Internet Freedom Festival 2018 - Session Proposal

Session Title: How *you* can get involved in shaping the future of the Internet -- make an impact, and have fun while doing it!

Session Proposer: ICANN Non-Commercial Users Constituency

Presenters:

- Ayden Férdeline, male
- Louise Marie Hurel, female
- Renata Aquino Ribeiro, female

Theme: Advocacy, Policy, and Research

Language: English

Session Format: Conversation

Skill Level: Beginner

Session Length: 1 hour

Session Description:

Most of us are skilled at using the Internet, but few know how, as an end-user of the Internet, we can make an impact in global Internet policy and shape its future evolution.

This session brings together in conversation various Internet governance experts -- some with a junior profile, others with several years of experience -- to speak about their pathways to engagement in global Internet governance.

The conversation begins with an introduction to the work of ICANN and the Domain Name System (DNS). We will also cover why it is important that civil society and individual end-users participate in the shaping of these policies.

The conversation then turns to the different positions taken by the various stakeholder groups and how they can be influenced by various factors, before examining the different resources -- of mentorship, of capacity building, of travel support -- that are available to make the participation of new voices in DNS policy a reality.

We conclude on a practical note, explaining how you can get involved now in the DNS policy issues that you care about. We will give some practical pointers on how you can get involved, see the multistakeholder model in action, and fight for change.

Who is this session for?

If you have strong positions on issues like privacy and data protection, human rights online, economic growth, and development for empowerment, and increasing access to knowledge, but don't know how to translate this to Internet governance debates, come to this session and learn how getting involved in Domain Name System policy could be one avenue where you can contribute your ideas and knowledge, make a difference, and have fun in the process.

What outcomes would you like your session to have?

- Participants will leave this conversation understanding a pragmatic and attainable pathway to engagement in Internet policy.
- Participants will discover what communities, working groups, and comment opportunities are out there in the various Internet policy making fora.
- During the session, a collaborative pad will be created, collating relevant Internet policy making resources which you can use -- and share with your friends and colleagues -- to jump start your own efforts in shaping policy.