



## From Berlin to Kyoto

### Messages from the Internet Governance Forum Germany, 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### Cybersecurity

- 1. Notwithstanding rising international tensions, decreased trust between states and the war in Ukraine, global negotiations to strengthen international security in cyberspace should be supported by governments and non-state stakeholders in a constructive spirit;*
- 2. the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) negotiations on cybersecurity should focus on the implementation of the eleven standards agreed by the UN GGE in 2015;*
- 3. the elaboration of a UN convention against cybercrime should focus on so-called "core crimes in cyberspace" and include adequate protection of individual rights (data protection and freedom of expression) under the rule of law. Human rights and security must not be played off against each other;*
- 4. Negotiations on internet-based autonomous weapons systems should be accelerated and brought to a conclusion. The killing of humans must not be left to robots.*

#### Artificial Intelligence

- 1. When it comes to AI and new technologies, we always talk about companies and their business models. We far too rarely discuss possible applications in society.*
- 2. There will never be the perfect solution. Regarding the AI Act: regulation must not be too concrete in order to remain flexible and to be able to evaluate different applications appropriately.*
- 3. We must be careful that the AI Act does not become a paper tiger.*
- 4. In the end, it is not systems and data that determine the design of AI systems, but people. Inclusion and diversity must be taken into account from the very beginning.*
- 5. We need effective youth participation in political decision-making processes on the use and regulation of artificial intelligence - especially in foreign policy and international forums.*

#### Sustainability

##### Ecological

- 1. We need a systematic assessment of the environmental impact of digitalisation. The entire life cycle of digital applications must be taken into account. The corresponding measurements should be carried out independently and the results should be made available in an accessible manner.*

- 2. Promote entrepreneurial rethinking instead of a pure compliance culture: An environment must be created in which environmental sustainability is seen by entrepreneurs as an economic advantage and a long-term investment. This can happen, for example, through educational programmes that raise awareness of environmental sustainability and ensure that innovation and sustainability go hand in hand.*
- 3. In the design process, environmental sustainability must be considered and weighed as a factor of equal importance to economic and performance aspects. (Sustainability by Design). Technologies that are offered to consumers in particular should always be designed in such a way that the most ecologically sustainable form of use is stored as the default setting (Sustainability by Default).*

#### *Economic*

- 1. The circular economy approach should play a central role in reducing political dependence on individual countries with large, critical reserves of raw materials. By expanding recycling and other circular economy initiatives, we can, among other things, strengthen our economic stability and security.*
- 2. We need a revolution in the way we extract, use and reuse raw materials. Funding for research into the applied circular economy is key to this. Successful research projects would not only have a positive impact on the environment, but also create new growth potential for the German economy as well as new jobs in the field of sustainable production and recycling.*

#### *Social*

- 1. A key concern is the need for transparency and accountability in relation to digital education. Artificial intelligence (AI) manufacturers have an obligation to explain their products. Early childhood digital education is a relevant focus to prepare children for the digital world.*
- 2. A core issue is ensuring equitable access for all population groups, including older people and children, but also structurally discriminated groups such as people with migration histories and from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Measures to support victims of digital violence and to improve the user-friendliness of processes are also a major concern.*
- 3. A secure internet is the basis for good and equitable education. The discussions emphasised the need for data sovereignty and political media education. Finally, the importance of educational projects and civil society was underlined, as well as the need to include the common good in digital policy.*