

MOLDOVA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM
REPORT 2021



IGF

Moldova
Internet
Governance
Forum

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Hybrid event

www.igf.md

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INTRODUCTORY SECTION

The first Moldova Internet Governance Forum (MIGF) took place in November 2020 in Chisinau. The annual National IGF has become a continuation of a global series of Forums aimed at discussion of the most important issues of information society development, consolidation of the efforts of state authorities, business, Internet society, professional and academic elites aimed at accelerating the implementation of IT capabilities, creating conditions for comprehensive development of Internet technologies for the public benefit. MIGF gathers together participants from around the world who represent international organizations, state authorities, non-governmental and commercial organizations in the field of ICT and the mass media. MIGF has become an important component of the national discussion on the future of the Internet in Moldova.

In 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the second Moldova Internet Governance Forum was held in hybrid format. The nature of the event presented new challenges, but also allowed us to reach a wider audience – with many participants and experts joining for the second IGF in Moldova. The events of 2020-2021, with the Internet becoming even more central to our daily lives, have also highlighted that there is no better time to be discussing such important issues.

The Moldova Internet Governance Forum 2021 took place in Chisinau in the conference hall of the Marriott Hotel. From 19 - 20 October, more than 200 registered delegates from government institutions, civil society, private sector, industry, technical community, and academia met to discuss the most important issues for national Internet space. Some of them participated in the Forum from the conference hall, and some joined the online discussion. A number of well-known speakers and experts from Moldova, Canada, USA, Romania, Ukraine, Russia, Estonia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and other countries took part in the eight sessions of MIGF.

The Moldova Internet Governance Forum 2021 was organized in accordance with the five core IGF principles, which are:

- Open and transparent
- Inclusive
- Bottom-up
- Multi-stakeholder
- Non-commercial

The Moldova IGF 2021 was organized by multi-stakeholder Organizing Committee representing national public and private sectors, civil society and technical community. A representative of an international organization, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), joined the Committee with observer status. The role of a neutral secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum in Moldova is entrusted to the Association "Comunitatea Internet" - a non-governmental organization that supports and promotes the development of the open, secure, trustworthy, and unified global Internet. In this regard, it produces the reports and implements the decisions and report to the Committee that reviews and validates the implementation.

The Organizing Committee invited everyone who is interested in discussing current Internet governance issues to participate in the national initiative. Agenda was developed using a bottom up and multi-stakeholder approach. The Forum was supported by a number of government institutions, several international and regional organizations as well as local supporters and volunteers.

The event was aimed to be a capacity-building event, as well as a space for discussions on Internet governance emerging issues, challenges and define the way forward. The Forum's formula has enabled a

multilateral and open debate on the main challenges and opportunities presented by the development and popularization of the Internet. During the meeting, with the participation of the audience, the invited contributors were looking for new proposals and solutions, enabling a wise and responsible policy regarding the use and development of the Internet, responding to the emerging needs, including in the context of emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic.



WHAT IS THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM?

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a global initiative under the auspices of the UN with the idea of bringing together all interested parties to participate equally in discussions and issues relevant to Internet governance. The initiative was created in 2006 at the "World Summit on the Information Society" (WSIS) in Tunisia, decided by the UN Secretary-General, as an open platform for discussion on Internet governance issues. The immediate motivation for this decision was the need to dissolve the governance and regulation of the Internet to the involvement of the wider community. It is important that other stakeholders such as civil society, academia, industry and the private sector take active part in these debates along the state representatives.

The IGF does not have a decision-making mandate, nor does it adopt binding acts, but their results may affect the procedure, which have binding effects. The IGF, by drawing its conclusions and drawing attention to topics that are relevant, can influence decision makers and thus participate in forming an official national position or public policy in the field of Internet governance.

The IGF is fully open to the participation of anyone interested in the issues of Internet stability, its security, usage and development. IGF is an annual event. Topics that will be discussed on the IGF can be suggested by anyone interested.

In addition to the [Global IGF](#) initiative, there are regional and sub-regional (e.g. [EuroDIG](#) – Pan-European Dialogue on Internet Governance, [SEEDIG](#) – South East European Dialogue on Internet Governance), national (e.g. Moldova IGF), age (Youth IGF).

IGF initiatives, especially national and regional ones, are important because they promote communication among all stakeholders, foster the development of a culture of dialogue among different stakeholders on Internet-related issues, which helps in anticipating different perspective and interests.

Important principles on which the IGF is based are:

- Openness and transparency (allowing all interested parties to participate in the IGF, public insight into all parts of the IGF's work);
- Inclusivity (enable active involvement of all concerned);
- Bottom-up approach (involving the public in the creation of the IGF program);
- Non-commercial - IGF is not intended for sale of goods and services;
- Multi-stakeholder model (model of involvement of all stakeholders: academia, business sector and industry, civil society organizations and state and public administration).

WHY MOLDOVA IGF?

The idea of establishing a national platform for open dialogue on Internet Governance in Moldova emerged from inspiring and successful initiatives worldwide, such as the South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG), the Pan-European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG), and a plethora of national initiatives that had sprung up all over the globe under the umbrella of the United Nations Internet Governance Forum.

Moldova Internet Governance Forum (MIGF) is a national IGF initiative for the Republic of Moldova dedicated to creating an open space for all stakeholders in order to develop an inclusive, diverse and informal dialogue on issues and problems concerning Internet governance. MIGF brings together representatives of various stakeholders to discuss global issues and topics from a national perspective, and finally to identify common priorities and make the first steps for a mutual cooperation.

Key Principles

Moldova Internet Governance Forum brings together individuals interested in national Internet Governance issues. Any interested person may join and participate in the Forum. Participation in the Internet Governance Forum is voluntary. It is organized in accordance with the main IGF principles: open and transparent, inclusive, bottom up, multi-stakeholder and non-commercial.

The main goals of MIGF are:

- to point out to various stakeholders the opportunities for involvement in Internet governance processes relevant to their business and activities, and to encourage dialogue and, if necessary, help in capacity building for better understanding Internet-related topics;
- to empower and interest all stakeholders in Moldova to actively participate in national, and then directly or indirectly, regional and international Internet governance processes;
- to identify Internet governance topics important to Moldova.

The main objectives of the Forum are:

- to provide an open and transparent platform for all stakeholder groups;
- to bring up and discuss the Internet governance related issues;
- to give the floor to the wide community;
- to deliver the messages to the policy makers.

The major directions of the Forum activity are:

- Protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms on Internet, support of democratic process and the rule of law;
- Support of implementation of the Internet governance with the participation of all stakeholders;
- Support of harmonization of international regulations and local legislation;
- Support of enhancing of Internet users' rights and capabilities;
- Promotion of the universalization of the Internet;
- Support of Internet security and reliability, sustainability and credibility;
- Support of formation of the decentralized approaches of the Internet governance based on social responsibility;
- Support of introduction of innovation, new technologies and services in the Internet sector;
- Introduction of the principles of open access and freedom of user's choice;
- Facilitation of the cultural and linguistic diversity in the Internet as well as support of development of local content increase.

The work of the MIGF is based on the recommendations and best practices of the United Nations Internet Governance Forum represented by the IGF Secretariat, the Council of Europe, the Internet Society (ISOC), the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and implies the multilateral engagement model of development of the Forum agenda, organization of the Forum with minimal costs and maximum transparency, and maximum involvement of the parties. The national Internet Governance Forum of Moldova is based on the cooperation of all stakeholders, bringing together 5 interested groups: government, private sector, civil society, the experts of scientific and educational and technology fields and the representatives of international organizations. All the participants are taking part in the Forum as equal partners.

MIGF 2021 PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES

The preparatory process for the second National IGF began in March 2021 with stakeholder meetings. The initiative group established a plan of activities to be performed before the planned Forum in 2021. Since then, the preparatory works of the Forum, meetings in the groups, forming of the agenda, and relationships with donors and supporters have started. Three months before the event, a new version of the [MIGF website](#) was launched that is more informative and easier to use.

Among the first steps, the activities on forming the new Organizing Committee have been initiated with the goal to connect the key stakeholders. The MIGF 2021 Organizing Committee included representatives from four stakeholder groups: government, technical community, private sector and civil society. In addition, a representative of an international organization, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), was included in the Organizing Committee with observer status.

The role of a neutral secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum in Moldova is entrusted to the Association "Comunitatea Internet" - a non-governmental organization that supports and promotes the development of the open, secure, trustworthy, and unified global Internet. The Association is also in

charge of the secretariat of the Organizing Committee. In this regard, it produces the reports and implements the decisions and report to the Committee that reviews and validates the implementation.

Members of the Organizing Committee, in particular, are responsible for:

- Select the central theme and sub-themes of the Forum;
- Draft the Forum TORs and the concept notes for sessions and themes;
- Seek and empower sessions and theme moderators;
- Seek additional funds to hold the Forum.

