Second virtual planning meeting for the SEE event
25 February 2015

Summary

Participants: Tsevetelina Atanasova, Naser Bislimi, Lianna Galstyan, Aleksandar Icokaev, Narine Khachatryan, Wolf Ludwig, Aida Mahmutovic, Oksana Prykhodko, Diman Stamatov, Sorina Teleanu.

I.   Overarching theme and name of the event

Given that no comment was made and no objection was raised with regard to the previously proposed overarching theme, this was formally agreed as the final overarching theme of the SEE event:

„Multistakeholder Internet governance: from global debates to the South Eastern European realities"

Several terms have been used so far when talking about the SEE event in Sofia, such as roundtable, pre-event, etc. However, a need was felt to use a term that would better describe the aim of the event and that could be used in a meaningful way in any text/message about the event. Using EuroDIG as a source of inspiration, and taking into account some ideas put forward during the very early discussions on a SEE event, the term "dialogue" was identified as a suitable option. As such, participants in the meeting agreed on the following general name for the event:

"South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance"

II.   Draft programme outline

The largest part of the meeting was dedicated to discussions on the draft programme outline previously shared with the list. Participants agreed on the general structure of the programme, which, in addition to the welcoming address and the conclusions, would include **four sessions**:
  - **Introduction to Internet governance;**
  - **Multistakeholder Internet governance mechanisms/approaches at national level;**
  - **Human rights for Internet users: theoretical approaches vs realities in the region;**
  - **The domain name space in South Eastern Europe – the case of IDNs.**

The general scope of each of these sessions is presented in the attached *Draft programme outline*. Compared to the previous version of this document, **few changes** were made as a result of the discussions:
  - a clarification that the human right session is intended to have a panel limited to four people (in addition to the representative of the Council of Europe) – one

representative per stakeholder group; ideally, each panellist should come from a different country from the region;
- more emphasis was added to the "awareness raising" dimension of the IDNs session;
- the order of the sessions was changed.

With regards to the **human rights session**, a discussion was held on whether the session should have a broad focus (human rights in general, with the possibility of touching upon any human rights issue that might be raised during the discussions) or a narrow focus (choose one human rights topic and develop the session around it). It was mentioned that countries in the region might have different problems and challenges when it comes to implementing various human rights for Internet users; as such, participants in this session should be given the possibility to talk about such different issues. In addition, it was also underlined that most digital human rights are interconnected and it would be logical to allow the discussions to move from one right to another. Based on these comments, participants agreed that the session should keep its initial broader focus.

It was underlined during the discussions that **all sessions should be as interactive as possible and allow for ample time for discussions among all participants**. Panellists interventions would be limited to a certain amount of time (to be decided when framing the sessions in more details) and the largest part of each session should be dedicated to discussions among all participants. In order to achieve this aim, **good moderators** (able to engage the participants, to raise provocative questions, etc) would have to be identified for each session.

Participants also agreed on the idea of having **key messages resulting from each session**. As such, each session would have a **rapporteur** who will be responsible for taking notes during the session and preparing, 3-5 bullet points representing, in an objective manner, the key messages resulting from the debates. **The rapporteur would present these bullet points at the end of the session, asking for agreement or disagreement (NOT a debate, just a "yes" or a "no") from the audience.** Those bullet points accepted by the audience will make it into more elaborated summaries (but not longer than half of page). These summaries would then be presented in the concluding session of the event and compiled into **a document to be presented at the EuroDIG meeting** (in a manner yet to be identified).

The programme outline needs to be further developed. First, **more elaborated session descriptions need to be prepared**. Liana, Naser and Sorina will work on draft session descriptions, which would be then shared with the entire group, for comments and further input. Once there is agreement on the session description, we should move into identifying panellists, moderators and rapporteurs.

III.   Outreach

As a follow up to previous suggestions and discussions, a text was prepared (and agreed by participants in the meeting) to present the SEE event and its objectives. This text was drafted in the form of **an invitation** and **it can be used by any of us when doing outreach and inviting people to participate in the event.** The invitation would be signed by whoever uses it, on behalf of the entire organising group. A general email address was created and

added to the invitation, so that any questions with regards to the event can be directed to a single point and we can respond to them in a coordinated manner. All those who want to have the emails going to this address forwarded to them are kindly invited to indicate this via the mailing list. As an observation, this invitation should not be used for governmental bodies, as formal invitations are to be sent by the Bulgarian Ministry.

It was mentioned during the discussions that one key element for the success of the SEE event is the number of participants. As such, further efforts are needed in order to attract as many participants from the region as possible. **All members of the mailing list are kindly encouraged to use the above mentioned invitation (together with the draft programme outline, if needed) and reach out to members of their communities.** Any suggestions in this regard and any actions undertaken can be added in the shared spreadsheet available here: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/114ZIumCsdNKB65_fFx8KxNnf4HtMQ9CLY3T2wkvecoI/edit?usp=sharing **Suggestions regarding the issue of funding participants to attend the event are also encouraged, as this is one of main challenges for attracting participation.**

IV. Budget and sponsorship

A draft cost estimate for the SEE event was shared by Ekaterina Dureva (UNICART). **Overall, the total costs for the one day event (room, technical equipment, webstreaming, coffee breaks and a light lunch) would be 4.000 euros.** A more detailed estimation can be found in an attached document.

As the overall EuroDIG budget is still under development and we are not sure at this point how much money would be available for the SEE event, **all members of this list are kindly encouraged to make suggestions regarding possible sponsors.** We can then discuss these suggestions with the EuroDIG Secretariat. Details about donations to EuroDIG are available here: http://www.eurodig.org/about/donations/

V. Next steps

1. Continue work on the programme outline:
   - draft session descriptions to be prepared by Lianna, Naser and Sorina and shared with the list;
   - comments and further input on the draft session descriptions would be sought from the list;
   - once there is agreement on the session description, suggestions would be sought for panellists, moderators and rapporteurs.
2. Continue efforts for outreach and attracting sponsors
3. A third virtual meeting will be held once programme outline would be further developed.