



Freedom Online Coalition - Friends of the Chair Call #16

Wednesday 30 May 2018

Attending: Canada, Estonia, Germany, The Netherlands, US; Support Unit (SU); Rebecca Zausmer (independent expert).

Apologies: Argentina, Costa Rica, Finland, Norway, UK

MINUTES:

- Housekeeping
 - The new point of contact for Germany was introduced to the FOC.
 - SU gave an update on FOC calendar for the month ahead:
 - SU raised an upcoming EuroDIG FOC Session, Monday 4 June 16:30 - 18:00. The session will be an opportunity to update the EuroDIG community on activities of the FOC and promote the Annual Conference. Estonia, Georgia, (as the host of EuroDIG) and a Member of the Advisory Network (AN), Tatiana Tropina, will take part in the panel.
 - SU asked Members to enquire if colleagues would be attending EuroDIG and to inform the SU if they are able to participate in the EuroDIG session.
 - SU is looking into the possibility of incorporating DDP section into the FOC Newsletter
- Updates on FOC Chairmanship
 - Annual Conference
 - Germany provided an update on preparations for the FO Conference 2018, including the development of Conference concept note.
 - Germany welcomed the comments received on the first draft of the concept note and requested that Members who have already submitted comments to notify Germany if they remain the same or unaddressed.
 - The concept note will be circulated amongst the AN, which will be requested to provide input over a two week period with the same deadline as the Friends of the Chair.

Action >> Friends to provide input into second draft of concept note **by COB Thursday 14 June;** Friends to notify Germany if previous comments remain relevant.

Action >> SU to submit Request for Advice on Conference concept note to AN.

- Implementation of the San Jose Work Plan
 - Operationalising the Stockholm TOR
 - Rebecca Zausmer (independent consultant) lead discussion on Evaluation Framework for Member Review and Termination (EF).
 - Update on Advisory Network [Canada]

- A Request for Advice (RfA) has been submitted to the AN for input into the Shrinking Spaces statement. The deadline for AN input into the statement is Thursday 28 June.
- Update on finance [SU]
 - The budget for the Annual Conference has been agreed by Germany.
- Program of Action 2018
 - Germany and Canada gave an update on Program of Action 2018
 - Objective 1:
 - Germany encouraged further engagement with the Joint Statement on Internet Censorship through FOC networks.
 - Canada proposed contributing to discussions at the 38th Human Rights Council (HRC) following the completion of the first draft of the Shrinking Spaces statement.
 - Objective 2:
 - Joint Statement on Digital Divides will be led by Germany and Ghana.
 - Objective 3:
 - Members discussed FOC engagement at the ITU Plenipotentiary.
 - Estonia suggested the FOC Geneva network convenes a meeting in September to focus on the ITU agenda and enable new diplomatic networks to become acquainted following role changes over the summer period.
 - The US encouraged capital-level FOC coordination via Friends of the Chair, to be commenced in June.
 - The Netherlands suggested arranging a learning call for FOC members to highlight potential impact of ITU discussions for human rights online.

Action >> Germany to enquire on diplomatic activities relating to ITU Plenipotentiary and HRC.

Action >> SU to look into arranging a learning call on ITU Plenipotentiary.

- Diplomatic Networks
 - Germany provided updates on diplomatic coordination efforts.
 - The German delegation to UNESCO is in the process of convening a FOC meeting in Paris.
- Outreach
 - n/a
- AOB