It was confirmed that Moldova IGF should function as a process that would include an annual meeting and related preliminary activities. Additional events such as workshops, webinars and round tables were also envisaged in-between annual meetings. It was affirmed that the National Internet Governance Forum remains an open, inclusive and transparent bottom-up process in accordance with IGF principles, norms, rules and decision-making procedures.

In August 2021, the topics for the event were selected by the Organizing Committee members from the proposals received in a bottom-up process following a public call for inputs. In accordance with the agreed session formats, up to six contributors were envisaged for each session. Moderators were encouraged to combine interventions from speakers with interactive discussions among all session participants.

In September and October 2021, over one hundred invitations were sent to representatives of all stakeholder groups. Moldova IGF 2021 was also announced on its website, on social media channels and through the electronic and printed media.

In planning the event, the Organizing Team sought to involve all stakeholder groups in the preparatory and organizational processes (government, academia, technical, private and civil society). Prominent members of the local telecommunications and Internet sector have been invited to join the initiative accordingly.

As a target group, the Forum aimed to attract the local and regional Internet community, including market players, technical community and academia, supporting organizations, government officials, academics and young talents.

The Organizing Committee regularly held coordination meetings from March 2021 to October 2021, especially in the preparatory phase, to discuss the strategy and make decisions with regards to calls for contributions, the list of speakers, the topics of agenda and partnerships. However, most communication took place in written form, via email, as quick feedback and reactions were needed to ensure deadlines were being followed, and this is also due to restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With regards to the Organizing Team, most of the preparatory meetings took place via Microsoft Teams or Zoom, as they had to happen more often. Weekly meetings were needed in order to ensure that the calendar was being followed, that all stakeholder groups were consulted, and that all communication with speakers, participants and partners was being carried out in a timely, transparent and efficient manner.

All in-person and online meetings have been documented through note taking and sharing of the meeting notes on the Organizing Team meetings.

In preparation for the National Internet Governance Forum and taking into account the main topics of the agenda, a number of preparatory activities were carried out. In particular, in the context of preparation of the session "Digital accessibility for people with disabilities and special needs" within the Moldova IGF Association "Comunitatea Internet" jointly with the Association "Alliance of Organizations for Persons with Disabilities from the Republic of Moldova" (AOPD) organized a [round table](#) on September 23, 2021.

AGENDA

THE SECOND MOLDOVA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

DAY 1 - Opening & Welcome session

Introduction and what to expect at the second national IGF in Moldova**Partners from Moldova and abroad, MIGF Organizing Committee:**

- **Iurie Țurcanu**, Deputy Prime-minister for Digitalization, Government of the Republic of Moldova
- **Stelian Manic**, General Director of the Invest Moldova Agency
- **Chengetai Masango**, Head of the United Nations Secretariat for the Internet Governance Forum
- **David Frautschy Heredia**, Director for European Government and Regulatory Affairs at Internet Society (ISOC)
- **Mikhail Anisimov**, Head of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
- **Chris Buckridge**, Head of External Relations for the RIPE NCC, Regional Internet Registry for Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia
- **Olga Kyryliuk**, Chair at South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG), Technical Program Manager at ABA ROLI
- **Tattu Mambetalieva**, Chair at Central Asian Internet Governance Forum (CAIGF)
- **Alexei Marciuc**, Chairman of the Association "Comunitatea Internet", National coordinator for the Moldova Internet Governance Forum (MIGF)

At the Opening of the Forum, representatives of partner organizations and institutions and members of the MIGF Organizing Committee addressed the participants with a welcoming speech. **Alexei Marciuc, Chairman of the Association "Comunitatea Internet" and MIGF coordinator**, reminded that the Internet Governance Forum is held in Moldova for the second year in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which highlighted the importance of digital technologies and the urgent need to enhance the role of IGF as a platform for dialogue, playing a unique role in the architecture of digital cooperation. He said the pandemic highlighted the needs of digital development and the need for digital empowerment. "Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic confirmed that Internet access protects health care, jobs and, without exaggeration, lives. At the same time, the pandemic exacerbates inequalities of all kinds, including the digital divide. Those without access to digital technologies are deprived of the opportunity to learn, communicate, trade, shop, work and participate in many areas of modern life. On the other hand, connectivity has increased vulnerability to harm and abuse of all kinds. In particular, we have encountered an increase in such phenomena as disinformation, hate speech, and discrimination in the digital space," said Alexei Marciuc.

Iurie Țurcanu, Deputy Prime Minister for Digitalization, said at the Opening of the Forum that "we need a safe and secure Internet, we must make every effort to have a guaranteed and secure virtual space, where every user can use the Internet safely". "MIGF is a good opportunity to discuss this topic of great importance, especially now, in the context of the global pandemic crisis. I would like to note the

importance of meeting in this format and the need to strengthen the efforts of different categories of actors, such as the public sector, civil society, the technical community, academia, the private sector, international organizations, to discuss problems related to access to the Internet, as well as security in the virtual environment. I would like to thank the participants and organizers for having the courage to organize such an event in such difficult times", the Deputy Prime Minister noted. Iurie Țurcanu assured of the Moldovan Government's openness for cooperation. "It is crucial for us to maintain this connection and, by combining efforts, perseverance and consistent investments, find a balance between sustainability and digital development. Leveraging the resources of multi-stakeholder partnerships can facilitate investments in digital infrastructure and build capacity for data privacy and security. These actions are essential for Moldova's digital future," concluded the Deputy Prime Minister.

Stelian Manic, Director General of the Invest Moldova Agency, recalled the importance of efficient Internet governance in modern society. He said the Internet governance ecosystem implies that each country must bring technological innovations to the government, redefining processes, streamlining public services and engaging them for the benefit of citizens. At the same time, he pointed out that Internet governance is not just about effective, efficient and responsive management based on smart investments in information technology. It must also be about security and reliability, sustainability and trust. "Whether the Internet will be transparent, secure and accessible to all depends on our ability to work together and guide these technologies in ways that maximize benefits and minimize unintended consequences and risks. All we need to do now is create a safe space that promotes the empowerment of Internet users. A safe space for learning, work, play, discovery and growth", stated the Head of Invest Moldova.

Chengetai Masango, Head of the United Nations Secretariat for the Internet Governance Forum, speaking live from UN Headquarters in Geneva, mentioned that the pandemic has changed a lot of things and we have a new experience in working, educating and socializing. "And all of this mostly through the means of the Internet, the use of which has naturally increased during this period. At the same time, small business and large corporations, as well as critical Internet infrastructures, have become targets of massive cyber attacks. We have yet to see the consequences of all these changes," said Head of the United Nations Secretariat for IGF. According to him, the IGF is a platform that has direct input from multi-stakeholder communities from 137 countries and regions through regional and national IGFs, including the Internet Governance Forum of Moldova. "IGF 2021 is a place where everyone can have their say and be heard," said Chengetai Masango. The UN representative reminded about the upcoming 16th Global Internet Governance Forum, which will be hosted by the Government of Poland on December 6-10 in a hybrid format. This Forum will discuss various topics centered around the six issue areas: economic and social inclusion and human rights; universal access and meaningful connectivity, emerging regulation; environmental sustainability and climate change, inclusive Internet governance ecosystems and digital cooperation; and trust, security and stability. Also on the agenda is a parliamentary track, featuring members of parliaments from around the world, and a youth summit.

David Frautschy Heredia, Director for European Government and Regulatory Affairs at Internet Society (ISOC), welcomed the participants of the national Forum on behalf of ISOC, which is an international nonprofit organization that handles Internet standards, education and policy development. According to him, "we all want the Internet to remain globally connected, safe and secure, but today there are many threats to the Internet. And one of the tasks of the national Internet Governance Forum in Moldova is to inform about these threats and create a platform to discuss them. As David Frautschy Heredia noted, in this dialogue, the entire community is invited to participate and contribute, which will eventually improve our society.

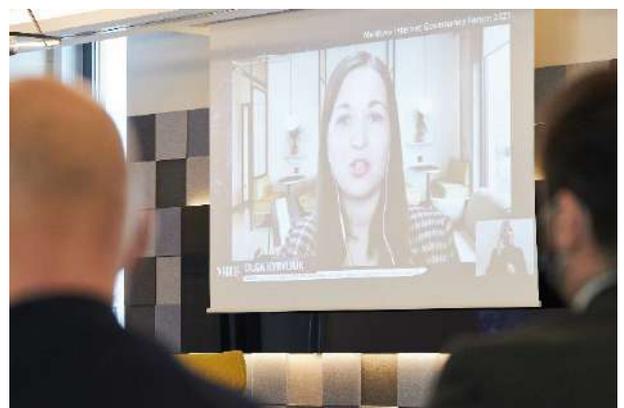
Mikhail Anisimov, Head of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), said that "it is especially important to keep the Internet stable and secure, because almost every aspect of our lives depends on it very much. According to him, ICANN continues to maintain the critical infrastructure of the Internet, the DNS and contribute to the overall accessibility of the Internet. Mikhail Anisimov underlined that the Internet is not the prerogative of any particular stakeholder group, but of the whole community. The ICANN representative noted that discussion of the issues on the MIGF 2021 agenda will have positive consequences for the development of the Internet, which is important not only for the entire information community, but also for the organizations that deal with Internet development technologies and everything that accompanies these developments.

