

*Nedan finner ni en sammanfattning av ICC Global Digital Economy Commissions arbete och aktiviteter under kvartal 2 2023, skriven av vårt globala digitala policyteam.*

## Digital policy developments in the second quarter of 2023

Dear colleagues,

Halfway through 2023, we are back with the ICC Digital Economy Policy team quarterly newsletter to share highlights from our recent work, and updates on what you can expect over the next few months.

Geopolitical relations across the globe continue to be thorny, with countries responding to this tension with policies that limit global trade related to tech. Meanwhile, the EU presses ahead with ambitions to be a global digital policy leader with intensified efforts ahead of next year's election. The EU institutions have just reached an agreement on the EU Data Act, the AI Act was approved by the European Parliament earlier this month, and we also see a tough stance on competition through the enforcement of the Digital Markets Act (DMA). Cybersecurity and digital safety concerns increasingly motivate restrictive policy and regulatory action worldwide, challenging industry norms and practices, such as data access and sharing, content moderation or encryption.

In response to these fast-moving policy developments, ICC, through the Global Digital Economy Commission, works to champion the interests of the global business community and to shape a digital economy that is interoperable, fair, open, and trusted.

## Our Second Quarter in Numbers

18

key events attended

13

speaking engagements

8

commission and working  
group meetings

## Internet governance

Ongoing discussions on the future of Internet Governance and digital policy at the United Nations intensify, with key milestones reached in the process to develop the Global Digital Compact (GDC): the multistakeholder consultation process led by the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on technology closed with over 6,000 contributions from the global stakeholder community; the UN Secretary-General published his Policy Brief on the topic

proposing a number of mechanisms and initiatives that were met with very mixed reactions from both governments and non-governmental actors; and the thematic deep-dive sessions led by the co-facilitators of the process (Rwanda and Sweden) concluded, with a summary report expected at the end of the summer.

As the process moves towards a ministerial preparatory meeting in September, followed by negotiations next year, ICC, through its Business Action to Support the Information Society (BASIS) initiative, continues to contribute with substantive and strategic messages, in unison with ICC members, to ensure business views are heard and meaningfully considered.

### Recent activities

- We sealed our initial contribution to the GDC multistakeholder consultation with a second substantive submission, presenting the findings of the global ICC business survey featuring input from businesses of all sizes in over 40 countries and close to 20 sectors of industry. We further amplified ICC policy recommendations and shared experience and evidence from global business at all thematic deep-dive sessions on the GDC, as well as in bilateral meetings with key government partners. Member states are looking to ICC to share business evidence and experience in support of effective multistakeholder cooperation and enabling policy environments that incentivise innovation and investment in digitalisation for fair development.
- We commenced preparations for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Internet Governance Forum (8-12 October, Kyoto), submitting session proposals for its programme and planning the participation of the ICC business delegation. ICC Chair Maria-Fernanda Garza, as part of the IGF Leadership Panel, is overseeing the group's work to develop a shared narrative and common principles for the Internet We Want, to be captured in a paper expected to be released at the IGF.

### Upcoming engagements next quarter

- BASIS members are working on a **position paper synthesising business priorities and talking points on the GDC**, taking into account the UN Secretary General's Policy Brief, the report of the High-Level Advisory Board (HLAB) on Effective Multilateralism and the anticipated report of the GDC co-facilitators on their consultation. Reach out to Timea Suto for further information.
- ICC BASIS will be concentrating on the planning and coordination of the **ICC business delegation for the IGF**, including ICC-organised events, participation of members in sessions and high-level events, as well as bilateral meetings with key governments and stakeholder partners. Should you wish to participate in the meeting, or would like more information on the IGF, contact Meni Anastasiadou.

### Connectivity and access

With 2023 marking the halfway point on the delivery of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the global community is falling short of delivering its targets. ICC works to raise awareness of the unique potential of ICTs and digital technologies, and in particular universal meaningful connectivity, to act as a catalyst in reaching all 17 goals, and the efforts of global business to fuel digitalisation and bring the 2030 Agenda back on track.

### Recent activities

- We launched the selection process of case studies in support of our year-long campaign on Digitalisation for People, the Planet and Prosperity. We are collecting case studies that shed light on successful business efforts to harness the power of ICTs, digital technologies, and innovative solutions to accelerate progress towards the SDGs. We also joined the Advisory Group of the SDG Digital Day project led by the International Telecommunication Union, linking the objectives of the ICC campaign with like-minded global efforts.
- Our participation and input to the meetings of ITU Study Groups 1 and 2 highlighted business case studies drawn from ICC's White Paper on Delivering Universal Meaningful Connectivity, and offered concrete recommendations to policymakers on increasing meaningful connectivity, thus contributing to the groups' work to develop evidence-based reports to inform future ITU decisions and resolutions.

### Upcoming engagements next quarter

- We will be organising the first series of external and internal facing engagements as part of the **Digitalisation for People, the Planet and Prosperity campaign**, concurring with the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development and the SDG Summit during UNGA high-level week. To find out more and support the campaign, reach out to Meni Anastasiadou.

