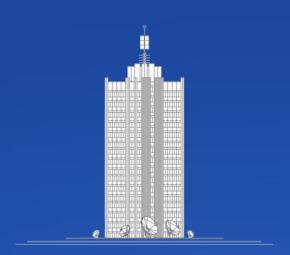


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Global Digital Compact

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A clear and unambiguous definition of Internet terminology is critical for the Global Digital Compact (GCD). The lack of mandatory standards in the Internet environment, the involvement of many stakeholders with different profiles and levels of expertise has led to the fact that the terms of the Internet ecosystem are understood as a whole, but in many cases by individual parties in their own way. This leads to misunderstanding, double standards and ambiguity of interpretations.

The forming of Internet terms and definitions is subject to numerous conditions. These are various linguistic factors of different languages, academic traditions, sociological and cultural processes taking place in technical and user groups, etc. Despite the common understanding of terms such as:

- critical infrastructure;
- internet service platform;
- digital monopoly, the dominant Internet service provider;
- fragmentation;
- etc,

for them there are no precise, unambiguous, legally verified definitions accepted at the international level.

The terminology of the Internet as an innovative constantly changing environment in which the technical, service, user parts coexist integrally is quite complex by its nature. However, right now there is a real opportunity to define the basic (fundamental) units of the "Internet language" in the GDC and avoid terminological confusion. This opportunity cannot be missed!

During the ongoing informal consultations led by the Co-facilitators Rwanda and Sweden, participants actively use Internet terminology. And it is already clear from the context of the speeches that there is a difference in the understanding and use of terms by different participants.

Professional Internet terminology is especially important in high-level documents. It facilitates communication among many stakeholders, making it easier for them to understand each other and adjust the terms to the features of their native language. This kind of terminology not only unites the professional community in (and the features of their communication), but also allows newcomers to join it.



Based on the experience of NIIR in international organizations and international platforms, it can be noted that terminological accuracy and conceptual unambiguity are the basis for the subsequent positive perception and practical implementation of any international documents. In the case of low-quality terminology in high-level documents, problems immediately arise in the application of a particular norm or policy. This, in turn, leads to significant consequences: possible violation of the rights of subjects, incorrect decision-making, which reduces the practical value of high-level documents. All this is a consequence of the individual interpretation of a specific term contained in a legal norm, if the authors, giving a legal definition, used an ambiguous specific term that allows for different understandings.

The development of the terminology that will be included in the GDC is necessary for the formation of legal practice and traditions in individual jurisdictions and the public consciousness of the Internet community. Thus, it becomes obvious that the Internet ecosystem needs to form a holistic, unified conceptual global space based on the formation of a unified terminology. During the preparation of the GDC, a practical document, a terminological glossary, can be prepared, which will become part of the GDC, and subsequently published on the official web page of the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology for global use by all interested parties.

In turn, one way or another, all these factors will ultimately determine the quality and effectiveness of the subsequent implementation of the GCD, and according to the "top-down" model, the quality of the adopted national regulatory documents and policies within the framework of the implementation of the voluntary principles of the GCD, which use a wide variety of technical/legal/general terms. It is obvious that the higher the level of preparation of the terminology base, the higher the overall level of legal impact of the GCD on the effective regulation of the most diverse aspects of the Internet ecosystem.



About Radio Research and Development Institute

Radio Research and Development Institute (NIIR) named after prof. M.I. Krivosheev specializes in research and development in the field of information and communication technologies (ICTs), navigation, satellite and terrestrial communication and television broadcasting systems, as well as provides scientific and methodological support to national and international ICT regulation.

NIIR designs and/or manufactures:

- *satellite-borne transponders;*
- communication and broadcasting systems and facilities;
- various purpose radio systems and facilities.

23 Doctors of Science and 76 PhDs are employed by NIIR. The work of NIIR's staff is recognized internationally. Radio Research and Development Institute actively participate in the work of the International Telecommunication Union. NIIR employees are serving as Chairman and Vice Chairmans at 8 ITU Study Groups'. Institute makes a valuable contribution to the work Regional Commonwealth in the field of communications (RCC). NIIR employees represent the Russian Federation in the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), participate in the work of RIPE NCC and contribute to the work of the UN IGF and the regional IGF.