

## **EuroDIG Plenary 4: Arrangements for a European IGF and Future EuroDIG events**

### **Responses to questions about national IGF structures: Georgia**

#### **1. Effectiveness of national IGF structures?**

What is your experience with the effectiveness of your national IGFs discussions? How do you make sure that your national IGF discussions do have an impact on the policy discussion and on national legislation process? How do you make sure that the relevant stakeholders get together and have a constructive exchange?

How do you make sure that your national IGF helps people to better understand the challenges related to Internet Governance?

Unfortunately, there is no Georgian IGF and consequently neither are discussions. Internet governance issues are not as frequently discussed in Georgia as in other countries, therefore IGF is somewhat a new concept for Georgia. As I found out, there is one newly adopted law with regard the agency that is supposed to deal with E-governance issues. If it is relevant or interesting, i can provide information about it.

#### **2. European Approach on Internet Governance?**

What is "European" about the Internet Governance Discussion in Europe? What can Europe contribute to the global Internet Governance Discussion? What are European perspectives, best practices and how should they feed into the global IGF? So far, I cannot think of anything specific.

#### **3. European IGF: mandate and objectives?**

Is there a need/desire for a European IGF? If yes, what should be its mandate and objectives? Which stakeholders should participate?

One might think that there is no necessity of a separate regional IGF , and that Global IGF could be enough to cover all important issues, but i think it is very superficial attitude. In my opinion, the effectiveness of just one global IGF might be under the question. There might be some issues problematic for certain region, but not for the whole world. Usually global institutions have difficulties at operating effectively and in this case probably regional and global IFG should coexist. At first, regional networks should deal with internet governance related issues, since they are closer to them and afterwards they can be become the object of discussion for the global one.

#### **4. European IGF: structure and working methods?**

How should such a regional forum work? How should it be organized and how should it be funded? How should it link to national, global and other regional Internet governance initiatives? How could it help to improved e-participation in internet governance in Europe?

As I have mentioned above regional networks, including the European ones are very useful and necessary since they are closer to the region context than the global one. As for the funding, I don't think it will be especially problematic, since internet issues are becoming more and more actual. There should be surveys, which will highlight the main interesting issues for the region. This might become the bases for the agenda for IGF, in addition to that like the existing mechanism, everyone from that region should have the possibility to make comments and suggestions via website or other means. Other than that there should be representative from each country of region and main institutions. To link it to national initiatives there might be a session where representatives will have a chance to present the problems of their countries. With regard its connection to the global one, there should be members from the regional IGF who will present the interests of the region. IGF meetings should be transmitted via TV or internet. After finishing the meeting, there should be an open discussion forums where everyone will have a chance to leave their comment.

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