



Freedom Online Coalition - Friends of the Chair Call #7

Wednesday 26 July 2017

Attending: Argentina, Canada, Costa Rica, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, US; Support Unit (SU)

Apologies: UK

MINUTES

Housekeeping

- Updates on implementation of the San Jose Work Plan (SJWP)
 - Operationalising the Stockholm TOR:
 - Members reviewed revised proposed model for Advisory Network (AN)
 - Netherlands, Germany, US and Canada put forward a joint proposal
 - Members discussed the consultation process for the Advisory Network TOR
 - The next steps were confirmed as the following:
 - SU to carry out resource implication analysis of revised option and provide comments
 - All comments to be incorporated into a final draft of the AN ToR
 - Achieve sign off on the next call for the document and consultation process
 - Launch consultation at the end of August or beginning of September
 - The SU updated Members on outstanding SJWP action points [SU]:
 - Goal 2.3 is underway and a stock-taking exercise is nearing completion.
 - The SU updated members on finance

Coordination and Joint Activities

- Members discussed revised draft Action Plan 2017-18 and decided next steps
 - Germany introduced the latest revisions to the action plan draft:
 - The scope of activities and objectives have been limited to enable them to be achieved within 2017
 - Members agreed to the revised draft of the Action Plan for 2017
 - The revised Action Plan for 2017 will go out to the full Coalition for a one week silence procedure, along with an invitation encouraging Members who are not in the Friends of the Chair group to take a leading role on activities
- US reported that thank you letters for the Network Disruptions learning call have been sent to both co-organisers (Global network Initiative and AccessNow)
- US proposed the hosting of an FOC event at the CIPESA/APC FIFA conference in Johannesburg in 25-27 September 2017

Outreach

- Members approved the outreach strategy:
 - Objective: FOC to increase and diversify membership to further its goal to serve as a multilateral coordinating body that advances cross-regional diplomacy and multistakeholder engagement to promote and protect human rights online globally.

AOB

- US alerted members to the Global Network Initiative's "Impacts of Network Shutdowns" advocacy tool released last week
- The FOC members Estonia, currently holding the EU presidency, and the Netherlands will be organizing a multistakeholder participation discussion on civil society opportunities and threats in the cyberspace in Brussels on 5th September *[please see below]*

Action Point >> US to Circulate the Global Network Initiative's "Impacts of Network Shutdowns" advocacy tool

A public panel debate: “Civil society in cyber space – opportunities, threats and recommendations for EU external action”

Tuesday 5 September 2017 14:00 – 16:30hrs, at the Estonian Permanent Representation to the EU, Rue Guimard 11/13 Brussels

Organised by the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU, the Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the EU, and the International Partnership for Human Rights

Keynote speakers:

- Marietje Schaake, Member of European Parliament
- David Kaye, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression

First mini-panel (45 min):

- Arzu Geybullayeva, blogger and journalist, Azerbaijan/Turkey
- Sanne Stevens, Program Officer for Hivos at the Digital Defenders Partnership
- Mercedes García Pérez, Head of Division for Human Rights, European External Action Service

Second mini-panel (45 min)

- Ahmad Waqass Goraya, Pakistan
- Niels ten Oever, Head of Digital at Article 19
- Kees van Baar, Human Rights Ambassador, Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Please register your attendance **by Wednesday 30 August** by sending an email to EEPRES.CFSP.permrep@mfa.ee