XV Anniversary Central Asian Forum
Development of the Internet Sphere in Central Asia
InternetCA-2024

May 30th and 31st, 2024
Almaty

Modern Digital Challenges: Regulatory Strategies and Protection of Rights

Key topics:
- Main trends of digitalization in Central Asia
- Role of the state, civil society, and business in the development of strategies for regulating the internet sphere
- Ensuring the protection of citizens' digital rights
- Effective methods and international practices for countering disinformation and cyber threats
- Possibilities of artificial intelligence for the development of civil society and ensuring human rights.

Organizers: MediaNet International Centre for Journalism with the support of Open Society Foundations (OSF), the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL), Equal Rights and Independent Media (ERIM), USAID, Internews, and OSCE Programme Office in Astana.

Languages: Kazakh, Russian, English.

Address: Almaty city, Ramada by Wyndham Almaty, 27/1 Baytursynov Street.

AGENDA*

	Day 1 – May 30th Nomad Hall
09:00-10:00	**Registration of the participants** **Welcome coffee**
Welcome Remarks	
10:00	**Mike de Villiers** Director of Equal Rights & Independent Media (ERIM)
10:05	**Edin Omanovic** Program Manager for Tech and Society at Open Society Foundations (TBD)
10:10	**Yuri Fenopetov** Deputy Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Astana

*Some changes are possible

Time	Speaker	Topic
10:15	**Duman Smakov** Deputy Head of MediaNet International Centre for Journalism	
10:20-11:50	**Session 1. Governance of the Media and Internet Spheres in Central Asia**	
10:20	Moderator: **Gulmira Birzhanova** Head of the Media Qoldau Legal Service, Legal Media Center	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
10:25	**Alisher Mukazhan** Deputy Chairman of the Information Committee of the ICI of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan)	Development of the national information space
10:40	**Salkyn Sarnogoeva** Head of the Information Policy Department of the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan)	Regulation of the media and Internet sphere in Kyrgyzstan
10:55	**Madina Tursunova** Media Lawyer, Modern Journalism Development Center (Uzbekistan)	Ensuring access to information in the digital environment: case study Uzbekistan
11:10	**Ranzhet Yatimov** Media lawyer of the Khama Public Organization, digital rights expert (Tajikistan)	Overview of legislation regulating media and the Internet in Tajikistan
11:25 - 11:50	**Q&A**	
11:50-12:10	**Coffee break & networking**	
12:10-13:30	**Session 2. Panel discussion. Ensuring a Free and Secure Internet in Central Asia**	
12:10	Moderator: **Mavzuna Abdurakhmanova** GIF Regional Coordinator, Internews	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
12:15	**Adiletkhan Kabdesh** Head of the Personal Data Protection Department of the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry (Kazakhstan)	New approaches in the field of personal data protection
12:25	**Azamat Chotonbayev** Head of the Digital Policy Development Department of the Ministry of Digital Development (Kyrgyzstan)	Ensuring the protection of citizens' rights and freedoms in the digital age
12:35	**Montserrat Legorreta** Operations and Program Associate at Global Network Initiative (USA)	Global trends and frameworks for the protection of privacy

Some changes are possible

12:55	**Robbie Mitchell** Communication and Technology Advisor, Internet Society	Safeguarding Central Asia's Open, Globally Connected, Secure, and Trustworthy Internet
13:05	**Muhammadi Ibodulloev** Director of the Civil Internet Policy Initiative (Tajikistan)	Problems of online privacy in Central Asian countries
13:15-13:30	**Q&A**	
13:30-14:30	**Lunch**	
14:30-15:30	**Session 3. Facilitation panel. Counteraction to Disinformation in Central Asia and Abroad**	
14:30	Moderator: **Duman Smakov** Deputy Director at MediaNet, chief editor of Kazakh version of Factcheck.kz	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
14:35-14:45	**Mikhail Komissarov** Director of Center for Analysis and Monitoring at Ministry of Culture and Information (Kazakhstan)	Destructive influence of fake information in the modern information society and measures to counter it
14:45-15:00	**Salvador Rodriguez-Ruiz** Program Officer at International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) (USA)	How the IFCN combats misinformation through professional standards in fact-checking, professional development and networking
15:00-15:40	**Open microphone for the Forum participants**	
15:40-16:00	**Coffee break & networking**	
16:30-17:30	**Session 4. Opportunities and Risks of Artificial Intelligence**	
16:30	Moderator: **Moldir Utegenova** Project Manager, MediaNet	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
16:35	**Azamat Galimzhanov** AI and Software Development Professional (Kazakhstan)	How to maintain the security of personal data taking into account the development of AI
16:50	**Mamuka Kirkitadze** Technical Data Information Specialist at Zinc Network (Georgia)	Leveraging AI in Journalism and Media: Opportunities and Risks
17:05	**Rustam Gulov** Communications Consultant, AMIC representative (Tajikistan)	AI education: how to stop being afraid of robots and start being friends with them

