic evidence.

".հայ" IDN and Universal Acceptance

Lianna Galstyan, Internet Society NGO, External Relations Manager

Marat Yavrumyan, RA MES Language Committee, Vice Chair

Dušan Stojicevic, ICANN's Universal Acceptance Steering Group Ambassador

Moderator: Grigori Saghyan, IGC Chair

The session moderator Grigori Saghyan opened the discussions starting with IDN and telling about the Chinese, Serbian, Russian, Belarusian and other practices on IDNs. Lianna Galstyan talked about the Armenian national script domain .հայ, its launching challenges and issues. She updated that there are nearly 300 domain names registered in .հայ, so the usage is not very popular in the country. Another point she touched upon was the activities "Internet Society" NGO initiated to promote the usage of .հայ in the domain market.

Marat Yavrumyan, a member of Language Committee, added that they are responsible for the implementation of the state language policy in Armenia, which means insuring the usage of Armenian in all fields of life. So, the Language Committee expressed their interest in cooperation in promoting the .հայ IDN.

Dušan Stojicevic the ICANN's Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) Ambassador represented their activities. The Universal Acceptance is a fundamental requirement for a truly multilingual Internet, one in which users around the world can navigate entirely in local languages. He spoke also about the importance of governmental support for IDNs and how the Armenian government can help converting domain names to .հայ.

Online Educational Platforms in Armenian

Arthur Avagyan, Armenian Virtual College Development Team Manager
Vahan Misakyan, "Computers, Services and Wi-Fi Internet for Rural Libraries", Project Leader
Anna Chulyan, Electronic Libraries Consortium of Armenia, President
Aghasi Lorsabyan, TUMO Center for Creative Technologies, Engineer

The session discussed the issues of online educational content development, challenges and some local projects directed to the development of the opportunities of online learning in Armenian.

Head of the AGBU Virtual University Arthur Avagyan represented the Virtual University platform, which has about 3,000 students, who can learn the Armenian language, Armenian culture and history.

"Computers, Services and Wi-FI Internet for Rural Libraries" project leader Vahan Misakyan told that together with the "Internet Society" NGO, he has been supporting rural libraries for over 6 years, providing more than 100 computers.

The president of the Armenian Consortium of Electronic Libraries Anna Chulyan continued the discussion on libraries, and said that she has been organizing training for librarians.

Aghasi Lorsabyan, the engineer at TUMO Center For Creative Technologies, told that the goal of the Center is to give young people education that they do not receive at school, and this is done both offline and online.

WCIT 2019 (World Congress on Information Technology): Update

WCIT 2019 || Karen Demirchyan Sports and Concert Complex 6-9 October, 2019

UATE director Karen Vardanyan represented the WCIT – the World Congress on Information Technology. It is an annual congress where the world's leading technology thinkers and innovators gather to advance the conversation on the key questions facing the industry and the world.

WCIT 2019 will be held in Yerevan, Armenia under the headline: "Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age – The Power of Decentralization". This has very much to do with IGF because the opportunity for decentralization is largely connected with the development of the Internet.

The Congress brings together more than 2,000 high-level public and private sector representatives from over 60 countries, including heads of states, investors, startup founders, and academic thought leaders. Among global Leaders at Previous WCITs were Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, Margaret Thatcher, Larry Ellison and many other popular individuals.

Disability Challenges: Autism and the Society

Lena Harutyunyan, Teach Me More Development Center founder

"TMM – Teach Me More" training and development center has begun its activities since 2016. The Center's main goal is to help children with delayed speech development. Lena Harutyunyan began her speech at the session "Disability Issues: Autism and Society", describing the methods of developing children's speech at the center.

One of these methods is Discrete Video Modeling (DVM).

A Facebook page was also opened to make more people aware of the organization's existence and activity. Lena Harutyunyan mentioned in her speech that a group of professionals, educators, speech therapists and psychologists make the work of the organization easier. The work of the Center is supported by many individuals and sponsors from the United States who support and welcome this initiative.

Urban Ecology monitoring system using IoT

Avetik Yessayan, Shirak technologies, founder

Avetik Yessayan, the founder of Shirak technologies talked about the Internet of Things (IoT), urban culture and its new challenges.

He made an assumption that 80% will be urbanized and technologies will be concentrated in the cities by 2050. And IoT has a big role in this. Development of IoT in recent years is really quick: IoT market will cost 45 trillion dollars by 2050, but it's still in the phase of development. We can say that the services connected to IoT cover any area: cultural, financial, ecological and so on. Internet of Things may bring new benefits, new assets in the general management and economy. In the end Avetik mentioned that we are already walking in the direction of the IoT mission.

