

# 5

# ARM SIG

ARMENIAN SCHOOL ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE  
-TH EDITION FOR JOURNALISTS



**18-19**  
**SEPTEMBER** | **2021**

## OBJECTIVES

Armenian School on Internet Governance is a capacity building program aimed at different stakeholder group representatives across Armenia. The main objectives of the program are to raise awareness about the issues related to the Internet ecosystem and to develop the capacities of participants to actively contribute to the Internet governance and digital policy discussions and processes at national, regional and global levels.

In 2020, Armenia faced a war, where the role of the Internet proved to be significantly important and that the content creation, trust to information sources, cybersecurity, human rights and other Internet governance topics needed to be trained carefully.

The fifth edition of the School was designed for journalists working in the Republic of Armenia and interested in Internet governance related hot topics.



# ORGANIZERS

Internet Society Armenia Chapter and the Armenian ccTLD Registry co-organized the fifth edition of the Armenian School on Internet Governance on 18-19 September 2021 as an in-person meeting in Aghveran, Armenia. Considering that journalists are usually busy during the weekdays, it was decided to organize the event on a weekend. Another consideration was to hold the meeting outside the capital city so that they can completely get involved into the discussions and capacity development process without being distracted by their daily work.



## SELECTION AND PARTICIPANTS

The School announced a call for application during August. It was posted at the official website and shared in various associations, community groups of journalists, allowing all media representatives with no limitation to age and gender to apply. It was planned to have up to 20 participants for this edition. In fact, the organizers selected **21 participants**, representing various media or being a public relations specialist.

During the 2-day special course, we held various format discussions. The participants were very active due to their professional interest and involvement in digital policy processes. Invited speakers first introdu



# SPEAKERS



## SPEAKERS

Since the School is a capacity development program, it is important for participants to interact in their mother tongue. For the last few years we have tried to invite speakers who make presentations in Armenian. The only exception was the ICANN representative who spoke in Russian, a commonly used language among the participants.

### Networking

Although the 2-day program was fully packed, the fact that participants stayed in one hotel and could socialize beyond the program hours, made the event to be very successful. It also helped in creating bonds among participants. Moreover, a special Facebook group was created where all participants could interact and share information with each other.

## PROGRAM

The program covered such topics as Internet Ecosystem, Introduction to I\* organizations - IGF and NRIs, Internet Society, ICANN, IETF, IEEE, Internet Traffic Exchange Points, Domain Names Industry and DNS system, Cybersecurity, Cyber Hygiene, Cybercrime, Digital Literacy, Personal Data Protection, Hate Speech, Copyright issues, Local Content and some Fellowship Programs.



# Day 1 | September 18

WELCOME SPEECH  
Lianna Galstyan  
ArmSIG Program Director

12:00-12:30

INTERNET ECOSYSTEM  
Grigori Saghyan  
IGC Secretary

12:30-13:40

IGF - Internet Governance Forum  
Lianna Galstyan  
ISOC Armenia Chapter Board Chair

13:40-14:00

LUNCH

14:00-15:00

INTERNET SOCIETY ARMENIA CHAPTER  
Vesmira Harutyunyan  
ISOC Armenia Chapter Board Vice Chair

15:00-15:30

RIPE NCC - Regional Internet Registries  
Vahan Hovsepyan  
RIPE NCC ER Manager

15:30-15:45

ICANN - INTERNET CORPORATION  
FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

Mikhail Anisimov  
ICANN, Head of Global Stakeholder Engagement for  
Eastern Europe and Central Asia

15:45-16:10

ICANN - INTERNET CORPORATION FOR  
ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

Siranush Vardanyan  
ICANN Fellowship Manager

16:10-16:30

COFFEE BREAK

16:30-17:00

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Anna Karakhanyan  
AMNIC Administrator

17:00-17:30

MULTISTAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION MODEL  
GROUP WORK

17:30-18:00

EVENING RECEPTION

19:00-21:00

# Day 2 | September 19

**CYBER HYGIENE**  
Karen Gasparyan  
CyberSec Director

**10:00-11:00**

**CYBERSECURITY, CYBERCRIME**  
Hayk Mkrtchyan  
Head of Cybersecurity Department at Police

**11:00-11:45**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**11:45-12:15**

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT**  
Arthur Varderesyan  
Menq Consulting Partner

**12:15-13:00**

**PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION**  
Gevorg Hayrapetyan  
Head of Personal Data Protection Agency

