

	<p><b>Dynamic Coalition on Privacy</b></p> <p><b>Frequently Asked Questions</b></p> <p><i>(as of 22 November 2006)</i></p>	<p><b>IGF</b></p> <p><b>United Nations Internet Governance Forum</b></p>
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## **1- Why addressing Privacy in the IGF ?**

The governance of privacy on the Internet is one of today's major policy challenges. It impacts many other domains, and can only be addressed efficiently using a multi-stakeholder approach. Due to its global and open character, the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is an excellent framework to address this challenge in its various dimensions. We believe it can contribute to developing a global consensus if future IGF meetings focus enough attention on this emerging issue.

## **2 – What is the UN IGF Dynamic Coalition on Privacy ?**

The Dynamic Coalition on Privacy is a multi-stakeholder network of actors concerned with the emerging issues related to internet privacy protection, including digital identity and the relationship between privacy and development. Participation in its activities is open to any individual and representatives or affiliates from all stakeholder groups, including national governments, independent data protection authorities, international organizations, civil society organizations, private corporations, and the academic community, who share the objectives of the coalition and are willing to contribute in good faith to their fulfillment.

## **3 - What is the purpose of the UN IGF Dynamic Coalition on Privacy ?**

In the context of the newly established United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF), the UN IGF Dynamic Coalition on Privacy has three objectives:

- to raise awareness on existing and emerging internet privacy protection issues;
- to help relevant stakeholders engage in discussions on how to address these issues;
- and to facilitate the drafting of issues papers and possible recommendations for the Internet Governance Forum to consider.

## **4 – What are the Origins of the Dynamic Coalition on Privacy ?**

The establishment of the Dynamic Coalition on Privacy is the result of a fruitful multi-stakeholder interaction during the first meeting of the Internet Governance Forum in Athens in October 2006. It is the direct outcome of two privacy workshops held on that occasion. It also reflects discussions held during the IGF main session on security as well as other IGF workshops on "Human Rights and the Internet" and on an "Internet Bill of Rights". It was officially announced to the IGF during the main session on November 2, 2006. It also builds upon several months of multi-stakeholder collaboration in the run-up to the UN meeting in Athens.

## **5 – Who is participating and who can participate ?**

The coalition currently has participants from all categories of stakeholders who agreed to support and take part in the activities of the coalition and, for some of them, to actively facilitate its launch. Currently, the coalition has participants from 40 entities from all over the world. An updated list can be found at the Coalition's web site (see below).

Every interested individual that supports the objectives of this Dynamic Coalition and is interested in contributing to its work can join.

## **6 - What are the priority issues for the Dynamic Coalition on Privacy ?**

In the perspective of the next IGF meeting in Rio, the coalition startup group agreed in Athens to focus initially on the emerging issues of internet privacy protection, such as :

- digital identities,
- the link between privacy and development,
- the importance of privacy and anonymity for freedom of expression,
- greater public participation in technical and legal standardizations that have a global public policy impact on privacy.

While this list builds directly upon the initial workshops held in Athens, it is not exhaustive. Other issues may be added if the coalition participants see a need for it, and the issues may be elaborated in more detail as the discussion evolves. While keeping in mind that the mandate of the IGF is limited to internet governance, coalition participants could start offspring processes that deal with larger privacy issues if they deem it necessary.

## **7 – What are the immediate deliverables ?**

As initial concrete objectives in the perspective of the next IGF meeting in Brazil in 2007, the coalition plans to:

- initiate and facilitate an open consultation process to develop and clarify public policy aspects of privacy in internet governance;
- develop a few synthetic issue papers and some more detailed ones to help structure the debate and highlight the different dimensions of these issues;
- organize one or several workshops in Rio to present and review those contributions;
- examine the content of possible recommendations the IGF could consider making on these emerging issues, in application of paragraph 72 g) of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society

## **8 - What are the working methods ?**

The coalition members agreed in Athens to:

- use online collaboration tools wherever it proves suitable;
- facilitate meetings at related events all over the world throughout the year;
- better include perspectives from developing countries in these processes.

## **9 - What will be the status of statements and documents ?**

The Dynamic Coalition, especially when addressing emerging issues, will have to explore new grounds and be a space for creative thinking and sincere interaction. Therefore, none of the views expressed by any participant in the work of the coalition will be considered as official statements of the entities they represent or are affiliated with.

Policy documents developed within the coalition for official release will be sign-on documents. Issue papers and other deliverables by individual participants will be published only if agreed to and on terms defined by their authors.

## **10 – How will the Dynamic Coalition on Privacy be managed ?**

The Dynamic Coalition on Privacy was launched in an informal, bottom-up manner. Preliminary facilitators (see below) have taken the responsibility of facilitating its launch and establishing initial modalities of operation, including setting up of the Coalition's web site. In addition, some early participants have agreed to provide support in this initial phase.

Open and transparent consultations among participants will be conducted to progressively define working methods and appropriate governance structures for the Coalition, keeping in mind the need to foster flexibility, openness, broad participation and interactivity.

## **11 - Who should I contact for more information ?**

Preliminary facilitators of the UN IGF Dynamic Coalition on Privacy are:

- Ralf Bendrath <bendrath (at) zedat.fu-berlin.de>
- Gus Hosein <i.hosein (at) lse.ac.uk>

More information will soon be made available at <http://igf2006.intgovforum.org/wiki/Privacy>.