Principles of Internet Governance and its ongoing development and evolution over the coming years

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Abstract

The so-called "Principles for Governance, development and evolution of the Internet" form the foundation of today's Internet and its future. And, its dissemination and acceptance among users, and the various segments of society represented in national and international forums, is an essential way to increase the participation of all the mentioned Governance, development and evolution of the Internet. The intent of the principles is not to set goals, but to identify the key values and conditions that the Internet will continue to be a tool to improve the daily lives of all people.

Document

Introduction

Noting the reference points established to guide the activities at the event called International Multilateral Meeting on Internet Governance, to be held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on 23 and 24 April 2014, and bearing in mind that only through collaboration among all participants will be possible to build understandings that can be widely accepted, we offer related to the topic Principles for Governance and Internet the present contribution.

As certainly mentioned in other contributions, there are a number of documents from various institutions, aimed to identify and explain the principles that lead to continuous innovation and expansion of the Internet. What highlights the importance, usefulness and adequacy of the Internet to people's needs. Indeed, the acceptance of several of these principles occurs regardless of laws or other instruments and the practical results remain the permanent innovation and expansion of the Internet in all parts, with the most varied models and solutions.

In view of this , a fundamental element to be preserved by any principles is that the Internet is an open “think tank” to all people interested, and free to introduce innovations and to receive or not the acceptance of users who freely exercise their power of choice and opinion.

The international event of São Paulo itself reflects an important element of the Internet, which is open participation to all parts and the construction of results from a free and committed participation to the development of Internet, as occurs regularly in numerous other international, regional and local meetings of these same stockholders.

The meeting provides another opportunity to continue to build on the foundations already established, and to share documents, positions and views on the Internet, in particular regarding its governance and its future development.

Internet and Governments

Currently there are several discussions about the need for public policies and legislation about rules to use the Internet. Because of this, the meeting is an opportunity to demonstrate that it is not possible or advisable to restrict creativity, freedom of choice and expression, which cannot be subject to restriction, repression or control, among other interests of the people

The information available globally produces unimaginable events of sharing without the use of the Internet, such as: a musical success attended and enjoyed by people from different parts of the world thanks to the global network, as well as the views of the

conflicts that unfortunately following part of the daily life of the world community, or even shared personal interests

Share information, opinions and broaden your social network, among others, are conditions that people with access to the Internet already incorporated as part of their daily lives, and these conditions must be ensured by all involved in the process of Internet Governance

In this sense, it is worth noting that the so-called cyberspace or the Internet is not an alternative reality from that we live in, but a tool that each of us uses in their day to day to make life better.

Social networks, which have always existed, it was only magnified by the Internet, making what was already part of the everyday and the result of the free will of each.

When using the Internet all valid principles that govern our lives in society still applied, as well as human rights, freedom of expression and all other consecrated by various national and international institutions.

Therefore, the Internet reflects the use made of it by the people, for this reason should continue to be an open, free and comprehensive tool.

Internet and telecommunications services

Unlike telecommunications services, subject to national and international regulation, the Internet is a global platform that uses telecommunications services to connect users and computer networks, and is characterized as a Value Added Service in various national and international laws and is included in the deals of the world trade treaty of the World Trade Organization (OMC).

Note that the Internet was developed to make possible the use of any telecommunication service and is this model that ensures a free and open use of the Internet by anyone, a fact that distinguishes the Internet design of the design of telecommunications services.

At the beginning, the Internet technique and technologies was seen as "unfit for professional applications" by the telecommunications industry , however, over time this technique began to be used by the telecommunications industry and is now considered the only solution to the so called "technology convergence".

A great change of opinion of experts in telecommunications in a relatively short time , especially if we consider that the attempts like the Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) object of studies and recommendations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) which was designed to be the way for the future for telecommunications.

The flexibility and low cost of Internet technique and technologies enabled numerous technical changes in the telecommunications industry, until the Internet itself becomes the object of desire of large corporations in the industry who spare no efforts in trying to transform the Internet in the converging telecommunications service as a natural path for the future of telecommunications.

The discussions involving the Internet sector and the telecommunications sector has spread worldwide to the point that in many countries the regulation began to consider the use of effective measures (legal) to ensure the free and open use of the Internet and no interference of telecommunications operators in the uses and the choices of users by conditions established by the telecommunications services used.

The possibility that commercial interests can be the excuse to impose limitations or restrictions on the freedom of access and choice of Internet users and eventually affect the proper functioning of the Internet can be a reality in a very short time. This theme just gaining notoriety and is subject of discussion in many countries and international forums under the title " Network Neutrality ".

However, little is discussed about the future of the telecommunications industry and this discussion is essential to the future of the Internet , as without telecommunications services widely disseminated not only access the Internet but the actual evolution of

interconnection of computer networks that form the Internet will be limited.

The universalization polices of telecommunications services already includes the aspects required for such services also serve to access the Internet? If restrictions are present to Internet use, what development of telecommunications services will be necessary?

This element requires studies and considerations so the policies of universal telecommunications services will include the appropriate scenarios, taking into account the support for Internet use.

In this respect, it is noteworthy that universal services will continue to be needed, plus a new feature to ensure that any person using the universal telecommunications service can even use it for Internet use.

Internet Governance

Many would like to take the Internet Governance due to its growing importance to society. In some situations proposals to do a "recreation" of the Internet as if a huge mass of users were demanding such changes.