Chris Buckridge, Head of External Relations for the RIPE NCC, Regional Internet Registry for Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia, emphasized that the IGF and other national and regional events of this kind offer great opportunities for progress and new perspectives. He noted that MIGF can contribute to the effective promotion of the ideas expressed by its participants. Chris Buckridge also highlighted the fundamental functions of the RIPE Network Coordination Center. The RIPE NCC is one of five Regional Internet Registries providing Internet resource allocations, registration services and coordination activities that support the operation of the Internet globally. The most prominent activity is to act as the Regional Internet Registry providing global Internet resources and related services (IPv4, IPv6 and AS Number resources) to members in the respective service region.

Olga Kyrlyuk, Chair at South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG), Technical Program Manager at ABA ROLI, stressed the importance of National IGF initiatives. "This Forum has what it takes to become an effective platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue on Internet governance issues. Such a number of key actors, experts and representatives of different stakeholder groups from Moldova and other countries and partner organizations present here today shows the importance of the issues we are going to discuss here. The Forum initiates a dialogue between the private and public sectors, governmental institutions and civil society organizations, as well as among the representatives of the countries inside and outside the region. We are not only promoting the core values of Internet governance, but also building mutual understanding and trust by learning from each other's experiences. The result is, in particular, positive change in Internet governance. We must combine our efforts on several areas, including raising awareness, building capacity, and countering misinformation and propaganda, choosing wisely the tools and strategies that will be most effective. This Forum will truly guide all participants toward focused and comprehensive action by further enhancing knowledge and understanding of the issues underlying Internet governance. This will contribute to building a better digital future for all of us," said Olga Kyrlyuk.

Tattu Mambetalieva, Chair at Central Asian Internet Governance Forum (CAIGF) spoke about the experience of this sub-regional IGF in raising the digital agenda not only within one country, but also within the region. "We had quite serious discussions on many issues related to Internet governance, in which our countries demonstrated their experience, and we saw what mechanisms are the most effective. At the last CAIGF held in Bishkek in September 2021, the Central Asian countries agreed to work together to counter cyber threats and to make joint efforts because they saw how difficult it is to ensure proper security at the level of one country. The Moldova Internet Governance Forum, with which we work closely, has great potential to become our key partner. On many issues we can combine our efforts, and perhaps such cooperation between our forums will become a basis for organizing and conducting Eurasian Internet Governance Forum," - said Chair at CAIGF. Tattu Mambetalieva noted that the issue of regional cooperation and digital integration, which is raised within the MIGF agenda this year, has become very topical not only in the context of COVID-19, but also because we see that technologies are cross-border

and, in fact, there is no way to do without harmonization of approaches not only within the country, but also between countries. She also made a proposal to translate cooperation into a practical format and start effective practical interaction between Central Asia and the Republic of Moldova.





DAY 1 - Session 1

Digital inclusion and multistakeholder cooperation in managing the digital future



The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need to take concerted action to revive the economy and unlock growth factors, and the importance of engaging all stakeholders in this dialogue. Global economic growth was uneven even before the pandemic, as was progress on the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs). Moldova, like other countries, now has a chance to leverage the economic recovery as an opportunity towards sustainable and inclusive development.

The digital economy can play a fundamental role as an enabler of opportunities for human development and economic improvement. The importance of investing in Information and communication technologies (ICTs), and making them available to all segments of populations, is one of the lessons of the recovery. Harnessing resources from multi-stakeholder partnerships can help facilitate needed investments in digital infrastructure and capacity building. Ensuring data privacy, security and rights will also be essential for the future of digital technologies in Moldova.

This high-level session will discuss, as one of the topics, how a synergetic approach to data, platform-driven services can pave the way to economic recovery and sustainable development – the factors that the post-pandemic world needs just like lungs need air. Specifically, it will reflect on reshuffling the existing order to move forward with accelerated digitalisation and have it implemented across the board, leaving no one behind. Whether we will come out stronger from this unprecedented crisis depends in large part on how effectively and comprehensively digital challenges are addressed for more equitable and sustainable human development.

Moderator: *Dona Școla, President of the DNT Association, co-founder of Generator Hub*

Speakers:

- **Olga Tumoruc**, *Director of the Electronic Government Agency*
- **Iulian Popescu**, *Secretary of State for Research, Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalization, Romania*
- **Victor Spînu**, *Member of Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*

- **Igor Ștefanet**, *Head of Investment Attraction and Protection Department at Invest Moldova Agency*
- **Mikhail Anisimov**, *Head of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Eastern Europe and Central Asia - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)*
- **Veaceslav Cunev**, *Chairman of the board of the Moldovan Association of Information and Communications Technology Companies*

The representatives of international organizations, public institutions, parliament, government, business, national and foreign experts who participated in the discussions of this session emphasized the importance of meeting in this format and the need to strengthen the efforts of different categories of actors, such as the public sector, civil society, technical community, academia, private sector, international bodies, to discuss problems related to digital integration, acceleration and widespread implementation of digital technologies, accessibility of ICT for all segments of the population and, in general, Moldova's digital future. According to the speakers, holding MIGF 2021 in Chisinau will serve to update the challenges of the digital agenda in the post-pandemic crisis, to identify the prospects for a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the sustainability of the global Internet and the priorities for a shared digital future.

According to the Moldova e-Government Agency, the strategic objectives today are to modernize public services through re-engineering and digitization, increase governance efficiency by ensuring data exchange between public service providers, diversify access channels to public services, and ensure information security. Moldova e-Governance Agency has successfully implemented more than 100 products within more than 20 initiatives in the last 10 years, having built a sustainable platform for further modernization of public services and other governance-related innovations. The beneficiaries of e-governance products are the citizens and visitors of the Republic of Moldova, the private sector and public institutions.

Representatives of key state institutions informed on the practical aspects of implementing policies according to which the citizen is the main beneficiary of the services provided by the state, optimized through the process of digitization. As noted, when we talk about digital public services for people, we are referring to the training of the population to access public services remotely by computer, the benefits of digital public services for citizens, the accessibility of all digital public services, the protection of digital data. As MPs point out, digital services have all the leverage to demonstrate that they are far superior to the procedures of the past, and all business entities are called upon to contribute to this process, with openness and support from parliament and government.

According to experts, nowadays in Moldova increased attention should be paid to modernization of public services, coordination of investments in information technologies, development and implementation of e-transformation solutions, creation of platforms and services to improve relations between the state, citizens and business. Efforts should also focus on initiatives for digital inclusion of certain categories of population and ensuring access to public services for underrepresented groups, including people with disabilities and the elderly, through innovative tools, applications and modern technologies.

Experts and speakers discussed global digitalization trends in the pandemic era and concluded that the balance between sustainability and digital development can be achieved through collaborative efforts, perseverance and consistent investments. They also noted that leveraging resources from multi-stakeholder partnerships can facilitate investments in digital infrastructure and build capacity for data privacy and security. These are some of the most important actions needed for the future of digital in Moldova.



DAY 1 - Session 2

Trust, security and stability in the digital space

Today we use ICT almost everywhere and rely on the Internet for a wide range of tasks, from simple to national and regional. At the same time, ICT systems are becoming more closely interconnected and rely on a variety of internal and external devices and applications. Solving any assigned tasks through or with the use of ICT carries the need to identify and eliminate cybersecurity risks.

At the national or regional level, this becomes almost impossible without close collaboration between the public and private sectors, the technical community, the academic and research sector and civil society. Collaboration is essential to raise threat awareness and improve the resilience of information systems, digital services, and supporting infrastructure. The Internet today must justify the trust of its users and respond with concrete measures to ensure the safety of children in the virtual world, counter gender-based violence, cyberbullying and disinformation.

During the session, government organizations, law enforcement authorities, business, the tech community and civil society will discuss both existing and emerging initiatives to improve online security.

Moderator: Dumitru Țira, CEO of Realitatea Media

Speakers:

- **Child safety online. Challenges and perspectives - Victoria Gribineț, Psychologist, child online safety specialist, International Center "La Strada"**
- **The impact of the Internet. The specific regional and Moldovan experience - Veaceslav Soltan, Chief prosecutor of the Information Technologies and Cyber Crimes Combating Unite, General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova**
- **The latest trends and challenges in the field of cybercrime - Ioan-Cosmin Mihai, Cybercrime Training Officer at the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL)**
- **Combating negative manifestations in the virtual space: national aspects - Sergiu Lisnic, Chief of the Electronic payment means Unite of the Cyber Crimes Investigation Directorate of the National Inspectorate of Investigations of the General Inspectorate of Police, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova**
- **DNS security as a way to provide trust on the network - Mykhailo Melnik, Business Development Manager Palo Alto Networks in MUK Group**
- **Diana Doros, Head of the Directorate for coordination in the field of human rights and social dialogue, State Chancellery**

At the session, national and international experts discussed some of the most pressing aspects of security and safety in the online environment.