Sub-Regional Geo-targeting of Digital Advertisement

Samvel Martirosyan, ArmSec Foundation, Founder

Armen Muradyan, Arpinet Director

Aida Mukuchyan, Inecobank CJSC, Marketing Department, Specialist

Artak Harutyunyan, SMARTOLOGY Digital Marketing academy, Co-founder

Misak Khachatryan, ITC, Network Information Center, Technical Administrator

Moderator: **Samvel Bektashyan,** MediaRoll Advertisement Network Executive Director

During the discussions two approaches were formed: operators are ready to provide geographical targeting, but they require money. From the point of view of advertisers, the money can not be collected from them because the targeted advertising market is unique and small, especially outside of Yerevan. The search for ways to solve the problem is an important issue, where both traditional and new technology solutions are needed.

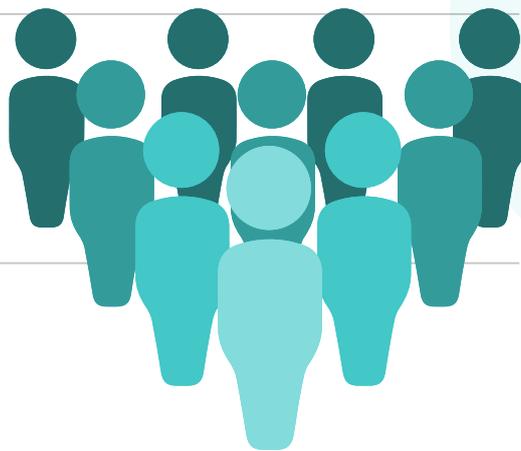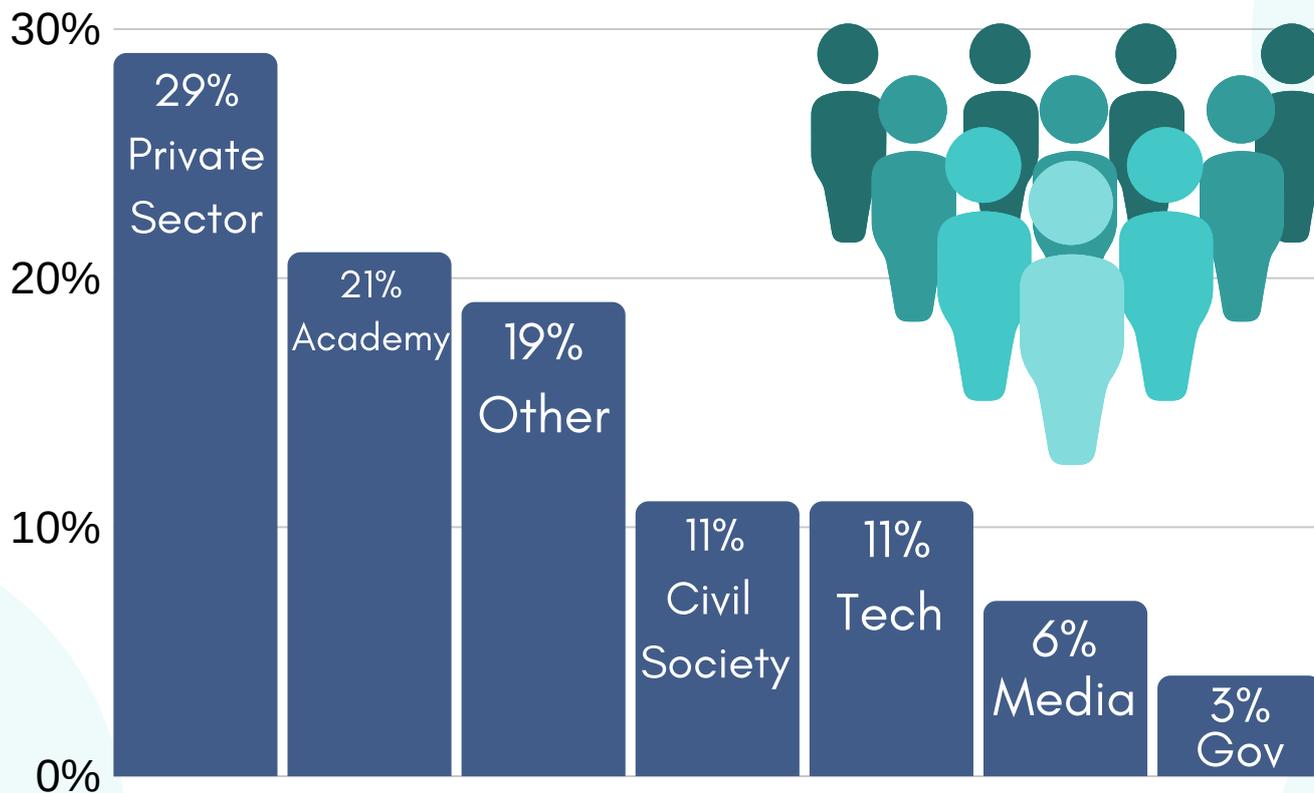# CONCLUSIONS AND FINAL REMARKS