The current model of Internet Governance, created from actions of a few countries and a lot of volunteer work in various sectors of society, is undoubtedly responsible for the success of today's Internet . This model " multi stakeholder " enables greater participation so that more countries can join the existing governance effort , making the governance entities in forums of global representation .

For this process to take place the various Governments need to ensure alignment of public policies related to telecommunications infrastructure and the Internet to ensure that will be no barriers to the development and evolution of Internet governance under the mentioned model.

National and international legal and economic structures should enable the use of the Internet in activities such as electronic commerce, tele-education, telemedicine, among

others, for innovations that can improve people's lives may arise.

Civil Society Participation in Internet Governance is essential to add the view of those who use the Internet and accordingly reflect acceptance, discontent, wishes and especially the credibility and reliability in the use of the Internet that represent the power of choice of the people.

The private sector participation in Internet Governance is essential to offer the vision of entrepreneurs and "think tanks" creations responsible for all the innovative use of the Internet and the use of resources and infrastructure as required.

The academic sector participation in Internet Governance is essential to offer the vision of researchers and scientists forming stimulating innovation and knowledge bases that are essential to everyday society.

Therefore , these and other segments of society must be present in the institutions engaged in the Internet Governance , and must be involved performing work together to ensure the principles of freedom of expression, freedom of choice, freedom of access to information and ideas, democratic participation, innovation and encouraging the development , distribution and accessibility of the Internet for everyone.

The principles set out below, did not want to be an exhaustive list and should be treated according to the dynamics of evolution of the Society in order to preserve the Internet and its evolution as a tool to serve the interests of the people and accepted by most stakeholders involved in the construction and expansion of the Internet.

The principles are not original, but based on the Principles for Governance and Use of Internet developed by the Internet Steering Committee in Brazil (CGI BR).

1. Freedom, privacy and human rights

The use of the Internet must be driven by the principles of freedom of expression, individual privacy and the respect for human rights, recognizing them as essential to the preservation of a fair and democratic society.

A global, open and free nature of the Internet must be assured as a common good in the global scope. The use of free and open way should be preserved as the essence of the Internet platform repudiating justifications commercial, technical, legal or political that can be presented to disregard this principle. The rule of law must be the basis for any legislation on Internet use States should ensure full compliance with its obligations under international law.

2. Democratic and collaborative governance

Internet governance must be exercised in a transparent, multilateral and democratic manner, with the participation of the various sectors of society, thereby preserving and encouraging its character as a collective creation.

The Internet Governance should be exercised jointly by various segments of society that should work together collaboratively, through transparent and open processes to public opinion with broad debate and that reflect the needs, ideas and desires of users Internet and to refrain from any measurement of violating human rights, equal and democratic participation, respect for the rule of law or jeopardize the global and open nature of the Internet.

3. Universality

Internet access must be universal so that it becomes a tool for human and social development, thereby contributing to the formation of an inclusive and nondiscriminatory society, for the benefit of all.

Access to the Internet should be possible from any telecommunications service without discrimination, both as users involved, such as the use of the Internet. Public policies aimed at universalization of telecommunications services should include provision that such services need to be able to support the use of the Internet in appropriate conditions.

4. Diversity

Cultural diversity must be respected and preserved and its expression must be stimulated, without the imposition of beliefs, customs or values.

Public policies should ensure the right to access information and opinions when using the Internet expanding the possibilities of knowledge and dissemination of cultural diversity through the World Wide Web.

The same rights that people have disconnected from the Internet should also be protected online.

The effectiveness of privacy protection can only be achieved with the collaboration in global scope.

5. Innovation

Internet governance must promote the continuous development and widespread dissemination of new technologies and models for access and use.

Public policies should encourage innovation and dissemination of new technologies to access and use the Internet and limit to the minimum possible tributary, commercial and industrial requirements.

6. Neutrality of the network

Filtering or traffic privileges must meet ethical and technical criteria only, excluding any political, commercial, religious and cultural factors or any other form of discrimination or preferential treatment.

The use of the Internet must be done freely and according to the choice of each user and are valid all the principles that govern our lives in society, as well as human rights, freedom of expression and all other rights enshrined in various national and international institutions.

7. Unaccountability of the network

All action taken against illicit activity on the network must be aimed at those directly responsible for such activities, and not at the means of access and transport, always upholding the fundamental principles of freedom, privacy and the respect for human rights.

Companies that develop the tools used on the Internet cannot be held responsible for the use that people make of these tools or by content created or inserted by a third party.

8. Functionality, security and stability

The stability, security and overall functionality of the network must be actively preserved through the adoption of technical measures that are consistent with international standards and encourage the adoption of best practices.

Public policies should encourage the use of infrastructures that support the functioning , security and stability of the Internet, particularly in the use of telecommunications resources across countries

9. Standardization and interoperability

The Internet must be based on open standards that facilitate interoperability and enable all to participate in its development.

States should encourage the use of open standards that facilitate the operation of the Internet and to ensure that regulation of the telecommunications industry do not establish restrictions or other constraints that compromise the interoperability of the Internet.

Moreover, public policies should consider the use of limited resources (radio spectrum) to access and use the Internet, especially in cases of solutions to support private or public computers networks.

10. Legal and regulatory environments

The legal and regulatory environments must preserve the dynamics of the Internet as a space for collaboration

States should ensure that the legal and regulatory environment does not offer different constraints or barriers of the cases dealt with in the context of the process of Internet Governance.