During the pandemic, according to the La Strada Center, the number of child sexual exploitation crimes increased by 260%. In the context of Moldova's experience in protecting children online, it is worth noting the portal www.siguronline.md, which is a tool for informing children, parents and teachers how to

protect children in the virtual world, as well as a way of feedback. Also, in the near future, a Service for reporting sexual content will be launched in Moldova.

The speakers noted the trend of steady growth in cybercrimes. At the same time, most of the crimes are attacks on information systems, sexual exploitation of children and theft from bank cards. Recently, more and more virus attacks are directed at mobile devices, which often do not have anti-virus protection programs. Also, the widespread use of the Internet of Things has led hackers to use IoT devices for their own purposes, which do not have sufficient protection. Such devices are most often used for mining or become part of a bot network.

DNS security was a separate topic of the session. Experts noted that recently attacks on DNS have become a lot of vectoral ones, and today about 80% of all malicious programs use DNS traffic, which indicates that this tool has become a key tool for cybercriminals. The growth in the total number of domains during the pandemic was just caused by the automation of attacks and the widespread use of DNS traffic for illegal activities. The speakers noted that the development of the Internet and IT technologies has also become a panacea for this kind of attacks. Namely, the use of machine learning and behavioral analysis of large amounts of data makes it possible to identify the "innovations" of attackers.

The experts agreed that one of the primary measures to counter negative phenomena should be to educate and inform citizens about these phenomena, their manifestations, consequences, and how to react in such situations. In general, media literacy and safety culture in the virtual space, according to experts, will significantly increase the level of security in general.



DAY 1 - Session 3

Digital accessibility for people with disabilities and special needs

Over 1.3 billion people worldwide - about 15% of the world's population - experience from some form of disability. The exclusion and marginalization of persons with disabilities is a human rights issue as well as an economic issue for the authorities, including in the Republic of Moldova, where against the backdrop of the pandemic this topic is becoming increasingly important. Digital technologies break traditional barriers to communication, interaction, and access to information for persons with disabilities. The confluence of increasing public and private service provision through Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the growing number of mainstream, everyday ICTs that can be used as accessible devices is changing the paradigm of technology-enabled development for persons with disabilities. Accessible ICT can level the playing field for persons with disabilities across life domains including education, employment, e-governance and civic participation, financial inclusion.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed the way people interact with each other. In the present circumstances, it has become even more evident that earlier divides may persist and new divides may be created when ICT-enabled development is not accessible to persons with disabilities. As indicated in the UN Secretary General's [Digital Cooperation Roadmap](#), everyone should have an equal opportunity to become empowered through ICT. It means accessibility through not only physical access and skills development, but also design that respects the needs of all people, including those with disabilities. In this context, implementing the internationally recognized W3C Accessibility Guidelines, also known as [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines](#) (WCAG), can take a little more effort to make a website, application, or device accessible and usable for everyone.

During the session, representatives of civil society, the environment of people with disabilities, the technical community and the government will discuss the existing problems of access and equitable use of digital products and services. This session will address key challenges to the realization of ICT-enabled inclusive development and present policy and practice recommendations for government and development practitioners.

Moderator: *Ludmila Malcoci, PHD habilitate, Regional Director of Keystone Human Services International for Central and Eastern Europe*

Speakers:

- **National and international policy framework for ensuring accessibility for people with disabilities in Moldova** - Galina Climov, Executive director of the Alliance of Organizations for Persons with Disabilities from the Republic of Moldova
- **Digitization of social services for persons with disabilities** - Marcela Dilion-Strechie, PhD in sociology, Program Manager at Keystone Moldova
- **Web accessibility for people with visual and hearing disabilities** - Victor Koroli, Executive Director of Alliance "Infonet"
- **The institutional mechanism in the field of human rights in the Republic of Moldova** - Diana Doros, Head of the Directorate for coordination in the field of human rights and social dialogue, State Chancellery

- **Practical aspects of the of technology-ensuring access for digital services for persons with disabilities** - **Vitalie Celonenco**, CEO of RTS, web development, security and IT consulting company
- **Olga Tumuruc**, Director of the Electronic Government Agency

As the panelists noted, the Republic of Moldova has assumed responsibility for ensuring the rights of persons with disabilities by [ratifying](#) the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, who currently account for about [176 000](#) of the country's total population. Studies and reports on the situation of people with disabilities reflect that they are the most vulnerable category in the country, with limited access to health services, education and employment.

According to the speakers, the main obstacle to the participation of people with disabilities in all spheres of life and ensuring all rights is the lack of accessible physical, informational and transport infrastructure. In other words, it is a question of the functioning of the national legal provisions stipulated by [Law no. 60](#) of 30.03.2012 on social inclusion of persons with disabilities. As digital space becomes a source of information, communication, it must be accessible to all: people with all kinds of disabilities, elderly people, etc.

Given that the Republic of Moldova has adopted a number of policies for inclusion, people with disabilities experience difficulties in accessing the digital information environment and using the content placed in the digital space:

- Low economic capacity to purchase technical equipment to access the digital space and to pay for Internet services;
- Low ability of people with disabilities to use the equipment;
- Information materials placed in the digital space are difficult for people with disabilities to digest and use;
- Digital pages/platforms do not include tools to adapt pages to the difficulties of people with disabilities.

To address barriers to accessibility in the digital space, experts recommend the following:

- Implement legislative and policy provisions for digital accessibility;
- Supplementing public policy with actions to adapt web pages, web platforms;
- Adaptation of web pages of public, social, medical and educational services for the convenience of people with disabilities;
- Adequate/sufficient budget for the adaptation of digital spaces, web pages of institutions, public services;
- Equipping medical, social, educational and other support services with the necessary equipment to connect to the Internet;
- Monitoring the process of adaptation of digital spaces for public use, systematic updating and evaluation by people with disabilities;
- Development of standards for the accessibility of information spaces, taking into account international standards;
- Development of programs that include measures to support vulnerable groups in accessing Internet services and training in the use of communication equipment.



DAY 1 - Session 4

Internet freedom in Central and Eastern Europe. Trends and challenges, lessons for Moldova



This panel session will examine recent developments and trends impacting Internet freedom across Central and Eastern Europe, with a particular focus on case studies in Moldova, Ukraine, Estonia and Serbia. It will highlight findings from Freedom House's most recent *Freedom on the Net (FOTN) [report from 2021](#)* as well as a [new policy brief](#) overviewing the environment for online regulation in Moldova. This year's *FOTN* report documents how in the high-stakes battle between governments and technology companies, the rights of internet users have become the main casualties. With a few positive exceptions, the push to regulate the tech industry, which stems in some cases from genuine problems like online

harassment and manipulative market practices, is being exploited to subdue free expression and gain greater access to private data. You can read the full report at freedomthenet.org.

At the same time, Freedom House's new policy brief examines trends in the regulation of the online environment in Moldova, considering the extent to which the country complies with international norms connected to freedom of expression, dissemination of information, and balanced monitoring of online content. It calls for the development and application of common principles, norms, and decision-making procedures governing the online environment that are based on a broad multi-stakeholder approach and consider economic, political, and socio-cultural dimensions.

Moderator: Grant Baker, *Research Associate for Technology and Democracy at Freedom House*

Panelists:

- **Alexei Marciuc**, *Chairman of the Association “Comunitatea Internet”, National coordinator for the Moldova GF*
- **Olga Kyryliuk**, *Technical Program Manager at American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI), Chair at South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG)*
- **Hille Hinsberg**, *Expert in open government, Proud Engineers, Estonia*
- **Mila Bajić**, *Researcher at the SHARE Foundation, Serbia*

As noted in the just-released Freedom House report, global Internet freedom has declined for the 11th year in a row. Experts say that in many countries, governments clashed with technology companies on users' rights. Authorities in at least 48 countries pursued new rules for tech companies on content, data, and competition over the past year. With a few positive exceptions, the push to regulate the tech industry, which stems in some cases from genuine problems like online harassment and manipulative market practices, is being exploited to subdue free expression and gain greater access to private data.

The poster for the MIGF Special Event features the logos for the Moldova Internet Governance Forum and Freedom House. The event title is "MIGF Special Event" followed by "Presentation of the report 'Freedom on the Net 2021' & New policy brief on online regulation in Moldova". Below this, it lists a "PANEL SESSION: Internet freedom in Central and Eastern Europe. Trends and challenges, lessons for Moldova". The date and time are "October 19, 2021, 16.50 - 17.50 (UTC +3)". A registration link "Register on www.igf.md" is provided at the bottom. Five speakers are featured in portrait photos: Grant Baker (USA), Olga Kyryliuk (Ukraine), Alexei Marciuc (Moldova), Hille Hinsberg (Estonia), and Mila Bajić (Serbia).

Free expression online is under unprecedented strain, according to Freedom House. As experts from various countries point out, state intervention must protect human rights online and preserve an open internet. The emancipatory power of the internet depends on its egalitarian nature. To counter digital authoritarianism, democracies should ensure that regulations enable users to express themselves freely, share information across borders, and hold the powerful to account.

