

# Internet Governance Forum Dynamic Coalitions: DC self-evaluation and charter review, October 2025

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## Background

The Dynamic Coalitions (DC) were first established at the IGF's inaugural meeting in Athens in 2006, with the goal of holding discussions on Internet governance issues in between the annual IGF meetings. This idea became the origin of the intersessional work of IGF which later evolved to include National and Regional IGFs, Youth IGFs, Best Practice Forums and Policy Networks, among other modalities. **Since 2006 Dynamic Coalitions have flourished ADD SOME TEXT HERE ON THE CURRENT NUMBER OF DCS AND SOME ACHIEVEMENTS OF DCS**

In 2021 under the guidance of the MAG Chair and the Dynamic Coalition Coordinating Group (DCCG) a [study that explored the history and impact of DCs](#) affirmed their value and achievements. The key findings of this study - based on input from DCs themselves - on the future role of DCs in the evolution of the IGF remain relevant and can be viewed below the self-assessment review.

## The purpose of this exercise

During the second half of 2025 participants in the IGF Dynamic Coalition Coordinating Group decided it would be useful to assess whether there is any need to update the DC Charter. They also suggested that it would be good to do a review of the extent to which DCs are complying with the Charter and, if they are not, to try and understand what the reasons for that might be. This exercise therefore has two linked goals:

1. Creating an opportunity for DCs to be reminded of the provisions in the DC Charter
2. Enabling DCs with their own charters to reflect how these relate to the IGF DC Charter
3. Providing DCs with the opportunity to do a self-reflection on their compliance with the Charter
4. Provide input on whether it is necessary, and if it is, how to propose revisions to the Charter

## Who should participate?

Ideally, DC coordinators or coordinating groups together with interested DC members.

## How to conduct the exercise

Make a copy of this document with the name of your DC in the title. Try to get together as many members of your DC as possible. Set up a meeting to discuss the questions and ratings. As this is a self-assessment you have the choice of either a) just sharing a summary of the outcome with the DCCG or b) the full outcome. **No assessment will be shared publicly.** The secretariat will compile a summary of the assessments that does not name individual DCs.

## What will be done with the outcome?

The full outcome of the report will be shared with the DCCG, individual DCs who completed the self-evaluation, as well as with the IGF Secretariat and the MAG. The DCCG will convene an open call to discuss the outcome of the exercise and propose follow-up on its findings.

## DC Self-assessment on compliance with the charter

### A. About the DC

Name of the DC	
Year established	
URLs	

### B. About the person/s completing the exercise

	Name of person/s completing this exercise	Email	Their role in the DC	Their institutional affiliation

Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Self-evaluation questions based on the DC Charter

### 1. Requirements for establishing a Dynamic Coalition and key principles

The following questions are based on the contents of the Charter. Refer to the full document which is copied at the end of this evaluation exercise.

#### 1.1 Did your DC comply with these requirements? Please respond yes/no and provide relevant links

Question	Response Yes/No	Relevant links if available.	Do you feel these requirements should be updated in any way if the Charter was to be revised?
Did your DC provide the following to the Secretariat when it was established? (see below)			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The need for the proposed DC</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● An action plan</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A mailing list</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The name and contact details of the contact person(s)</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A list of DC members representing at least three different kinds of stakeholder groups</li> </ul>			

Does your DC in its outputs or statements reflect not only areas of agreement, but also minority and dissenting viewpoints?

## 1.2 Basic principles

Question	Response Yes/No	Relevant links if available.
Does your DC in its outputs or statements, reflect not only areas of agreement, but also minority and dissenting viewpoints?		

The DCs follow the three basic principles to maintain inclusivity and transparency in their work. Please reflect the extent to which you feel your DC complies with these principles on a scale of 1 to 5 with 1=not active and 5=consistently

Principle (from the Charter)	Please assess your DC's compliance with this principle selecting a number from 1 to 5 1=not actively and 5=consistently	Relevant links if available.	Do you feel this principle should be modified in any way if the Charter was to be updated?
Open Membership: Anyone interested in the DC's work can become a member.			
Open Mailing List: A DC subscription list must be clear and accessible. DCs can require disclosure of new subscribers.			
Open Archives: The archives of a DC mailing list must remain accessible to the public.			

