

Open Letter

Industries and governments are gathering to regulate the net. Guess who didn't receive an invitation letter?

YOU

Take action to defend the core principles of Internet: transparency - sharing - neutrality.

Raise your voice and be listen by the powerful:

sign the open letter.

Internet has become an essential tool in everyday life. We use it for work, we use it for fun, we use it to keep in touch with friends and relatives. Its capillary spread across the world and through societies has thrill many and frighten others.

What's going on with the Internet regulation? Governments, unprepared and scared by the distinctive features of the Internet, feel the necessity to regulate the Net. They are doing it in the wrong way: they consider only the big industries to be an instrumental interlocutor and they work and discuss with them secretly between the scheduled meeting.

They are moving fast: the next meeting will be the E-G20 to be held in Paris the 21th of October. Many other meeting will follow.

We think that the civil society must be involved in this process. But, in order for the participation to be effective, it is not enough to add few more chairs at the official meeting. Internet, and therefore the civil society, can be a source of discussion and proposal only if the the process leading and following these meetings is shared and transparent. Only through early access to proposals and documents the civil society can mobilize and defend the values that contributed in the creation of the Net.

Why should the civil society be involved? Governments and big industries are acting as if the regulation of the Net is a matter concerning only the big, economically-powerful, stakeholders. On the contrary, WE are the true stakeholders: both directly through open and free contributions, and indirectly through public funding WE, in many different shapes: as citizens, civil society, public funded researchers and academics, built the Internet and WE thus have a right to sit at any table discussing its future.

What are we asking?

Transparency. We are asking to give the possibility to the civil society to be a part in this

important process, and to be considered an instrumental interlocutor. In order to do so, we are asking for more transparency: turn the process into public!

Openness and Neutrality. The principle that advocates no restrictions on access to networks that participate in the Internet has led to greater innovation and limits the possibility of censorship. Openness and Neutrality are key factors and we ask to protect these two main features.

Sharing. Sharing creates value and enriches society as a whole. Internet itself was created through sharing. We ask that all the future regulations take into account this fundamental value for creativity and information.

Organizations and authoritative people that are involved:

Organizations

- Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus: joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- Collettivo iQuindici (Italy): joins the initiative. Support to spread tools.
- Electronic Frontier Foundation (USA): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- International Modern Media Institute (Island): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- La Quadrature du Net (France): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- IP justice (USA): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- The Julia Group (Sweden): joins the initiative. Contact with Swedish minister of IT, Anna-Karin Hatt.
- Movements: joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- NN Squad Italia (Italy): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- Associazione Partito Pirata (Italy): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.

Authoritative people

- Jeff Jarvis: joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- Susan P. Crawford (Former President Obama's Special Assistant for Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy. Former ICANN member): joins the initiative. Ok for signing.
- Jean-François Julliard (Leader Reporters sans Frontieres): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- Jimmy Wales (co-founder Wikipedia): joins the initiative. Offers to contact himself directly the organizers.
- Richard Stallman (founder of Free Software Foundation): joins the initiative. Need confirm for the final version of the open letter.
- Esther Dyson (journalist on digital technology and philanthropy): joins the initiative. Need

confirm for the final version of the open letter.

- Howard Rheingold (writer and teacher in modern communication): joins the initiative.