At the same time in Moldova, as in many other countries, the search for a balanced form of online regulation continues. Currently, there are a number of conflicting trends in the regulation of the country's online environment and the absence of a unified state policy in this area. Driven by fear of security risks, Moldovan authorities are increasingly attempting to expand state oversight of online spaces and increase their influence over the internet, putting the freedom of expression and the right to privacy at risk. According to speakers, implementation of laws designed to protect citizen's rights and privacy and activities of the media is largely ineffective, and there are few checks and balances in place to prevent authorities from taking a more aggressive stance in policing internet content.

As national and international experts emphasize, moving forward, it is crucial that Moldova forms a favorable legal environment for the online space and develops legislation that considers international recommendations, experience, and best practices, while maintaining a balance between security issues and civil liberties.



DAY 2 - Session 5

ICT regulatory in times of digital transformation



Digital services today are a combination of public, private and hybrid systems (traditional and cloud). Also, based on the principle of interaction of systems, data can come or be transferred from system to system at the national or regional level. This also means that different kinds of data can also be used to generate new data, including for commercial purposes. The growth in the number of information systems gives rise to regulation in the digital sphere at the level of infrastructure, data and their processing.

In this regard, there is growing concern about the transparency and coordination of decisions on content moderation of the availability of digital infrastructure and digital services in order to prevent monopoly control of certain participants, as well as to ensure transparency and accountability of decisions made.

How to ensure that government regulation, self-regulation and co-regulation approaches to content moderation are compliant with human rights frameworks, are transparent and accountable, and enable a safe, united and inclusive Internet?

What is needed to ensure that existing and future national and international data governance frameworks are effective in mandating the responsible and trustworthy use of data, with respect for privacy and other human rights?

Moderator: Irina Baikulova, Deputy Director of the Public Foundation "Civil Initiatives on Internet Policy"

Speakers:

- ***Impact of favorable business environment as enabler for sector development (Moldova IT Park case study) - Natalia Donțu, Administrator of Moldova IT Park***
- ***The role of the High Technology Park in the Innovation Ecosystem of the Kyrgyz Republic - Chubak Temirov, Acting Director of the High Technology Park of the Kyrgyz Republic***
- ***Steps back from security, resilience, trust in times of digital transformation - Alexander Isavnin, Professor of the Moscow Free University***

- ***The fight against fakes and disinformation: experience and lessons of the Kyrgyz Republic*** – Elina Karakulova, Country Director of the Internews Network in Kyrgyzstan
- ***Trends in Internet regulation and restriction in Kazakhstan*** - Yelzhan Kabyshev, Director of “Digital Paradigm” Public foundation, Kazakhstan

One of the examples of successful IT regulation at the national level was presented by the virtual IT park of Moldova. The creation of transparent and secure conditions for doing business in the IT field led both to an increase in tax revenues to the national budget, which amounted to + 45% in 2020 compared to 2017, and to an increase in jobs as a result of increased confidence in Moldova. Today, more than 850 companies from 35 countries are members of the IT park and more than 13 000 jobs have been created.

The growth of new technologies, in addition to the obvious benefits, brings with it new opportunities for negative impact through misinformation and fictitious news. The experts noted that one of the factors that allows the dissemination of this content is the lack of awareness of citizens and the lack of tools to check for falsity. In the case when the user believes the information and shares it with others, this greatly accelerates the dissemination on the network and the false becomes more than the truth. The experience of Kyrgyzstan clearly shows that the creation and government support of such an initiative MediaBlockPost and online resources for checking facts, news and educating citizens has led to positive effects. Experts noted that only cooperation between the civil and technical communities, and the government and the private sector, makes it possible to effectively expose the trolls and resist the escalation of hostility in the virtual world.

It should be noted that an attempt to establish a very clear monitoring of the virtual environment by the government often leads to a slowdown in the development of the Internet and creates preconditions for a decrease in confidence on the part of civil society.

In the context of ensuring the observance of fundamental rights and freedoms on the Internet, experts outlined the importance of maximum transparency in regulating access to certain resources, options for blocking content. The experience of Kazakhstan has clearly shown that the lack of interaction with civil society and the private sector leads to ineffectiveness of government projects and can create technical and economic barriers to the development of the Internet in the region as a whole.





DAY 2 - Session 6

Data sovereignty and trusted online identity



In this new post-COVID reality identity data has become essential for digital services, from government platforms to social networks.

Today most services exist separately, practically forcing users to create an account for each service / platform separately or ask the data from another service / platform (example: continue with Facebook/Google/etc.). Often, an ordinary user chooses creation of new independent identities for each of the systems or tries to connect everything to some specific identifier. Considering the fact that for creating a new identity, such data as mail and / or mobile phone number are used, all existing identities become directly or indirectly related to each other.

It is also worth understanding that everything that is published on the Internet becomes public knowledge or, at least, is available to information systems at the level of technical interaction algorithms. Accordingly, understanding the relationships and having time to analyze them, this tangled web of public data can be unraveled, and a lot about the object of research can be found base on the digital footprints.

How fully do we understand what digital footprints are and how much do we leave them behind? How is our data being used by companies, governments and Internet giants? What measures for monitoring and controlling identifiers in public or private services should be implemented? How can we limit the transmitted personal data to the minimum required for the service?

Moderator: Alexandru Donos, *Cryptography and information security expert*

Speakers:

- **Strengthening the financial infrastructure as a way of enhancing trust and transparency in the capital markets** - Alexandru Savva, *CEO of Single Central Securities Depository*
- **Data sovereignty vs data residency** - Andrei Rusnac, *Information security expert, Co-founder of the Association "Comunitatea Internet"*
- **Identity in the online environment and privacy issues** - Alexandru Donos, *Cryptography and information security expert, Co-chairman of ProDataLex*

- ***Search for digital traces in cross-border operations of special services*** - Vladimir Thorik, Investigative journalist, editor at RISE Moldova
- ***Declassified agents: how journalists used digital traces and open data to expose Ukrainian intelligence agents who illegally kidnapped Judge Chaus from Moldova*** - Dmytro Replianchuk, Investigative journalist at Slidstvo.Info, Ukraine

The experts noted that every year more and more data is generated, which in turn can be processed both in information systems on the territory of the state, and leave them and flow into international systems or independent systems of other countries. It was emphasized that Moldova does not regulate residence, localization or sovereignty of data at the national level, with the exception of cross-border processing and exchange of personal data.

Today, the only sector where clear rules are established for the processing and transmission of any type of data is the financial sector. It should be noted that the financial sector, due to its specifics, is one of the first to introduce clear rules of the game. That is why the principles of data residency have been applied to financial sector data for several years now.

The aspects of identification in the online environment were also considered. It was noted that it was the pandemic crisis and the transfer of all processes to online that gave rise to a new impetus to the modernization of information systems, at least modules for user identification and authentication. In the pre-COVID-19 era, everything was more conservative in this regard - at work they worked on work computers during working hours, and at home on personal computers in their free time. Then everything changed dramatically, and due to remote work, the line between work and personal began to blur. Including in the conditions of an insufficient amount of computer equipment in accordance with the needs of the family, it became impossible to bind access to one specific device. The speakers noted that during the difficult period, the IT industry was able to adapt and develop clear practical recommendations for setting up identification in an online environment in accordance with the new realities.

The experts recalled that in a constantly changing world, the data flow is growing so much that each of us leaves a huge number of digital footprints. These data often lie on the surface and often become the subject of journalistic investigations. Simple analysis and comparison of temporal and geolocation data makes it possible, based only on public data, to reconstruct many events. On the one hand, this provides a unique opportunity to shed light on dark stories, but on the other hand, this data can be used to prepare targeted negative actions (for example, when creating fake news). In this context, it is very important to have mechanisms that will protect citizens from negative influences and inform the public.



DAY 2 - Session 7

***E-learning as a road to online universities.
National and regional experience***

The crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic revealed many problems in traditional education, both for students and pupils, and at the level of organizations. This sparked a digital boom for the learning process. Another element was a broad discussion of the principles of online universities.

To what extent today technologies meet the requirements of the flexibility of the educational process, safety and taking into account the factor of fatigue of teachers and students? What lessons have been learned by the educational segment and the developers of such systems? To what extent does online education today meet the basic requirements of traditional education and is it ready to replace it?

Moderator: **Cătălin Aramă**, *General Director of the General Directorate of Informatics and Digital Communications from “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati*

Speakers:

- **Digital approach related to the educational ecosystem in IT education at Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova** - **Sergiu Tutunaru**, *Director of the Innovative IT Incubator IT4BA (Information Technologies for Business Application), Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova*
- **Digital Transformation in Higher Education** - **Albena Spasova**, *Central and Eastern Europe Multi-Country Education Lead at Microsoft*
- **The new challenges for the education sector in the context of accelerating the digitization and pandemia** - **Cătălin Aramă**, *General Director of the General Directorate of Informatics and Digital Communications from “Dunarea de Jos” University of Galati*
- **Andrei Rusnac**, *Information security expert, Co-founder of the Association “Comunitatea Internet”*
- **Valerian Vreme**, *Chief Adviser at the Scientific Council of the National Institute for Research and Development in Informatics, Romania*
- **Vasile Popa**, *Private sector, Romania*

During the session, Forum participants had the opportunity to get acquainted with the rich experience of Microsoft and its practical implementations in the field of online education, which is so important in the current period of migration to digital processes. It is worth noting that the Microsoft team in a very short time managed to create many tools that will allow the government and the educational sector to digitize and optimize their internal processes, while adding more transparency and objectivity to them.

