



## **IGF MKD 2019 Annual Meeting**

### **Annual Report**

**29 October 2019**

**Skopje, Makedonski Telekom AD**

**11:00 – 15:30 hrs**

## About

IGF MKD is an open, inclusive and informal space for dialogue on Internet governance issues between all stakeholders in the Macedonian society (government, parliamentarians, private sector, civil society and the technical community, education, media , end users, etc.) and is aimed to raise awareness and promote a better understanding of Internet governance among all stakeholders, to build or strengthen the capacity of these stakeholders to actively participate in national Internet governance processes, to facilitate multi stakeholder discussions, exchanges and collaboration on Internet-related issues that are of particular concern at national level.

More about the initiative is detailed in the national IGF's [Declaration](#)<sup>1</sup>.

The national IGF process is facilitated in an open, transparent, inclusive and bottom-up manner by the multistakeholder organising committee (membership annexed).

## MKD 2019

The third annual meeting of the national Internet Governance Forum IGF MKD took place on 29 October 2019 in Skopje. The programme was planned in a bottom up manner by the national IGF's multistakeholder organising committee.

## Programme

- **10.00 – 11.00 Registration**
- **11.00 – 11.45 Opening/Welcoming speeches by the institutional partners and supporting organizations**
  - Nikola Ljushev, Chief Executive Officer of Makedonski Telekom
  - Robert Popovski, Minister for Communications, Accountability and Transparency
  - Aleksandar Bajdevski, Deputy Minister Ministry of Information Society and Administration
  - Snezana Kaleska Vanceva, MP in the Parliament of the Republic of North Macedonia
  - Bardhyl Jashari, Executive Director – Metamorphosis Foundation
  - Sandra Hoferichter, EuroDIG Secretary general – on line
- **11.45 – 12.45 Panel 1.**
- **Media – regulation – self-regulation – fight against disinformation**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://igfmkd.mk/en/declaration/>

- Marjan Zabrcanec, Special Adviser on Public Relations to the President of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia / Action Group to Fight disinformation
  - Katerina Sinadinovska, Media Ethics Council – President of the Management Board
  - Goran Mihajlovski, SDK “Sakam da Kazam” – Editor-in-Chief
  - Filip Stojanovski, Partnership and Resources Development Director, Metamorphosis Foundation
  - Prof. Dr. Vladimir Trajkovic FINKI (Moderator)
- **Coffee break**
- **13.00 – 13.45 Retrospective**
    - Aleksandar Ichokjaev, (DDK Attorney’s at Law)
    - Marko Paloski, Youth IGF MKD – SEEDIG
    - Oliana Sula, IGF ALBANIA – SEEDIG
    - Prof. Dr. Boro Jakimovski, FINKI / Digital Forum of the Republic of North Macedonia
    - Dusica Perisic, Executive Director of the Association ZELS
- **13. 45 – 14.30 Panel 2.**
  - **Legal aspects of IG – intellectual property, human rights, data protection**
    - Eli Mufisovski, React – Global Manager React Online Enforcement Program
    - Nikica Kusinikova, Association Konekt – Executive Director
    - Elena Stojanovska, project coordinator and privacy expert Metamorphosis Foundation
    - Prof. Dr. Neda Zdraveva – Faculty of Law Skopje UKIM (Moderator)
- **Coffee break**
- **14.45 – 15.30 Panel 3.**
  - **Technical & Cybersecurity**
    - Vladislav Bidikov, IXP.MK
    - Predrag Tasevski, Cyber security expert
    - Daniel Danilovski, Nextsense
    - Prof. Dr. Anastas Mishev FINKI (Moderator)
- **Wrap UP – Conclusions**

## MKD 2019 Messages

### Summary Report of substantive discussions

#### **Panel 1: Media – regulation / self-regulation / fight against disinformation**

The panel gathered representatives from private media company, government, NGO, and academia. The topics covered from the panelist included: the role and need for education on media literacy, the causes and typical cases for misuse of media, examples of self-regulation and challenges in the fight against disinformation from perspectives of different stakeholders.

The main conclusions and recommendations from the panel can be summarised as follows:

- *there is urgent need for education on media literacy in all society segments*
- *fact checking is standard, that needs to be included in any news media by default*
- *the disinformation is a global and complex challenge, but it can have severe results in local and regional context*
- *the fight against disinformation is a long-term process where all stakeholders has to collaborate if we want to see tangible results; so far there are many initiatives, but they include only limited number of stakeholders*

#### **Retrospective panel**

The retrospective panel gave insight into the efforts made by various stakeholders related to digital transformation and internet governance. The main points of the discussion were:

- *Regional best practices and highlights from IGF Albania*
- *Youth IGF MKD initiative, challenges and further steps*
- *Local government initiatives toward internet governance*
- *Central government activities, channelled through the Digital forum, toward inclusion of all stakeholders in the digital transformation and digitalization in general through proper advisory on the policy making*

#### **Panel 3: Technical and cyber security**

The topic of cyber security is considered as one of the most important topics in the internet governance worldwide. The discussion at the panel was focused on the several main topics, including:

- *Trust as a key enabler of the cyber security, its implementation at the e-governance level*
- *Metrics and reference models to assess the cyber security maturity at the national level*
- *The increased need for cyber security professionals*

- *Educational efforts toward the development of even more security professionals that will satisfy the requirements of both public and private sector*
- *The importance of the national internet exchange points, both from security, but also from the point of view of accessibility to national services and content*

## Participation

The Forum gathered over 100 participants from all sectors, ranging from the Government representatives, businesses, civil society and academic community to technical community representatives. In addition, the Forum invested efforts in meaningfully engaging young people, which created potential for a youth Macedonian IGF.

The concrete breakdowns of participants will be made available at the [website](#).

- The photo gallery of the meeting is available at: <http://igfmkd.mk/en/gallery-2019/>
- The video recordings of the meeting deliberations are available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvIXVIOi9rQ>



## Support

The Forum received support from a number of stakeholders, in-kind and financially. The financial reporting is under development.





The National MKD IGF is officially recognised and substantively supported by the United Nations Secretariat of the [Internet Governance Forum](#) (IGF Secretariat).

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## Annex:

*Organising Committee and Supervisory Board members: Anastas Misev, Eli Mufisovski, Nikica Kusinikova and Aleksandar Icokaev*

*Founders: Neda Zdraveva, Boro Jakimovski, Predrag Tasevski, Sanja Simonova, Marko Paloski, Anastas Misev, Eli Mufisovski, Nikica Kusinikova and Aleksandar Icokaev*

*Coordinator: Aleksandar Icokaev*