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## 2. Obligations of Dynamic Coalitions

### 2.1 Has your DC met these obligations as stated in the Charter?

Obligation (from the Charter)	Please assess your DC's compliance with this obligation selecting a number from 1 to 5 1=not actively and 5=consistently	Please provide additional comments and information as well as relevant links if available.	Do you feel this obligation should be modified in any way if the Charter was to be updated?
<p><b>Annual Report Submission</b> DCs are required to submit an annual report to the IGF Secretariat to provide an update on their activities and fulfill their status of being active.</p>		<p><i>Please add links to the three most recent annual reports you submitted</i></p>	
<p><b>Attendance of Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group (DCCG) Meetings and Broader Events</b> DCs are encouraged to attend monthly meetings organized by the DCCG and other events relevant to their interest. Whenever possible, at least one co-coordinator should represent an individual DC at monthly DCCG meetings and one or</p>			

<p>more of the following, either virtually or in-person: Internet governance and digital policy events, MAG open consultations, and events that promote coordination with other IGF groups. In case a coordinator cannot be present, they may appoint an official representative.</p>			
<p><b>Convene at least an annual DC meeting</b>  An active DC shall organize at least one annual meeting among the group or produce at least one output. An output is defined as a document on the focus issue (other than the annual report), an event, or a project dedicated to the issue.</p>			
<p><b>Membership Governance</b>  DCs organise their membership in a way best suited to reach their objectives. It is understood that not every member will be equally active in their respective DC work. However, members are expected to comply with minimum participation standards as outlined in the terms of reference and are encouraged to actively participate in their DC discussions and respond to</p>			

<p>consultations and communications from the coordinator(s), the IGF Secretariat and their DC leadership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCs are requested to publish a list, or other indication, of active members who participate in their group meetings or other activities on their websites. DCs are also invited to include a description of their active membership in their annual report.</li> </ul> <p>The DCCG and IGF Secretariat will conduct a yearly review and update on the member status of each DC. Only full members are listed as “Participating DC Members” in the meeting summary reports. Names of full members are available to all members of the DC and are published on the DC email list of the IGF website. All full members and observers must subscribe to their DC mailing list and update their contact information annually.</p>			
<p><b>Mission and Vision of the Dynamic Coalitions</b> Dynamic Coalitions are formed to engage with a given Internet governance issue by raising</p>			

<p>awareness, providing open space for multistakeholder dialogue and cooperation, conduct research and analysis, and promoting inclusivity of disadvantaged communities and voices. In light of the growing significance of DCs' role in global Internet governance processes, DCs embrace close partnership with the global IGF and the broader IGF community including National, Regional, and Youth Initiatives (NRI), Best Practice Forums (BPF), and Policy Networks (PN), and other IGF groups on equal footing</p>			
<p><b>Support to the IGF MAG and Secretariat</b></p> <p>Dynamic Coalitions aim to empower anyone who wishes to actively participate in the IGF's intersessional activities and initiatives by supporting the IGF, the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), and the IGF Secretariat, in facilitating the active involvement in Internet governance issue discussions, negotiations, processes, and strategies. It endeavors to mobilize stakeholders and influence public opinion regarding a given</p>			

<p>Internet governance issue to engender fair and balanced discussions</p>			
<p><b>Records and Archives</b></p> <p>The DCCG will coordinate its efforts through its official online mailing list: <a href="mailto:dc@intgovforum.org">dc@intgovforum.org</a>. The list will maintain public archives in accordance with the officially established guidelines for DC. Email list is the sole tool to record and archive DC messages, documents, and input.</p>			

### 3. Charter Review and Modifications

As stated in the DC Charter, the DCCG commits to reviewing the Charter every year for two purposes:

- 1) Updating it to reflect new realities that impact the DCs’ operations, a better understanding of the DCs’ needs, and evolving policy landscapes;
- 2) Addressing any outstanding issues of concerns that members have with the Charter and/or the operating procedures of the DCCG.

Amendments to the DC Charter can be suggested by any interested full member of the DC via the DC official mailing list, followed by discussion over the mailing list or monthly DCCG meetings. If consensus about the Charter amendment is reached, the DCCG will initiate a ratification vote among the DC membership. If the amendment passes, the DCCG will update the Charter by incorporating the amendment into the relevant component of the Charter.

