



Dynamic Coalition on Privacy Third Progress Report – PR/3 (May 23, 2007)

IGF
Internet
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Forum

The IGF Dynamic Coalition on Privacy was established at the first IGF annual meeting in Athens in November 2006 as an outcome of two workshops on “Privacy and Identity” and on “Privacy and Development” as well as other discussions. In coherence with the IGF mandate, its purpose is to foster and facilitate public policy debate on privacy issues in the digital age.

The Coalition has produced a detailed FAQ page (available at the coalition wiki, see below) to describe its intended activities and working methods. In order to work in an open and transparent fashion, it has established:

- a mailing list at <http://lists.apc.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/privacy-coalition>
- a public wiki at <http://igf2006.info/wiki/Privacy>

Participants in the Coalition have met in Geneva in February 2007 and in Montreal in May 2007, while the major part of the work is being conducted through the mailing list.

A truly multi-stakeholder effort

The Coalition started as a uniquely diverse network of roughly thirty actors from governments, civil society, business and international organizations. It has generated considerable interest and now gathers participants from more than sixty entities (see the full list at the coalition wiki). An ongoing outreach effort is conducted to attract new participants and ensure the appropriate diversity of stakeholders to cover the different aspects of each issue. The coalition now has members from all world regions.

Participation is open to any individual interested in supporting the purpose of the Coalition. In order to facilitate broad participation and open discussion, the views expressed by participants are not considered as official statements by their respective entities, unless explicitly stated.

Three main themes

Privacy in the digital age is an emerging, multi-dimensional and cross-cutting issue involving a wide range of actors and organizations and should be for that reason an important item on the IGF Agenda. Participants agreed that the Coalition work will initially be structured around the following three main themes, while other issues might be added in the future:

- Privacy and Identity,
- Privacy and Development,
- Privacy and Freedom of Expression.

Short synthetic issue papers have been drafted to help structure the debate and highlight the different dimensions on each of the issues mentioned above. They are available at the coalition wiki site.

Preparing for Rio

The participants of the Coalition declare their willingness to actively contribute to the next IGF meeting in November 2007 by

- finalizing the draft issue papers,
- holding more face-to-face meetings at related events,
- organising one or more workshops in Rio,
- publicly reporting on the work of the Coalition in the planned dedicated session

In addition, should the next IGF annual meeting give a particular emphasis to the issues related to privacy or one of its sub-themes, the Coalition is ready to provide support to the organizers, including with regard to identifying important aspects, relevant panelists and substantive contributions.