The experts noted that the period of the collapse in education during the pandemic manifested itself in those countries that postponed the digitization of education at the state level and did not take important steps in this direction. At the same time, those countries that pursued a phased state policy of digitizing education faced fewer difficulties during the COVID-19 period.

It was also noted that it was the Internet that “saved” the educational sector as a whole, as if such a crisis had broken out in the 60s of the 21st century, then education would have been completely paralyzed.

Separately, it was mentioned the need to revise not only the elements of teaching, but also to take appropriate steps to reduce the burden on the teaching staff. It is recommended here to automate as deeply as possible the filing of reports and planning of lessons, the development of auxiliary material for

the teaching staff in all disciplines and for all age groups of pupils and students. This will allow teachers to devote more time to preparing for lessons and less to do routine work. It is worth noting that during the pandemic, teachers suffered the most socially, as there was a catastrophic lack of time for people close to them, constant fatigue from the work process, which negatively affects family relationships and personal life.

It was also noted the importance of creating a system for adapting didactic staff, taking into account their age and knowledge in the field of IT, to new digital realities. It will also improve the quality and objectivity of the educational process.



DAY 2 - Session 8

The Rationale for a culture of digital safety in civil society organizations



Digital safety is a broad term that describes a great many things at once. Operating under a good digital safety is vital to developing a comprehensive defense for the prevention of cyber security breaches. But what does a good safety culture look like, and how can we bridge the gap between what science says and what practitioners do? How can we make it easier for small organizations and individuals to understand, learn about and manage digital safety?

This topic is becoming more prominent in the discussion about what methods protect organizations from security breaches. Leading experts in the field will present up to date research and unique perspectives on how to define, measure and implement digital safety.

Moderator: *Asomudin Atoev, Regional project coordinator at The SecDev Foundation*

Speakers:

- **Nino Gamisonia**, *Digital Safety and Remediation Expert for The SecDev Foundation's CyberSTAR program*
- **Artem Goryainov**, *Technical expert of the CyberSTAR program at The SecDev Foundation*
- **Alan Bright**, *Strategic Communications Manager at The SecDev Foundation, Canada*
- **Alexei Marciuc**, *Moldova Internet Governance Forum (MIGF)*

The panel session was attended by digital safety practitioners, technical experts and trainers from the [CyberSTAR project](#) who are working with civil society organizations in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus. They presented up-to-date research and unique perspectives on how to define, measure and implement digital safety in smaller organizations. They also shared their experience in helping individuals in the region to learn about and understand digital safety.



The speakers presented country and sectoral threat analysis, including in-depth studies of malicious sources, and informed Forum participants how to understand their digital risks and develop basic methods to minimize those risks to avoid significant losses and gain control over their security in the digital world.

The CyberSTAR (Cyber Safety Assessment and Response) project helps civil society organizations and their staff in the Eurasian region to protect their operations, information, communications and beneficiaries from cybersecurity breaches and routine data loss. The project is run by [The SecDev Foundation](#), a Canada-based international think-do tank that helps communities globally to pursue digital opportunity and safety. The Foundation specializes in cyber security, digital development, and the digital economy, with programming in the Eurasia region, Southeast Asia and the Middle East.





DAY 2 - Closing session.

Conclusions and Final Remarks



The second Moldova Internet Governance Forum was successful. It managed to bring together all stakeholder groups and initiate spirited discussions among participants. It was well balanced from this point of view, with some room for improvement. Stakeholders that include civil society and the academy, public institutions and the private sector have shown the greatest interest in the Forum.

Organizing Committee members, MIGF coordinator and experts made the final remarks and conclusions. The main conclusions of the Forum are that in Moldova it is necessary to continue to support and develop a national dialogue on issues related to the Internet and in particular Internet governance, with the involvement of all stakeholder groups, with a particular focus on raising awareness and participation of underrepresented groups. An open, inclusive and multi-stakeholder model is seen as a good model for constructive participation.

Many participants and experts noted the high relevance of the issues on the MIGF agenda, as well as the discussions and conclusions carried out during the Forum. At the heart of this year's national IGF agenda: digital inclusion, which is essential for a sustainable economic recovery, issues of trust, security and stability in the digital space, Internet freedom, e-learning, regulation of the ICT sector in a period of digital transformation. In a separate session, for the first time in such an event, the issues of digital accessibility for people with disabilities and special needs in Moldova were addressed. The session formulated a number of conclusions and recommendations for the bodies responsible for policy development and implementation. The Forum also included special events organized jointly with the international organization Freedom House and the Canadian-based SecDev Foundation.

As noted, many participants joined the Forum events not only through zoom, but also through the broadcast on the event's Facebook page and online TV. Registration on the website was open during all two days of the Forum, and everyone had the opportunity to participate with their comments, questions or suggestions. In addition, some participants took the opportunity to address their questions and ideas on the event's social networking page. The Organizing Committee thanked all international and national partners, the team of organizers and volunteers, as well as the speakers, moderators, contributors, and participants who joined the national initiative for contributing to a productive and successful event.

SPEAKERS

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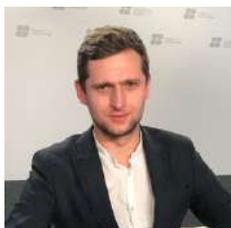
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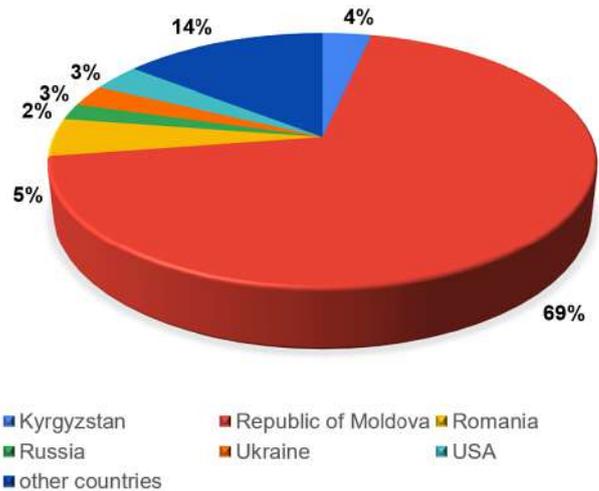
PARTICIPATION (Statistics)



Analysis of participants, engagement of stakeholder groups, attendance statistics of the meeting

BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY

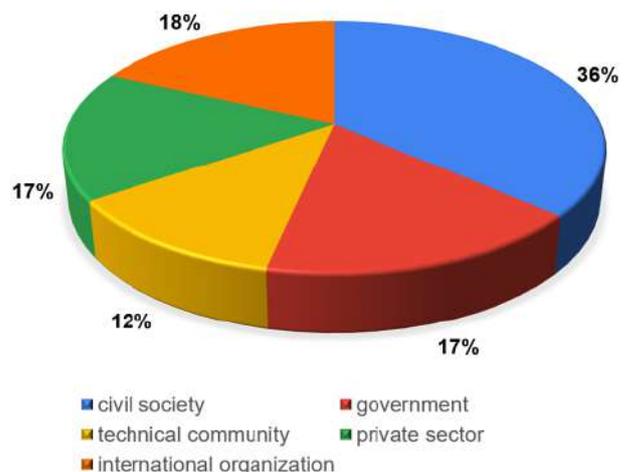
The Moldova Internet Governance Forum had a registration form, which had to be filled in and submitted before or during the event. MIGF 2021 was attended by 208 registered participants and contributors, most of them from the Republic of Moldova (69%). The geography of foreign participants covered the following countries in alphabetical order: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine and USA.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE FORUM ACCORDING TO THEIR AFFILIATION

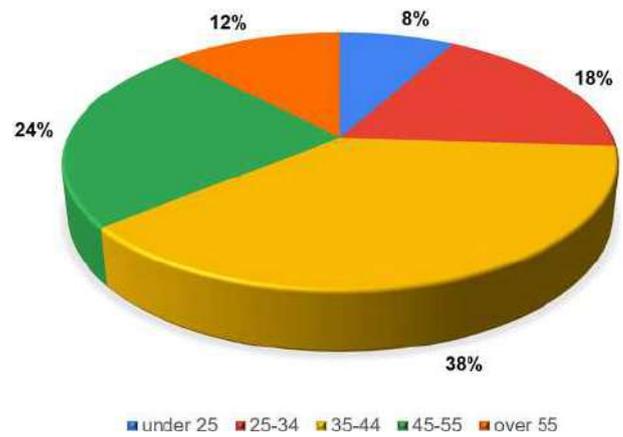
All stakeholder groups were represented at the meeting:

- Government institutions
- International organizations
- Private Sector
- Civil Society
- Technical community



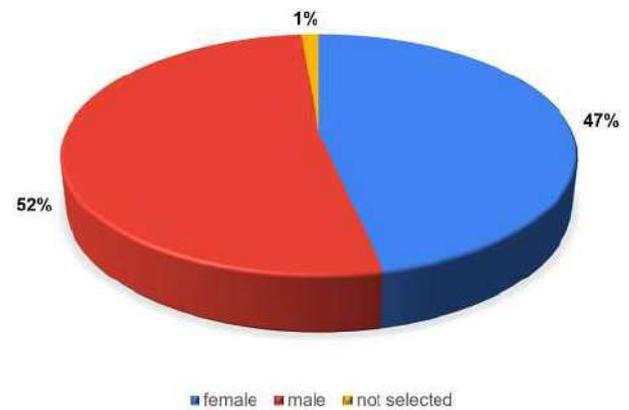
BREAKDOWN BY AGE

It should be noted that there is a significant difference between the groups of 25-34 years old (18%) and 45-55 years old (24%) in relation to the group of 34-44 years old (38%). At the same time, we state that young people under 25 (8%) and people 55 and older (12%) were still not actively involved enough.