**3.1 Do you believe that it is necessary to make any changes to the DC Charter (full text below)? Yes/No**

If your response is yes, please tell us what changes you believe are needed.

**3.2 Do you feel that the process for amendments to the Charter needs to change? Yes/No**

If yes, how?

**D. Other questions related to the Charter**

**1. The DC study conducted in 2021 produced the following “Key Findings”. Please look at them and comment on which you feel are most relevant for follow up and which you feel have sufficiently been followed up on already?**

**2. Any other suggestions or comments**

Please share any other comments or suggestions related to DC governance and coordination?

# Charter of the Dynamic Coalitions

## History of the Dynamic Coalitions

The Dynamic Coalitions (DC) were first established at the IGF's inaugural meeting in Athens in 2006, with the goal of holding discussions on Internet governance issues in between the annual IGF meetings. This idea became the origin of the intersessional work of IGF.

## Principles of the Dynamic Coalitions

DCs are formed with the aim of being fair, open, collaborative, multistakeholder-based, and bottom-up initiatives dedicated to specific Internet governance issues.

Anyone interested in participating is welcome to join and contribute to a DC group, regardless of their stakeholder group, policy positions, or relationship to the topic. Any DC outputs or statements shall reflect not only areas of agreement, but also minority and dissenting viewpoints.

A newly formed DC needs to be recognized by the IGF Secretariat.

To attain this recognition, a DC is required to submit a written statement outlining the following:

- The need for the proposed DC
- An action plan
- A mailing list
- The name and contact details of the contact person(s)
- A list of DC members representing at least three different kinds of stakeholder groups

Once recognized by the IGF Secretariat, the above statement is published on a dedicated webpage attributed to the individual DC on the IGF website. DCs are encouraged to provide periodic updates on their webpage, and the IGF Secretariat is responsible for including the updates upon request by a DC.

## Common Guidelines of the Dynamic Coalitions

### II. Basic Principles

The DCs follow the three basic principles to maintain inclusivity and transparency in their work:

- Open Membership: Anyone interested in the DC's work can become a member.
- Open Mailing List: A DC subscription list must be clear and accessible. DCs can require disclosure of new subscribers.
- Open Archives: The archives of a DC mailing list must remain accessible to the public.

### III. Obligations of Dynamic Coalitions

#### a. Annual Report Submission

DCs are required to submit an annual report to the IGF Secretariat to provide an update on their activities and fulfill their status of being active. Submission of the annual report is an important

condition for DCs to be considered for an individual session at the annual IGF meeting.

The annual report shall outline the activities conducted by the DC including sub-groups of members of the DC over the previous year including events organized/attended; regular meetings held; and substantive outputs produced by DCs in line with their missions and visions. The annual report is required to be submitted by the end of the first quarter of the following year. Extension of the deadline must be requested to and approved by the IGF Secretariat. Any DC that fails to submit an annual report after a period of two consecutive years will be considered and listed inactive.

## **b. Attendance of Dynamic Coalition Coordination Group (DCCG) Meetings and Broader Events**

DCs are encouraged to attend monthly meetings organized by the DCCG and other events relevant to their interest. Whenever possible, at least one co-coordinator should represent an individual DC at monthly DCCG meetings and one or more of the following, either virtually or in-person: Internet governance and digital policy events, MAG open consultations, and events that promote coordination with other IGF groups. In case a coordinator cannot be present, they may appoint an official representative.

## **c. Other Requirements**

An active DC shall organize at least one annual meeting among the group or produce at least one output. An output is defined as a document on the focus issue (other than the annual report), an event, or a project dedicated to the issue.

### **IV. Membership Governance**

DCs organise their membership in a way best suited to reach their objectives.

- It is understood that not every member will be equally active in their respective DC work. However, members are expected to comply with minimum participation standards as outlined in the terms of reference and are encouraged to actively participate in their DC discussions and respond to consultations and communications from the coordinator(s), the IGF Secretariat and their DC leadership.
- DCs are requested to publish a list, or other indication, of active members who participate in their group meetings or other activities on their websites. DCs are also invited to include a description of their active membership in their annual report.

The DCCG and IGF Secretariat will conduct a yearly review and update on the member status of each DC. Only full members are listed as “Participating DC Members” in the meeting summary reports. Names of full members are available to all members of the DC and are published on the DC email list of the IGF website. All full members and observers must subscribe to their DC mailing list and update their contact information annually.

