



Internet Society
Armenia Chapter



2020 Report book



2020

ARM SIG4

ARMENIAN SCHOOL ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE

14-17 September, 2020

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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.

Organizers

Internet Society Armenia Chapter and the Armenian ccTLD Registry co-organized the fourth edition of the Armenian School on Internet Governance on 14-17 September 2020 as a hybrid format meeting – in person in Yerevan, Armenia and online via the Zoom platform.



Lianna Galstyan

Internet Society
Armenia Chapter,
Board Chair



Ani Dallakian

Internet Society
Armenia Chapter,
Board Member



Kristina Hakobyan

Internet Society
Armenia Chapter,
Board Member



**Syuzan
Marukhyan**

Internet Society
Armenia Chapter,
Board Member

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Participation

During the 4-day course, up to 12 participants and several lecturers attended the meetings in person, and about 30 participants joined online. Overall, we had 18 speakers and 40 participants, of which 82% female and 18% male; 57.5% teachers, 27.5% students and 15% other stakeholder representatives; 38% from rural areas, which happened for the first time.

Selection and participants

The School announced a call for application during August, allowing all stakeholder groups representatives and no limitation to age and gender to apply. The call was disseminated through different channels using social media, such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and various mailing lists. As a result, 90 applications were received of which 65 were selected. The application form envisaged a question of meeting participation to be online or in-person. Those who preferred in-person participation were contacted by the organizers separately to confirm and inform about the precautionary measurements necessary to follow regarding the Coronavirus pandemic situation in the country.

Study materials and presentations

Presentation materials were provided to all participants, also published at the website for further use. Also, video captioning was published on YouTube and the links provided to all participants.

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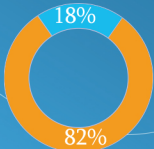


90 applicants
40 participants
18 speaker

57,5% teachers

27,5% students

15% other stakeholders



male

female

38% from regions

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Speakers

Taking into consideration that many of the applicants are from rural areas and do not know English, it was decided not to invite international speakers but rather rely on the local specialists. The only exception was the ICANN representative who made his presentation in Russian, a commonly used language among the participants. All the other speakers communicated in local Armenian language making the whole program more comprehensive for all. Like participants, speakers were also given an option to choose their preferable way of participation. Some of them preferred to join online.

Involvement approach

Photo and video shooting were organized for the in-person participants, also enabling the remote participants to be fully engaged in the group activities. Apart from the lecture format and Q&A sections, breakout groups function in the Zoom was also used which created an in-formal atmosphere among all participants and helped them better understand the topics of discussions. In addition, every day at the closing, an overall review of all topics was given with summary.

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, Cyberhygiene, Cybercrime, Digital Literacy, Personal Data Protection, Human Rights in the Digital Era, Web accessibility and the rights of people with disabilities, Copyright issues, Local Content and some Fellowship Programs.

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Day 1



Introduction

Privacy
Security



Day 2

Day 3



Digital
Literacy

Internet
Ecosystem



Day 4

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SPEAKERS

Internet Ecosystem` Grigori Saghyan



Domain Names` Mikhail Anisimov



.am/.h.wj, Registry/Registrar activity` Hrachya Hakobyan



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Internet Governance Forum
(IGF) ` Lianna Galstyan



Internet Society Armenia Chapter
activity ` Igor Mkrtumyan



Personal Data Protection ` Gevorg Hayrapetyan



Cyberhygiene ` Karen Gasparyan



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Cybersecurity, cybercrime`
Avag Arakelyan



Human rights in the digital
era` Syuzan Marukhyan



Web accessibility and rights of
people with disabilities on the
Internet` Sipan Asatryan



Media Literacy` Samvel
Martirosyan



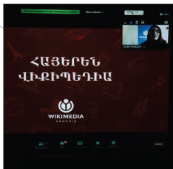
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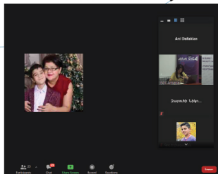
Secure Internet` Haykaz Baghyan



Local Content: Wikimedia` Mher Bekaryan



Fellowship Programs` Siranush Vardanyan



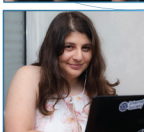
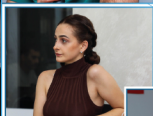
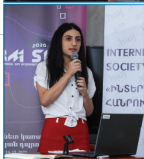
YIGF: Youth IGF Armenia` Ani Dallakyan



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*onsite participants



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Feedback

The questionnaire envisaged a section of feedback from all participants concerning the overall program's content, the organization, and the hybrid format of the meeting. All participants mentioned the importance and the high-quality organization of the School, many of them provided testimonials to publish publicly.

Testimonials

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"I am very impressed with the program, such opportunities are very welcome, especially given the fact that it was open not only to students, but also to older people and teachers. Thank you very much for initiating and implementing all this. Thank you for these informative days, we learned many new things that we did not even know had existed before."

- Vergine Harutyunyan
Mental Arithmetic Trainer

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"In my opinion, the project was greatly organized in a hybrid way, especially for me, since I live in a region and it would be difficult to come to Yerevan for 4 days in a row. In addition, I was able to gain knowledge by participating remotely and staying at the same time with my children, for which I am very grateful. Another advantage is that the school was free of charge and available for everyone. I have already told my friends about this initiative. I work in 2 schools and I shared my impressions of the program, which are irreplaceable."

- Zaruhi Nikoghosyan
Teacher, ITC Ambassador

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"It was a wonderful and innovative format of a meeting. I would definitely recommend all my friends to participate in this program. Everything was wonderful, I would like such programs to be organized in rural areas as well. As a youth representative of the Ararat region, I am ready to host you in my region."

- Lusine Gasparyan
Public Control Center Vice-President

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"The hybrid format of the school gave me the opportunity to take a significant and informative course during the 2020 pandemic. This format of the school can become an example for other initiatives and be widely used. Thank you very much for your devoted work requiring a lot of effort".

- Armine Kharatyan, Teacher

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"I have already told many people about the Armenian School on Internet Governance and advised them to take part in it. I have participated in many courses, but ARMSIG was different both by its professional team and by its work format. I am glad I participated in this program: I gained a lot of knowledge, I got acquainted with many talented and knowledgeable people. Thank you very much for presenting the interesting and informative materials in such accessible and comprehensive ways and thank you for sharing your great experience with us.

You are a team with high professionalism. I wish you new successes and continuous achievements. We had pleasant and useful discussions.

A RESULT OF GREAT WORK!

- Kristine Manukyan
World Vision Armenia

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Assessment and Certificates

Upon the completion of the course, the participants received a questionnaire covering most of the topics from the program. Based on the correct answers received, participants were awarded by Certificates. Due to the main factor of all participants joining online – being from the rural areas and unable to attend the course for 4 days working hours, it was organized to deliver the Certificates and available materials, including takeaways, to participants postal addresses, provided by themselves with a clear consent to be used by the organizers for this certain delivery.



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see you next year!