BREAKDOWN BY GENDER REPRESENTATION

In regards to gender representation, with 52% of all attendees, men were prevalent at the Forum. The biggest disproportion was recorded among government and technical community, where women constituted only 32-33% of the group and among civil society where men constituted only 34% of the group.



GENDER REPRESENTATION BY STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

GOVERNMENT



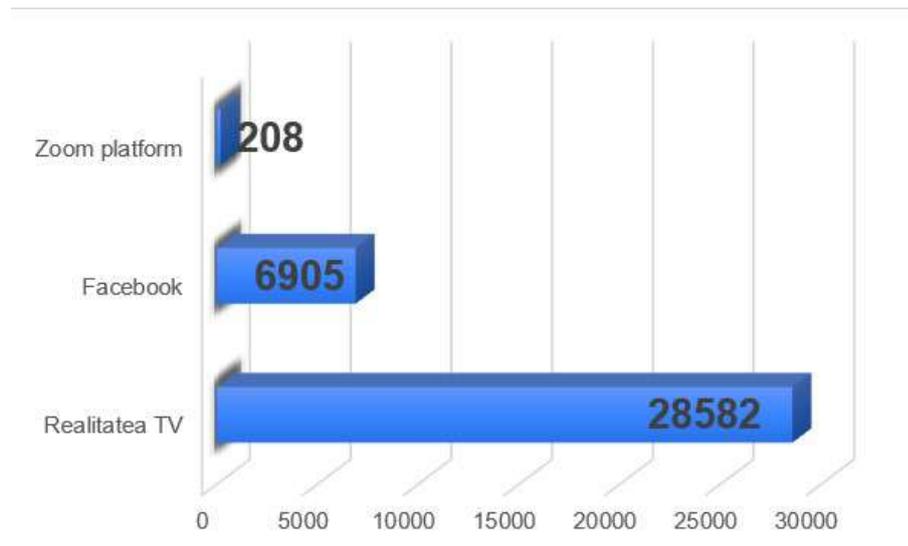
PRIVATE SECTOR





ATTENDANCE STATISTICS OF THE MEETING

During October 19-20 most of the Forum audience joined the event in the live format on social media and through online television. Altogether, according to the statistics of Facebook platform, 6905 participants joined the live online broadcast, while according to the data of Realitatea Media Group, 28582 unique connections were made to the Forum through the online television. By connecting to the online platform Zoom, which provided simultaneous interpretation in Romanian, Russian and English, the Forum was attended by 208 people.



FINANCIAL ISSUES



The necessary resources in the preparation and holding of the Forum were provided by the Organizers, Partners and Sponsors of Moldova Internet Governance Forum. The meeting took place in a low-cost manner, having received in-kind and/or financial support from the government institutions, international organizations, national partners of the event, as well as the Organizing team and the wider community. No payment has been provided for any speakers, and no travel or accommodation costs for any of the speakers have been covered.

Organizational activities may be divided into the following groups:

- The preparatory works (meetings of Organizing team and members of the Organizing Committee, arrangement of meeting spaces, preparation and sending of invitations, printing of the program, consultations with other supporters, etc.);
- Website development and maintenance, hosting, launching of social media channels, and other related activities (searching for and purchase of a domain, creation and administration of website and social networks pages);
- Designing conception of the event and branding related activities (creation and integration of Forum and other printing materials, conducting surveys among the members of the community, roll-up 80x200, banner 4000x2500, logo, badge, program markup, etc.);
- Online promotion (web banners, news and social media), the development of informational materials, as well as outreach activities toward the broader community of the country;
- Organizational space preparatory works (searching for and selection of space, conference hall, technical equipment, etc.);
- Rent of the technical equipment for Zoom sessions support and moderation, online platform settings, testing and event online platform technical support;
- Conference simultaneous interpreting and Interpretation facilities (2 days, 3 languages – Romanian, Russian, English), as well as partial interpretation of the event in sign language;
- Catering and coffee breaks in a limited format respecting the restriction related to the pandemic of COVID-19;
- Printing activities (searching and selection of printing company, invitations, badges, event agenda, press banners and roll-ups);
- Media support (video and photo shooting and editing - 2 days, all sessions, online broadcasting, live streaming, TV video preparations, preparation of announcements, media coverage of the event);
- Forum online and technical support (web-page administration, social media support live stream, web-site hosting, interaction, online engagement support);
- Accountant and logistics management, report layout and editing and other organizational expenses.

MIGF 2021 SPECIAL APPRECIATION



The second Moldova Internet Governance Forum, MIGF 2021, was made possible by the enthusiasm and hard work and commitment of the MIGF team and Organizing Committee. The national IGF was successful thanks to the broad and active participation and support of the Internet community in the preliminary process and at the Forum.

MIGF 2021 Team acknowledges all sponsoring programs, international and local organizations and partners for funding the second Moldova Internet Governance Forum enabling all stakeholder groups to come together and providing open and transparent platform for discussions on Internet related issues within the country and beyond as well local and regional media agencies for reporting and spreading the word on MIGF 2021.

We would like to thank all those who participated and made the event possible. The MIGF 2021 is supported by international partners including UN IGF Secretariat, ICANN, Internet Society, Internet Society Foundation, SecDev Foundation and RIPE NCC, as well as the South East European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG). Among the national partners of the MIGF 2021 are the Invest Moldova Agency, the Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, the Alliance of Organizations for Persons with Disabilities from the Republic of Moldova, the Information Policy Institute, and private companies in the field of IT technologies and electronic communications.

In the end, we would like to thank all of our experts, speakers and moderators who contributed to this year's MIGF, as well as to all of our guests, including those online, who have participated in the creation of the Internet governance dialogue with their presence, knowledge and experience.

SUPPORT



FORUM WAS HELD WITH THE SUPPORT OF



MEDIA COVERAGE



The second Moldova IGF was widely covered by the media, which also indicates that there is considerable interest in this topic. Most of the coverage materials were presented in Romanian and Russian but some sources provided the information in English as well. At the same time, information about the event was presented in the SEEDIG newsletters.

MIGF 2021 had an outreach with live video streaming. It was widely watched via online TV and live streaming on social media and all sessions have been available in the online archive. According to statistics from the Realitatea Media Group and social media platforms, more than 17 000 people joined the online broadcast of the event every day (see the section about attendance statistics of the meeting).

The recordings of the sessions can be found in the archive of [RLIVE.md](https://www.rlive.md) for the dates of 19-20 October, as well as on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/realitatea.md).