Lianna Galstyan - Organizing Committee Coordinator giving the final remarks and conclusions.
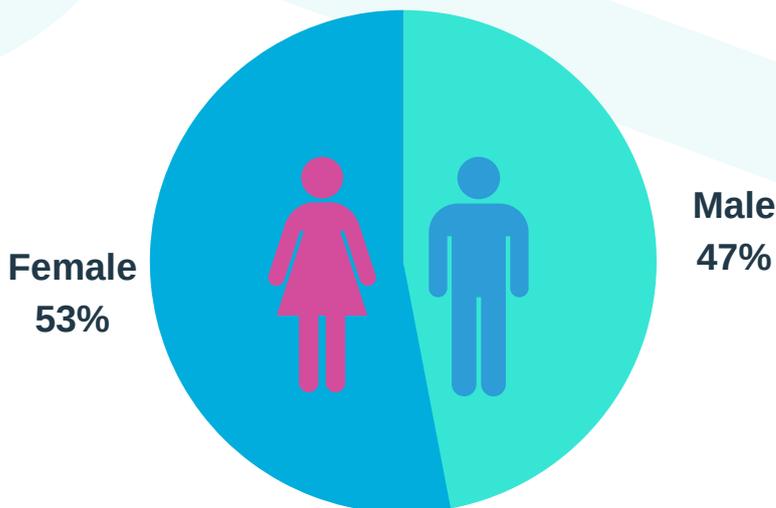
Internet Society European Bureau President - **Frederic Donck**
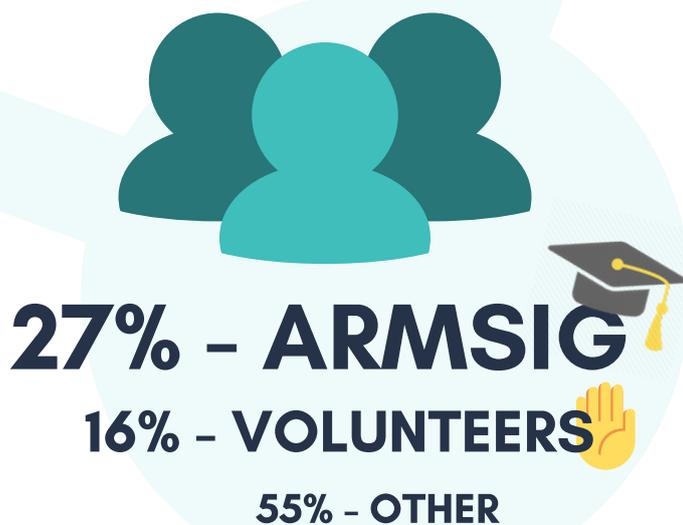Internet Society Armenia Chapter President - **Igor Mkrtumyan**

ArmIGF 2018 in Numbers

30%

29%
Private
Sector

21%
Academy

20%

19%
Other

11%
Civil
Society

11%
Tech

10%

6%
Media

3%
Gov

0%

GENDER BALANCE

Female
53%

Male
47%

31% YOUTH

27% – ARMSIG
16% – VOLUNTEERS
55% – OTHER

23 SPEAKERS
145 PARTICIPANTS

9 SESSIONS

ArmIGF 2018 SPONSORS & PARTNERS

MEDIA PARTNERS

ArmIGF 2018 team acknowledges all sponsoring programs, international and local organizations and partners for funding the fourth annual Armenian Internet Governance Forum enabling all stakeholder groups to come together and providing open and transparent platform for discussions on Internet related issues within the country and beyond as well local media agencies for reporting and spreading the word on ArmIGF 2018.

Special thanks to:

Internet Society, ICANN, ISOC Armenia, IGF Support Association, RIPE NCC, Arminco, Arpinet, Ministry of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies of Armenia, IGF Secretariat, Noyan Tapan and all others who have supported and volunteered for ArmIGF 2018.

For more information

Media coverage

- https://bit.ly/2KIKYhN
- https://bit.ly/31VOE5c
- https://bit.ly/2XCNAE7

All sessions available at

@isocarmenia

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FothTvfIrQ4

VISIT US

armigf.am   **@armIGF**

@arm_igf   **info@armigf.am**