



Freedom Online Coalition - Friends of the Chair - Call #19

Tuesday 5th April. 2016.

Attending: Canada, Costa Rica, Estonia, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, United States, United Kingdom

Apologies: Mongolia

MINUTES

Housekeeping:

- UK/US gave an update about the Coalition-wide call with Susan, held by the Strategic Review Working Group (SRWG) to discuss the external Strategic Review report
- The Netherlands proposed there be a face to face meeting for the SRWG to consolidate work so far and offered to host this at The Hague if necessary.

Action point > SRWG to set up Group conference call and look into planning a face to face meeting as suggested

Action point > Members to confirm who could attend a face to face meeting of the SRWG

Annual Conference

- Costa Rica gave an update on Annual Conference preparations:
 - 600 + participants & key expenses have been identified.
 - CR requested assistance from Friends with simultaneous translation/document translation and will provide the SU with a list of items where support is needed.
 - April 27th launch event for the Conference with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Science and Technology, to announce the dates and website with the press and diplomatic corps - this will be used as a starting point to conduct outreach regionally
 - Costa Rica reported that FO 2016 is one of the main events to be held in Costa Rica this year.

Action point > Costa Rica to send around detailed budget and outline of Conference planning so far

Action point > Estonia to liaise with Costa Rica bilaterally to share information on Estonia's experience hosting the FO Annual Conference previously

Outreach

- Members gave updates on any outreach activities

Coordination

- RightsCon
 - Informal meeting held with US, Canada, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden & Norway.
 - Discussed update on Strategic Review, Annual Conference preparations and updates on FOC activities at RightsCon.
 - WG1 and WG3 also held successful workshops at the Conference on cybersecurity and transparency.
- Members discussed dates for the next Strategy and Coordination Meeting in

Action point > SU to send email around the Coalition to check availability for the meeting.

Update on Working Groups

- Canada, the Netherlands and the US proposed the development of a mechanism within the Coalition whereby the Coalition can acknowledge and support Working Group

Action point > The Netherlands to discuss the issue with WG1 (in their capacity as co-chair) and send round a written proposal to the Friends for comment.

Any Other Business

- Costa Rica confirmed that they will be at World Press Freedom Day in May, thanking the government of Finland for supporting their attendance.

Action point > SU to confirm the list of people going to Helsinki in May - as there is potential for a casual meeting there.