## Cybersecurity

Geopolitical tensions continue to impact global cooperation on cyber policy, thwarting progress in international policy negotiations, as well as obstructing business operations and increasing regulation of companies building or operating critical technologies. Against this fractious backdrop, ICC is working to ensure that the onus for protecting cyberspace does not fall solely on the private sector.

### Recent activities

- ICC's participation and active input to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Cybercrime (AHC), including at its Fifth Substantive Session (11 – 21 April) and Intersessional Consultation (20 – 21 June), contribute valuable private sector expertise to the drafting of the planned international Convention on cybercrime. Business messages championed by ICC are further amplified by stakeholder partners and inform the interventions of government negotiators.
- To advance our calls for mainstreaming cybersecurity into the broader development agenda and setting shared goals to mobilise all stakeholders to act together to combat the ever-rising tide of cyber threats, we continue our engagement and participation in the UN Open Ended Working Group on the Security of and the Use of ICTs (OEWG), as well as related bilateral meetings. Our participation in the OEWG informal, inter-sessional meetings (23 – 26 May), offered global private sector perspectives on capacity building, existing and potential threats, and the concept of a UN-hosted global points of contact directory.

### Upcoming engagements next quarter

- As the OEWG aims to adopt its annual progress report during its upcoming Fifth Substantive Session (24 – 28 July, New York), ICC will participate to amplify business messages, in particular on how the group's future work can focus on

delivering **practical guidance on implementing norms for responsible state behaviour in cyberspace** and related capacity-building efforts.

- ICC will also aim to contribute to the OEWG's understanding on existing and potential threats, in particular **ransomware**, and how businesses work to detect and defend against such threats. Therefore, we are collecting case studies on how businesses defend themselves against and deal with ransomware attacks. To contribute your perspectives, please reach out to Rose Payne.
- ICC will continue to contribute to the work of the AHC on **Cybercrime**, as it meets for its Sixth Substantive Session (21 August-1 September, New York) to negotiate the [full text](#) of the planned Convention. We will be leveraging our global network to carry out bilateral advocacy to reinforce business positions within capitals in advance of this meeting. To find out more about this work and participate in our advocacy efforts, contact [Timea Suto](#).
- The ICC Cybersecurity Working Group will begin work on the next ICC Cybersecurity Issue Brief, on the subject of **securing critical infrastructure**, over the next few weeks. To join the drafting group, contact [Rose Payne](#).

## Data governance

Several initiatives indicate increasing appetite for advancing cooperation on data governance and moving from principles to implementation. The G7 [Declaration](#) expresses shared commitment to operationalise Data Free Flow with Trust by establishing the Institutional Arrangement for Partnership (IAP), a mechanism to bring governments and stakeholders together to make tangible progress. Elsewhere, countries are using international frameworks to create bilateral agreements, for example, the establishment of the US-UK Data Bridge, which aims to ensure data privacy protections and supporting [Global Cross-Border Privacy Rules Forum](#) (CBPR) and the OECD's [Declaration on Government Access to Personal Data Held by Private Sector Entities](#). ICC continues to engage with relevant fora to enhance understanding of the importance of cross-border data flows for business, and to advocate for governance postures that provide surety.

## Recent activities

- ICC's [open letter to G7](#) ahead of the G7 [Digital and Tech Minister's Meeting](#) on 29 - 30 April, laid out our position on data governance, as well as other digital policy issues. To solidify our messages, ICC also co-signed a [Global Industry Statement on an Institutional Arrangement for Partnership on Data Free Flow With Trust](#), which was also shared in advance of the Digital and Technology Ministers' Meeting, joining global industry voices to support Japan's efforts to operationalise their vision of "[Data Free Flow with Trust](#)". Together with colleagues in ICC's trade and customs commissions, we continue to advance calls for cross-border data flows and the moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions in the context of the World Trade Organisation Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce (JSI).

## Upcoming engagements next quarter

- The Working Group on Data Governance is drafting a **policy primer on non-personal data**, to be launched during IGF 2023, and used as a basis for furthering

ICC's work on data governance questions more broadly. The first draft of this paper will be shared for your comments in the coming weeks. To find out more, please contact [Rose Payne](#).

## Emerging issues

We are also monitoring digital policy issues outside of our current workstreams, to ensure business is represented in key policy conversations.

- **Artificial Intelligence:** The mandate of the Council of Europe's Committee to draft the first binding [Convention on Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law](#) has been extended till April 2024, with a draft text of the Convention expected to be released at the end of the summer. We will continue to share updates with interested members and based on your guidance will consider all avenues to share business perspectives on the draft text once available, including hosting a business roundtable to discuss the implementability of the Convention. If you are interested in this topic, please contact [Rose Payne](#).
- **Platform Regulation:** The UN continues to increase its involvement in platform governance with the UN Secretary-General having released a [policy brief](#) on Information Integrity in Digital Platforms. This follows the release of UNESCO's version 3.0 of the draft [Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms](#). ICC has previously signed a [cross-industry statement](#) on the UNESCO Guidelines and continues to collaborate with industry bodies to coordinate response to this latest draft. To find out more, reach out to [Timea Suto](#).