Below is the list of some of the media coverage of MIGF 2021:

- <https://youth.md/ai-ceva-de-spus-despre-politici-digitale-si-internet-implica-te-in-procesul-de-planificare-migf-2021/>
- <https://noi.md/ru/jekonomika/kruglyj-stol-cifrovaya-dostupnosti-dlya-lyudej-s-osobymi-potrebnostyami>
- <https://noi.md/md/economie/masa-rotunda-accesibilitate-digitala-pentru-persoanele-cu-dizabilitati-si-nevoi-speciale>
- <https://realitatea.md/migf-2021-abordarile-globale-si-nationale-ale-guvernantei-internetului-discutate-de-experti-cand/>
- <https://www.moldova.org/migf-2021-viitorul-digital-al-moldovei-in-era-covid-19/>
- <https://www.moldova.org/en/migf-2021-moldovas-digital-future-in-the-covid-19-era/>
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release-ro/294739/
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release/294737/
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release_en/294740/
- <https://bani.md/migf-2021-viitorul-digital-al-moldovei-in-era-covid-19/>
- <https://mybusiness.md/ru/press-relizy/item/19987-migf-2021-tsifrovoe-budushchee-moldovy-v-epokhu-covid-19>
- <https://mybusiness.md/ro/comunicate-de-pres/item/19988-migf-2021-viitorul-digital-al-moldovei-in-era-covid-19>
- http://logos.press.md/1395_05_1/
- <https://noi.md/ru/biznes/migf-2021-cifrovoe-budushhee-moldovy-v-jepohu-covid-19>
- <https://noi.md/md/business/migf-2021-viitorul-digital-al-moldovei-in-era-covid-19>
- <https://nokta.md/migf-2021-cifrovoe-budushhee-moldovy-v-epohu-covid-19-uznaj-kak-zaregistririvatsya-na-moldova-internet-governance-forum/>
- <https://www.i-policy.org/2021/10/migf-2021-moldovas-digital-future-in-the-covid-19-era.html>
- <https://dlib.eastview.com/browse/doc/70764531>
- <https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/migf-2021-viitorul-digital-al-moldovei-in-era-covid-19.html>

- <https://www.egov.md/ro/communication/news/agentia-de-guvernare-electronica-dialogul-multilateral-pentru-sustenabilitatea>
- <https://www.moldova.org/moldova-igf-in-cautare-a-unui-echilibru-intre-durabilitate-si-dezvoltare-digitala/>
- <https://www.moldova.org/en/moldova-igf-finding-a-balance-between-sustainability-and-digital-development-together/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/moldova.org/posts/4666415636711476>
- <https://realitatea.md/moldova-igf-in-cautare-a-unui-echilibru-intre-durabilitate-si-dezvoltare-digitala/>
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release-ro/294864/
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release/294863/
- http://www.infotag.md/press_release_en/294865/
- <https://noi.md/ru/biznes/moldova-igf-v-poiskah-balansa-mezhdu-ustojchivostiyu-i-cifrovym-razvitiem>
- <https://noi.md/md/business/moldova-igf-in-cautare-a-unui-echilibru-intre-durabilitate-si-dezvoltare-digitala>
- http://logos.press.md/1396_08_2/
- <https://bani.md/moldova-igf-echilibru-intre-durabilitate-si-dezvoltare-digitala/>
- <https://mybusiness.md/ro/comunicate-de-pres/item/20035-moldova-igf-in-cautare-a-unui-echilibru-intre-durabilitate-si-dezvoltare-digitala>
- <https://mybusiness.md/ru/press-relizy/item/20034-moldova-igf-v-poiskakh-balansa-mezhdu-ustojchivostyu-i-tsifrovym-razvitiem>
- <https://nokta.md/moldova-igf-v-poiskah-balansa-mezhdu-ustojchivostju-i-tsifrovym-razvitiem/>
- <https://gagauznews.md/98305/v-poiskah-balansa-mezhdu-ustojchivostyu-i-tsifrovym-razvitiem-v-moldove.html>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RW54n7hhJao>
- <grt.md/news/2021/10/21/видео-цифровое-будущее-молдовы-в-эпох/>
- <http://grt.md/news/2021/10/21/video-moldovanin-internetnan-baali-gelecaa-pandemiyenin-kosullarinda-bakildi-forumda/>
- <https://goodnews.md/10/15/4306/>
- <https://digital-report.ru/moldova-igf-v-poiskah-balansa-mezhdu-ustojchivostju-i-cifrovym-razvitiem/>
- <https://digital-report.ru/moldova-igf-finding-a-balance-between-sustainability-and-digital-development-together/>
- <https://internetfreedom.blog/2021/11/23/moldova-hosted-the-second-internet-governance-forum/>

Urmează cu atenție **COVID-19** despre educația media, treci cu brio **MOZAIK** de final și participă la o tombolă unde poți să câștigi o TABLETĂ.

AI CEVA DE SPUS DESPRE POLITICI DIGITALE ȘI INTERNET? IMPLICĂ-TE ÎN PROCESUL DE PLANIFICARE MIGF 2021



Să începem procesul de planificare MIGF 2021. Am decis să formăm o comisie de guvernare a Internetului din Moldova cu un mandat 19-20 octombrie la Chișinău sub forma unui conferință de două zile. Dacă îți place și îți dă interesul să participi la o sesiune de lucru, te rugăm să ne scrii pe adresa de e-mail info@internet.gov.md sau să ne suni la numărul de telefon 022 200 0000.

Agenda MIGF este deschisă și este la dispoziția tuturor interesatilor. Scopul principal al Internetului este să conecteze oamenii între ei și să faciliteze accesul la informații, servicii și oportunități.

Am decis să începem procesul de planificare MIGF 2021 cu o sesiune de lucru în formatul unei conferințe de două zile, pe 19-20 octombrie la Chișinău. Scopul principal al Internetului este să conecteze oamenii între ei și să faciliteze accesul la informații, servicii și oportunități.

Programul tău va fi format după ce vom avea feedback-ul tău și al altor participanți. Te rugăm să ne scrii pe adresa de e-mail info@internet.gov.md sau să ne suni la numărul de telefon 022 200 0000.

Una dintre problemele de discuție va fi accesibilitatea Internetului pentru persoanele cu dizabilități. MIGF vrea să fie o platformă de discuție și de lucru pentru toți cetățenii. Te rugăm să ne scrii pe adresa de e-mail info@internet.gov.md sau să ne suni la numărul de telefon 022 200 0000.

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Masă rotundă: Accesibilitate digitală pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și nevoi speciale

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În contextul pregătirii în cadrul Forumului de guvernare a Internetului din Moldova (MIGF) sesiunii "Accesibilitate digitală pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și nevoi speciale" Asociația "Comunitatea Internet" în comun cu Asociația "Altece" organizează o sesiune pentru persoanele cu dizabilități din Republica Moldova (AIGD) și organizat o masă rotundă.

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Ziare LIVE

Directoare: Actualitate, Economie, Educație, Localități, Măști, Politică, Sport, Știință

MIGF 2021: Viitorul digital al Moldovei în era COVID-19

Publicat: Vineri, 19 Octombrie 2021, 15:09

Programul de guvernare a Internetului din Moldova (MIGF) sesiunii "Accesibilitate digitală pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și nevoi speciale" va avea loc la Chișinău în perioada 19-20 octombrie. La eveniment vor participa reprezentanți ai autorităților guvernamentale, organizațiilor internaționale, neguvernamentale și experți în domeniul tehnologiei digitale.

Programul de guvernare a Internetului din Moldova (MIGF) sesiunii "Accesibilitate digitală pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și nevoi speciale" va avea loc la Chișinău în perioada 19-20 octombrie.

ЖОКОМІНТЕРНЕТОБГОВРЕННЯ

MIGF 2021: Цифровое будущее Молдовы в эпоху COVID-19. УЗНАЙ, КАК ЗАРЕГИСТРИРОВАТЬСЯ НА MOLDOVA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

В рамках подготовки к проведению Форума по управлению Интернетом в Молдове (MIGF) сессии "Цифровое будущее Молдовы в эпоху COVID-19" Ассоциация "Комьюнити Интернет" совместно с Ассоциацией "Алтеце" организует сессию для людей с ограниченными возможностями из Республики Молдова (АИГД) и организует круглый стол.

MIGF Special Event

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nokta

MIGF 2021: Цифровое будущее Молдовы в эпоху COVID-19. УЗНАЙ, КАК ЗАРЕГИСТРИРОВАТЬСЯ НА MOLDOVA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

Moldova Internet Governance Forum 2021

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realitatea

MIGF 2021: Abordările globale și naționale ale guvernării Internetului, discutate de experți. Când

Moldova Internet Governance Forum 2021

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Moldova.org
22 October 19:30

In centrul agendei MIGF din acest an a fost: incluziunea digitală. Care este marea provocare pentru durabilitate economică și dezvoltare sustenabilă în spațiul digital, libertatea internetului, e-learning, reglementarea sectorului TIC în perioada de transformare digitală. La o sesiune dedicată, au fost discutate problemele accesibilității digitale pentru persoanele cu dizabilități și reștii digitale. În plus, tot anul a găzduit evenimentele speciale organizate împreună cu Freedom House și SecDev Foundation.



Moldova IGF: În căutare a unui echilibru între durabilitate și dezvoltare digitală

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22 October 2021



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ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОЕ ОБОЗРЕНИЕ

22 Октября 19:30

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Moldova IGF: În căutare a unui echilibru între durabilitate și dezvoltare digitală

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DIGITAL-REPORT

IGF Moldova Internet Governance Forum

Moldova IGF: În căutare a unui echilibru între durabilitate și dezvoltare digitală

Moldova IGF: В поисках баланса между устойчивостью и цифровой разв... и

22 Октября 2021



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MORE INFORMATION AND CONTACT



Secretariat of the National IGF in Moldova - Association "Comunitatea Internet":

Website: www.igf.md

Email: migf@internetsociety.md

Facebook: @ComunitateaInternet

Twitter: @CAsoiation

If you are interested in contributing to the Moldova IGF, please contact office@internetsociety.md.

More information on the Moldova multi-stakeholder community for Internet governance issues can also be requested from Alexei Marciuc, the National coordinator of MIGF: a.marciuc@internetsociety.md.

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