Some changes are possible

| 17:20-17:30 | **Discussion** | |
| 17:30 | **Summary of Day 1** | |

Day 2 – May 31st **Nomad Hall 1 & Nomad Hall 2**		
9:30-10:00	**Registration of participants**	
NOMAD HALL 1		
10:00-11:30	**Panel discussion. Countering digital gender discrimination in Central Asia**	
10:00	Moderator: **Khalida Azhigulova** PhD, International Consultant on Gender Equality	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
10:05	**Aigerim Kussayinkyzy** LLM in International Law, PhD candidate in Public and Local Government, researcher at the Center for Social and Gender Studies at the QYZPU (Kazakhstan)	Reflection of gender discrimination in Kazakhstan's digital space: methods of struggle and prevention
10:20	**Aichurek Usupbaeva** Director of CHYRAK Global and MediaSabak Foundation (Kyrgyzstan)	"Spotlight on Equality": Media Initiatives Combating Gender Discrimination in Kyrgyzstan
10:35	**Farishtamoh Gulova** Director General of Equal Rights Public Organization (Tajikistan)	Women's digital world: risks and benefits
10:50	**Dilfuza Mirzakhmedova** Chief editor in Factchecknet.uz, director of MediaDataLab (Uzbekistan)	Combating gender discrimination on the Internet: the experience of Uzbekistan
11:05-11:30	**Discussion**	
11:30-12:00	**Coffee break & networking**	
	Workshop 1	
12:00-13:00	**Roman Reimer** Human rights defender, co-founder of Erkindik Kanaty (Kazakhstan)	Protection of personal data: cases and recommendations
	Workshop 2	
13:00-14:00	**Vitaly Perov** Cybersecurity expert, Cyber Intelligence at the Center for Analysis and Investigation of Cyber Attacks (TSARKA) (Kazakhstan)	Types of cyber-attacks in Central Asia and how to deal with them

Some changes are possible

Time	Speaker	Topic
14:00-15:00	**Lunch**	
	Workshop 3	
15:00-16:00	**Azamat Galimzhanov** AI and Software Development Professional (Kazakhstan)	Security when working with AI

NOMAD HALL 2

Time	Speaker	Topic
10:00-11:30	**Overview of successful digital social projects in Central Asia**	
10.00 - 10.05	Moderator: **Alyona Koshkina** Project Manager, MediaNet	Introductory remarks. Overview of challenges and problems
10:05	**Stanislav Khanin** PhD, EduTech Expert, Game Designer at Qlever+, MediaNet (Poland)	What's new on QLEVER.Asia EduGame platform on building media literacy in Central Asian youth
10:20	**Elvira Sultanmurat kyzy** Journalist, Media Hub (Kyrgyzstan)	Aldanba (don't let yourself be fooled) – a project about safe migration
10:35	**Rahbar Majidova** Executive Director of the Gurdofarid Republican Public Organization (Tajikistan)	The Project on Participation of Adolescents in the Decision-Making Process and the development of an electronic mobile application - an assistant to yong people in self-development
10:50	**Darya Osmanova** Co-founder and Deputy Head of Modern Journalism Development Center (Uzbekistan)	Legalclinic.uz: Legal support for journalists, bloggers and media participants
11:05-11:30	**Discussion**	
11:30-12:00	**Coffee break & networking**	
	Workshop 1	
12:00-13:00	**Stanislav Khanin** PhD, EduTech Expert, Game Designer at Qlever+, MediaNet (Poland)	Developing content for a game: from an idea to a script
	Workshop 2	
13:00-14:00	**Moldir Utegenova, Snezhana Tsoy** Project managers at MediaNet (Kazakhstan)	#MediaIQ: Creative educational videos for social networks
14:00-15:00	**Lunch**	
	Workshop 3	

Some changes are possible

15:00-16:00	**Azat Ruziyev** Co-author of the Bashta project (Kyrgyzstan)	How to achieve real changes through social media using the example of the Bashta project
16:00-16:10	**Summarizing and finishing the Forum in NOMAD HALL 1**	

Some changes are possible