

2009 EuroDIG stakeholders support the protection of human rights and universal access as key priorities for Internet governance

Geneva, 16.09.2009 – The protection of human rights, ensuring universal access to the Internet as a public service and promoting media literacy should be key priorities for Internet governance in Europe. These were some of the conclusions of the 2nd European Dialogue on Internet Governance, which brought together 200 representatives from business, governments, parliaments and civil society in Geneva on 14-15 September.

EuroDIG supported that the Council of Europe, subject to approval by its governing body, provides the secretariat to ensure the sustainability of EuroDIG, which should continue to be organised in cooperation with other organisations and stakeholders, including the European Parliament (EP). The EP was among the promoters of the idea of an Internet Governance Forum (IGF) at European level and supported the 1st EuroDIG in Strasbourg.

There was consensus among participants on the importance of maintaining a multistakeholder approach to Internet governance related issues following the UN Internet Governance Forum model and the Tunis Agenda (the conclusions of the World Summit on the Information Society), and that EuroDIG is the “European IGF”, where a common European perspective should be discussed and carried to other fora.

Issues discussed included access to the Internet, online privacy and social networks, cybercrime, critical Internet resources, net neutrality, the quality and reliability of content and related issues concerning public service media and user-generated content, and copyright issues. Media literacy also featured highly in the discussions.

The event was co-organised by the European Broadcasting Union and the Swiss Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), with the support of the Council of Europe. The multi-stakeholder debates will serve to prepare European contributions to the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) which will take place from 15 to 18 November 2009 in Sharm-El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Summaries of the discussions of the workshops can be found at www.eurodig.org

Additional information: The EuroDIG Organisation Network, created in 2008, is an open and growing group of European stakeholders such as the [Council of Europe](#), “[The Club of Rome – European Support Centre](#)”, [Comunica-ch](#), [DiploFoundation](#) - the European At-Large Organisation (EURALO), the [European Broadcasting Union \(EBU\)](#), [Euro-NF](#), the [European Parliament](#), the [German Association of Internet Economy](#), the Finnish, French, Icelandic and Swiss governments, [INHOPE](#), the [International Chamber of Commerce](#), [INSAFE](#), [ISOC-ECC](#), [Medienstadt Leipzig e.V.](#), [NOMINET](#), [Swiss Federal Office of Communications \(OFCOM\)](#), [SWITCH](#), [United Service Union \(ver.di\)](#) and the [European Youth Forum](#).

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