



Avec le soutien  
du Secteur de la communication  
et de l'information de l'UNESCO



European regional Conference  
on the “ethical dimensions of the information society”

## **Ethics and human rights in the information society**

Organized by the French Commission for UNESCO  
in cooperation with UNESCO and the Council of Europe

### **PROGRAMME**

13-14 September 2007

**Palais of Europe, Room 9**  
Avenue de l'Europe  
67075 Strasbourg cedex

**THURSDAY,13 SEPTEMBER 2007**

**09:00 Welcoming of the participants.**

**09:30 Opening session**

- **Mrs Maud de Boer-Buquicchio**, *Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe*,
- **Mr Mogens Schmidt**, *Deputy Assistant Director-General, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO*,
- **Mr Jean-Pierre Boyer**, *Secretary General of the French Commission for UNESCO*.

10:15 Presentation of the results of the UNESCO Latino-American and African regional meetings and of the UNESCO code of ethics project

- **H.E. Mrs Laura Faxas**, *Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate of the Dominican Republic to UNESCO*,
- **Mr Felix Weil**, *Member of the Board, International Center for Information Ethics (Germany)*,
- **Mr Boyan Radoykov**, *Programme Specialist, Information society Division, UNESCO*.

**11:00 Introduction session**

**General rapporteur : Mr Yves Poulet**, *Director of the Computing and Law Centre, Notre Dame de la Paix University (Belgium)*.

Ethics, human rights and values in the information society context : which philosophical and legal analysis?

What are ethics in the information society? What are their basis (human rights, common values,etc.)? Does the international development and use of the Internet reassert and/or reinvent ethical issues and does it lead to new rules?

- **Mr Philip Brey**, *Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Twente (The Netherlands) [to be confirmed]*,
- **Mrs Penny Duquenoy**, *Manager of the British Computer Society Ethics Forum, Senior Lecturer, Middlesex University (United Kingdom)*,
- **Mr Stefano Rodotà**, *Professor, Rome University (Italy)*,
- **Mrs Catherine Trautmann**, *Member of the European Parliament (France)*.

13:00 Lunch.

**14:30 Round table 1 : Towards equality of access**

***The ethical issues regarding access to information, knowledge and culture***

Within an inclusive and participative information society, every individual should have the right to access information, knowledge and culture. The

Internet offers, without precedent, almost unlimited opportunities to share information and knowledge at the global level and at low cost. However, these opportunities are limited to those with access to the Internet at an affordable price, so those without access and/or who have limited access to the Internet do not enjoy these same rights and benefits. Other limitations, such as the multilingualism of the Internet and the technological challenges posed by for, for example search engines and filters, connected to access should also be taken into account. Consequently, how do we and can we resolve and overcome these constraints?

**Moderator : Mr Eddan Katz**, *Executive director of the Information Society Project, Yale Law School (United States of America).*

- **Mr Amadeu Abril**, *Advisor, Linguamon, House of languages (Spain),*
- **Mme Divina Frau-Meigs**, *Professor, Paris 3 University (France),*
- **Mrs Claudia Lux**, *President-Elect of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), (Germany),*
- **Mr Jon Thorhallson**, *President, Confederation of European Computer User Associations (CECUA), (Iceland),*
- **Mr Jean-Paul Leroux**, *Deontology and public affairs manager, Orange France [to be confirmed]*

Open discussions

**Rapporteur : Mr Jean-Gabriel Ganascia**, *Professor LIP6 - University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), ACASA group leader (France)*

16 :30

Pause

**17:00**

### **Round table 2 : Freedom of expression : a right with responsibilities**

*The ethical issues regarding the creation and dissemination of Internet content and communications*

Every individual user has the ability to create and disseminate information and content via the Internet in accordance with their right to freedom of expression in a manner never been seen before. This is leading to the disappearance of professional intermediaries, such as editors or journalists, which raises questions concerning the validation of information (quality, authentication) and the responsibilities for and regulation of communications with particular reference to the legal and harmful characteristics of content and communications. Moreover, how do we embrace different types of responsibilities regarding freedom of expression, intellectual property rights and so on, within existing economic, cultural and political models?

