

IGF 2025 Main Session 1 (Clean version)

MAG co-facilitators:

Valeria Betancourt, Amrita Choudhury, Chris Buckridge, Hossam Elgamal, Gunela Astbrink

1) Title

New Technologies and the Impact on Human Rights

2) Date & Time (*tentative, subject to change*)

Tuesday, 24 June 2025
15:30 - 17:00
Plenary Hall

3) Associated IGF Subtheme

UNIVERSAL ACCESS AND DIGITAL RIGHTS

4) Brief Description/Objectives [max 400 words]

Rapid digitalisation, the dizzying speed of technological innovation and persistent digital inequality present complex challenges for the protection and respect of human rights both online and offline. This session aims to take a renewed look at the need to apply the precautionary principle to all technological innovations before solutions, services and applications are made available to users.

5) Policy Questions [2-5]

1. How can the use of existing international human rights standards and instruments by different stakeholders be improved as a mechanism for preventing and addressing human rights violations

and abuses in the digital environment when designing and deploying new technologies?

2. As adoption of new technologies increases, how should the different stakeholders balance innovation, access and inclusion with the effective protection of human rights? (And what practical examples exist to illustrate that balance?)

3. How can policy makers develop and implement timely and effective responses to rapidly evolving and socially impactful technologies?

6) Session Agenda

- Welcome and Context Setting 5 mins
- Audience poll/ response through menti meter and we display word cloud on screen 10 mins
- Initial remarks from speakers on Q 1 - 4 mins each (5 speakers 20 mins)
- Video of 2-3 startups from developing country sharing. (10 mins)
- Response on speakers on Q2 4 mins each (20 mins)
- Questions from Audience 30
- Concluding comments by speakers 1 mins each (5 mins)
- Summarizing the session

7) Speakers [Salutation/Name/Title/Organisation]

- **Private Sector**
 - **Alexandria Walden**, Google
- **Civil Society/ Academia**
 - **Anita Gurumurthy**, IT For Change, APAC (Female)
 - **Julian Theseira**, Centre for AI and Digital Policy
- **Government**
 - **Rodrigo Goñi**, Member of Parliament from Uruguay (Male, GRULAC)

- **Technical Community**

- **Pierre Bonis**, Director General of Afnic, France WEOG, (Gender: Male)

- **International/Intergovernmental Organizations:**

- **Peggy Hicks**, Director, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR)

8) Moderators

1. Allison Gilwald ICT Research Africa, Civil Society AFRICA, (Female)

2. Pablo Hinojosa, Independent GRULAC (Male)

9) Rapporteur(s)

Valeria
Fellows?

10) Related SDGs

4 Quality education
5 Gender Equality
7 Affordable and clean energy
9 Industry
10 Reduced inequalities
16 Peace justice and strong institutions
17 Partnerships

11) Annex Documents/Background Papers [optional]

[CAIDA: AI and Democratic Values 2025](#)

[DC IS3C report on post-quantum cryptography](#)

Inter-Parliamentary Union work

- [Anticipating tomorrow: How expert insights enhance parliamentary foresight](#) (February 2025)

- [Proactive parliaments: How Committees of the Future address emerging challenges](#) (February 2025)

Mentimeter Question:

How do you see adoption of emerging tech as threatening our human rights?

Video Briefing:

The speaker should be a startup using emerging tech.

The video should be less than 2 minutes long

You can choose to respond to either question a or b (preferably question a)

- a. **How they have enshrined HR considerations and the precautionary principle while designing and implementing their products/ applications?**
- b. **How did they overcome challenges to deliver on human rights using new technology?**

The video has to be sent by 5 June to

Potential People for the video:

- Ms. Nisrine El Turkey, founder of IoTTree (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nisrine-el-turky/>) - referred by Zeina
- Raul will share some contacts