**13:00-14:00**

**LUNCH**

**14:00-15:00**

**HATE SPEECH**  
Davit Alaverdyan  
Chief Editor at Mediamax Media

**15:00-16:00**

**VERIFICATION OF FACTS IN INTERNET**  
Arthur Papyan  
Media Diversity Institute Dire

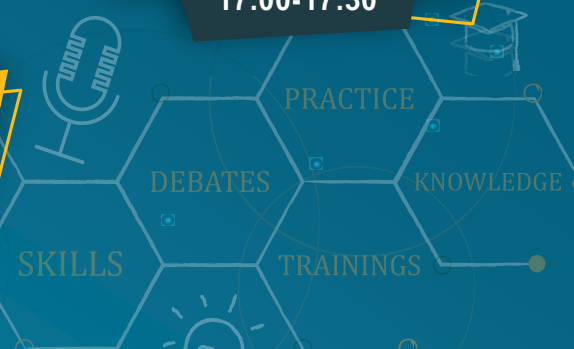
**16:00-17:00**

**Q&A**

**17:00-17:30**

**WRAP-UP**

**17:30-18:30**



## NETWORKING

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Upon the completion of the course, the participants were awarded Certificates.



## FEEDBACK

*Participating in the ArmSIG course provided us with a comprehensive knowledge of the Internet ecosystem, the Internet Governance Forum, the Internet Society, the ICANN Fellowship program, the multi-stakeholder model, and the skills to use the Internet competently.*

*Working in the public relations department, we value a lot the new tools for checking facts on the Internet, protecting personal data, and improving cyber hygiene. The knowledge gained helps us to be better prepared for the cyber-attacks we have been dealing with, especially during the 44-day war in 2020, as well as to respond to the various manifestations of hate speech.*

*We thank the organizers of the ArmSIG for an interesting and meaningful course. It was an excellent opportunity to gain practical knowledge.*

*Gohar Piltoyan*

*Marine Yeghoyan*

*Azatuhi Arashkhanyan*

*Anush Beybutyan*

*Public Relations Department  
High-Tech Industry Ministry  
of the Republic of Armenia*



## FEEDBACK

*The school was the best platform not only to give an interesting discourse on current topics related to Internet governance, but also to increase the literacy of journalists in using the Internet to check facts, use personal data, manage information flows from unreliable sources and other issues.*

*Today, the journalist and the online media are the main link in providing virtual literate information communication, creating a literate media consuming community. Continuity of such thematic discussions and provision of specific tools can have a positive impact on making the Internet governance more manageable.*

*The school provided an opportunity to communicate with the press officers of the departments, practical journalists, which is a great opportunity to intensify the partnership, to establish new contacts.*

*Varduhi Petrosyan*

*Ph.D. , Associate Professor*

*Assistant to the Chief Compulsory Enforcement Officer  
of the Republic of Armenia, Press Secretary*



## FEEDBACK

*Not yet fully recovered from the epidemic and the terrible war, suddenly I received a phone call. A young woman with a pleasant voice announced that the 2-day course of the 5th edition of the Armenian School on Internet Governance – ArmSIG5 (September 18-19) will start soon and ... that I will join the other participants.*

*With excitement I was looking forward to useful topics discussions, given also the speakers involved. My expectations were fully matched. The two days spent in Aghveran were so interesting and full that the third day would also do good, continuing the hot questions and analytical discussions on each topic. It was a great pleasure to hear journalists, PR specialists and invited experienced speakers commenting on each topic, the current issues and their cause-and-effect relationships.*

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*Wish more and more new successful programs and collaborations to ArmSIG ...*

*Elena Chobanyan*

*Journalist-Author, Broadcaster*

*Special Correspondent at "Ararat" and*

*"Nor Ghiank" magazines in Bucharest, Romania*



## FEEDBACK

*I think this was one of those courses that changes behavior. I have previously participated in classes on digital hygiene and security. But since this time the topic of the general course was like that, there was an opportunity to get more in-depth knowledge.*

*Since then, I have made some fundamental changes in the habits of using devices and the network and I also have managed to spread knowledge among friends and colleagues.*

*I'm thankful for providing such an opportunity.*

*Garik Harutyunyan*

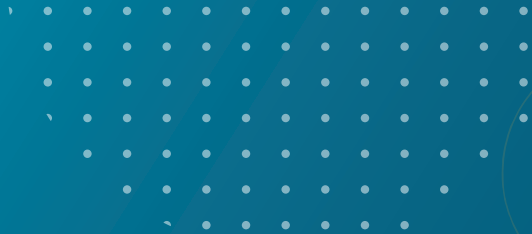
*Journalist*

*ampop.am*





*Thank you for support!*



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