**Moderator : Mr Karol Jakubowicz**, *former Director of the Strategy and Analysis Department of the National Broadcasting Council of Poland, former Chairperson of the Steering Committee on Media and New Communication Services (Poland)*

- **Mr Vittorio Bertola**, *Engineer, co-founder of Dynamic Fun, representative of the global internet users in the ICANN board, (Italy)*
- **Mr David Butt**, *Member of the Board of Directors of ECPAT International (Canada)*
- **Mrs Hanne Sophie Greve**, *Justice, Norway, Former judge of the European Court of Human Rights (Norway),*
- **Mr Tomislav Medak**, *Creatives Commons International Croatia List, Multimedia Institute (mi2), Zagreb (Croatia),*
- **Mr Thomas Schneider**, *International Affairs Service, Federal Office of Communication, Chairperson of the Council of Europe Group of specialists on human rights and information society, (Switzerland).*

Open discussions

**Rapporteur : Mr Dirk Voorhoof**, *Professor, Ghent University-Belgium/  
Copenhagen University-Denmark (Belgium)*

19:00

Reception offered by the Council of Europe

FRIDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2007

**09:00**      **Round table 3 : Identity and social networks**

*The ethical issues of empowering Internet users and the emergence of new forms of social relations*

Every Internet user has the opportunity to be an actor in the global information society and has the capacity to act directly, immediately and regardless of frontiers. Internet services and technologies are increasingly enabling users to make easy contact with and develop relations and communities between users from various backgrounds and origins. At the same time, there are questions of user identity and anonymity in these environments which challenges the ability of users to understand and manage their lives (both private and professional) in online environments where new rules are emerging. The emergence of the “Internet of things” also raises an important identity issue regarding the relationship between the human being and machine.

**Moderator :** **Mrs Françoise Massit-Folléa**, *Professor Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, Scientific manager of Vox Internet II programme, (France).*

- **Mr Paul de Hert**, *Professor, Free University of Brussels and Tilburg Institute for Law, Technology and Society (The Netherlands),*
- **Mr Soenke Zehle**, *Professor, Saarland University (Germany),*
- **Mrs Rachel O’Connell**, *Chief Safety Officer, Bebo, (Ireland),*
- **Mr Serge Proulx**, *Professor, Québec University (Canada).*

Open discussions.

**Rapporteur :** **Mrs Mary Rundle**, *Director, Geneva Net Dialogue, (United States of America).*

10: 45      Pause.

**11:00**      **Round table 4 : Security and governance**

*The ethical issues concerning the protection of rights and freedoms of Internet users with regard to their actions and responsibilities*

Every individual user should benefit from the same level of protection regarding their rights and freedoms on the Internet, including the right to private life and to be safe and secure. This protection against Internet abuse and all types of cybercrime should however be reconsidered when there is irrational (mis)use of technologies and services that are detrimental to the right to private life and to secrecy of correspondence. There is a need to balance the protection of rights and actions of Internet users and their responsibilities; moreover, it is questionable that the State alone can provide effective protection of the rights of cyber-citizens across the world. On this basis, is there a model of co-responsibility for defining, implementing and ensuring a balance of protection of rights and responsibilities of users in the online world?

**Moderator : Mrs Isabelle Falque Pierrotin**, *President, Internet Rights Forum, (France).*

- **Mr Joaquim Bayo Delgado**, *Deputy European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) European Union,*
- **Mr Peter Fleischer**, *Global Privacy Counsel, Google, (United States of America),*
- **Mr Henrik Kaspersen**, *President of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Council of Europe, Professor at the Computer Law Institute of Amsterdam (The Netherlands),*
- **Mr Andreas Krisch**, *Member of the board of European Digital Rights (EDRI), Member of the Austrian Association for Internet users (Austria),*
- **Mr Alex Türk**, *President of the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL), Vice-president of “Article 29 group”, (France).*

Open discussions.

**Rapporteur : Mrs Lorna Woods**, *Professor and member of the Human rights center of the University of Essex (United Kingdom)*

13:00 Lunch

**14:30 Closing session**

**Moderator : Mr Yves Poulet**, *Director of the Computing and Law Centre, Notre Dame de la Paix University (Belgium).*

Presentation by the rapporteurs of the reports of the four round tables with conclusions and recommendations.

- **Mr Jean-Gabriel Ganascia**, *Professor LIP6 - University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris VI), ACASA group leader (France),*
- **Mr Dirk Voorhoof**, *Professor, Ghent University-Belgium/Copenhagen University-Denmark (Belgium),*
- **Mrs Mary Rundle**, *Director, Geneva Net Dialogue, (Unites States of America),*
- **Mrs Lorna Woods**, *Professor and member of the Human rights center of the University of Essex (United Kingdom)*

Open discussion on key messages and lines of action.

Closing statement by Mr Philippe Boillat, *Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe.*

**16:30 Close of meeting**