### **V. Mission and Vision of the Dynamic Coalitions**

Dynamic Coalitions are formed to engage with a given Internet governance issue by raising awareness, providing open space for multistakeholder dialogue and cooperation, conduct research and analysis, and promoting inclusivity of disadvantaged communities and voices. In light of the growing significance of DCs’ role in global Internet governance processes, DCs embrace close partnership with the global IGF and the broader IGF community including National, Regional, and

Youth Initiatives (NRI), Best Practice Forums (BPF), and Policy Networks (PN), and other IGF groups on equal footing

Dynamic Coalitions aim to empower anyone who wishes to actively participate in the IGF's intersessional activities and initiatives by supporting the IGF, the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), and the IGF Secretariat, in facilitating the active involvement in Internet governance issue discussions, negotiations, processes, and strategies. It endeavors to mobilize stakeholders and influence public opinion regarding a given Internet governance issue to engender fair and balanced discussions.

#### **VI.** Records and Archives

The DCCG will coordinate its efforts through its official online mailing list: [dc@intgovforum.org](mailto:dc@intgovforum.org). The list will maintain public archives in accordance with the officially established guidelines for DC. Email list is the sole tool to record and archive DC messages, documents, and input.

#### **VII.** Charter Review and Modifications

The DCCG commits to reviewing the Charter every year for two purposes: 1) Updating it to reflect new realities that impact the DCs' operations, a better understanding of the DCs' needs, and evolving policy landscapes; 2) Addressing any outstanding issues of concerns that members have with the Charter and/or the operating procedures of the DCCG.

Amendments to the DC Charter can be suggested by any interested full member of the DC via the DC official mailing list, followed by discussion over the mailing list or monthly DCCG meetings. If consensus about the Charter amendment is reached, the DCCG will initiate a ratification vote among the DC membership. If the amendment passes, the DCCG will update the Charter by incorporating the amendment into the relevant component of the Charter.

# Key Findings from the DC review done in 2021

## Key findings

1. DCs generally consider that they can contribute to the efforts towards a more inclusive, focused, relevant and outcome-oriented IGF, e.g. due to their ability to raise certain issues and to act as 'entry points' for newcomers, as well as their independence and flexibility.
2. There is general support for a more effective integration of IGF intersessional workstreams and the IGF programme.
3. While further aligning DC work with the broader IGF processes was welcome, this should not affect the independent nature of DCs.

## Issues to explore

### **1. Continue discussions on how DCs could contribute to the future development of the IGF.** (DCCG, DCs, MAG, IGF community)

Build on ideas already raised:

- Have DCs more involved in the planning of IGF meetings and in identifying focus topics and policy questions because they can flag current trends and emerging issues.
- Leverage DCs as resource and knowledge hubs for the MAG and the wider IGF community. DCs could also act as think tanks or research/policy incubators to explore new(er) digital issues and help inform related policy making processes.
- Leverage DCs to disseminate IGF outputs and work towards DCs having more actionable outputs themselves.
- If the IGF moves towards developing policy recommendations, DCs could contribute through collecting inputs from their networks and feeding them into the recommendations-development process.

### **2. Continue discussions on how DCs could contribute to a better integration of the IGF programme and intersessional work.** (DCCG, DCs, MAG, IGF community)

Build on ideas already raised:

- ❑ Identify links between DCs' work and IGF tracks/themes/policy questions/focus areas and then facilitate the integration of DCs within these tracks/themes.
- ❑ Connect DCs' work with IGF main sessions, high-level sessions, workshops, etc.
- ❑ Continue discussions on how DCs could contribute actively to the development of the proposed multi-year plan/strategy for the IGF and what this strategy would mean for DCs themselves.
- ❑ Make better use of the annual IGF meeting to promote the outputs of DCs (and other IGF intersessional activities).

**3. Make sure that in discussions on how to strengthen the integration of DCs into IGF processes and how to enable DCs to contribute to shaping the future of the IGF, a balance is achieved between what is asked from DCs, what DCs themselves ask from the IGF Secretariat and the MAG, and how all this is aligned with the voluntary, independent and autonomous nature of DCs. (DCs, DCCG, IGF Secretariat, MAG)**