



Newsletter

INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER
Embassy of the United States of America

Information & Communication Information Technology • E-Government • E-Commerce

January 2010

INTERNET FREEDOM ESSENTIAL TO HUMAN RIGHTS, ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Secretary Clinton defines U.S. policy on upholding Internet freedom



Jane Morse, DOS Staff Writer
21 January 2010

Washington – Internet freedom is essential to upholding human rights and encouraging economic prosperity, and the United States plans to aggressively promote Internet access for all peoples, says Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

“We stand for a single Internet where all of humanity has equal access to knowledge and ideas,” Clinton said in a groundbreaking foreign policy speech delivered January 21 at Washington’s Newseum.

She linked the freedom to use the Internet without government obstruction to basic human rights such as freedom of religion, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. Having the freedom to connect to the Internet, she said, “is like the freedom of assembly, only in cyberspace.”

Clinton compared the efforts of some governments to deny their citizens unfettered Internet access to the construction of the Berlin Wall. “Virtual walls are cropping up in place of visible walls,” she said.

[ARTICLE ▶](#)

[TRANSCRIPT ▶](#)

[VIDEO ▶](#)



GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS 6

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS BRIEF REPORTERS ON INTERNET FREEDOM--Officials describe links between Internet freedom, human rights. 23 January 2010.....6

ADVERSE EVENTS IN HOSPITALS: PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS. Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Stuart Wright. January 5, 2010.6

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS..... 6

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECTRUM RESOURCES: POLICY ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Linda K. Moore. November 10, 2009.6

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING: BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. R. Eric Petersen. November 5, 2009.6

A BILL TO PROHIBIT THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FROM FURTHER REGULATING THE INTERNET: INTERNET FREEDOM ACT OF 2009. THOMAS, Library of Congress. Introduced by Senator John McCain. October 22, 2009.7

A BILL TO AMEND THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL BROADBAND POLICY, SAFEGUARD CONSUMER RIGHTS, SPUR INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION, AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES: INTERNET FREEDOM PRESERVATION ACT OF 2009. THOMAS, Library of Congress. Introduced by Congressman Edward J. Markey. July 31, 2009.7

WHITE HOUSE DOCUMENTS 7

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE ACCESSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE. White House blog, Posted by Norm Eisen on January 23, 2010 at 12:12 PM EST7

PRESIDENT OBAMA AT TOWN HALL MEETING IN SHANGHAI; Obama answers questions from Fudan University students and the Internet. The White House, 16 November 2009 7

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS 8

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION8

IN THE MATTERS OF PRESERVING THE OPEN INTERNET BROADBAND INDUSTRY PRACTICES: COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES (“ACLU”) AND THE TECHNOLOGY AND LIBERTY PROJECT OF THE ACLU. American Civil Liberties Union. Michael Macleod-Ball et al. January 14, 2010.8

BERKMAN CENTER FOR INTERNET & SOCIETY AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY8

CASTING A WIDER INTERNET. Interviewee: Yochai Benkler, Faculty Co-Director, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard; Interviewer: Roya Wolverson, Staff Writer, CFR.org. January 21, 2010. STREAMING AUDIO8

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION8

 CLOUD COMPUTING FOR BUSINESS AND SOCIETY | A Governance Studies Event.
 Brookings Institution, January 20, 2010. FULL EVENT AUDIO + TRANSCRIPT8

 IMPROVING BROADBAND INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT. Event. Brookings Institution,
 Monday, November 09, 2009. 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. FULL EVENT AUDIO + TRANSCRIPT.9

BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE9

 SOFTWARE PIRACY ON THE INTERNET: A THREAT TO YOUR SECURITY. Business
 Software Alliance. October 2009.9

CATO INSTITUTE9

 FAIRNESS 2.0: MEDIA CONTENT REGULATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY. Robert Corn-
 Revere. CATO Institute Policy Analysis no. 651. November 10, 20099

CENTER FOR INFORMATION & SOCIETY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON 10

 TECHNOLOGY FOR EMPLOYABILITY IN WASHINGTON STATE. CIS, October 29, 2009 .. 10

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS) 10

 SECURITY, CLOUD COMPUTING AND THE COMING MOBILE ENVIRONMENT. Center for
 Strategic and International Studies. EVENT, Thursday, Dec 3, 2009. VIDEO 10

COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS 10

 CHINA HACKERS HIT MEDIA COMPANIES AND ACTIVISTS ONLINE. Committee to Protect
 Journalists. January 13, 2010. 10

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR) 10

 GOOGLE, CHINA, AND DUELING INTERNETS? Interviewee: Adam Segal, Ira A. Lipman
 Senior Fellow for Counterterrorism and National Security Studies, CFR; Interviewer:
 Jayshree Bajoria, CFR.org. January 14, 2010. STREAMING AUDIO 10

EUROPEAN COMMISSION/UNION 11

 AGREEMENT ON EU TELECOMS REFORM PAVES WAY FOR STRONGER CONSUMER RIGHTS,
 AN OPEN INTERNET, A SINGLE EUROPEAN TELECOMS MARKET AND HIGH-SPEED
 INTERNET CONNECTIONS FOR ALL CITIZENS. EUROPA. November 5, 2009. 11

FREEDOM HOUSE 11

 FREEDOM ON THE NET: A GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF INTERNET AND DIGITAL MEDIA.
 Freedom House. April 1, 2009. 11

HERITAGE FOUNDATION 11

 HOW ONLINE LEARNING IS REVOLUTIONIZING K-12 EDUCATION AND BENEFITING
 STUDENTS. Dan Lips. Heritage Foundation Backgrounder #2356. January 12, 2010... 11

HUMAN CAPITAL INSTITUTE 12

 SOCIAL NETWORKING IN GOVERNMENT: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES. Human Capital
 Institute. January 2010. 12

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOUNDATION 12

 EXPLAINING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE PAYMENTS LEADERSHIP. By Stephen Ezell. ITIF,
 November 17, 2009 12

THE ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION IN SECURING INFORMATION SYSTEMS. By Daniel Castro. ITIF Web Memo, October 14, 2009 12

THE ROLE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN MEDICAL RESEARCH. By Daniel Castro. ITIF, October 12, 2009 13

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATION..... 13

IFLA/UNESCO INTERNET MANIFESTO GUIDELINES. International Federation of Library Association. September 2006. 13

INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM 13

FOURTH MEETING OF THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (IGF) SHARM, EL SHEIKH, EGYPT, 15-18 NOVEMBER 2009. Internet Governance Forum. November 2009. 13

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE 14

TRANSATLANTIC INFORMATION SHARING: AT A CROSSROADS. Migration Policy Institute. Hiroyuki Tanaka et al. January 7, 2010. 14

OPENNET INITIATIVE..... 14

WHAT’S NEW AT THE OPENNET INITIATIVE? OpenNet Initiative. January 2010..... 14

PEW INTERNET & AMERICAN LIFE PROJECT 14

FEDERAL AGENCIES: FIRST RESPONDERS TO HEALTH QUESTIONS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. January 20, 2010. 14

INTERNET, BROADBAND, AND CELL PHONE STATISTICS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Lee Rainie. January 5, 2010..... 14

TEENS AND SEXTING. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Amanda Lenhart. December 15, 2009. 14

TEENS AND DISTRACTED DRIVING: TEXTING, TALKING AND OTHER USES OF THE CELL PHONE BEHIND THE WHEEL. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden and Amanda Lenhart. November 16, 2009..... 15

SOCIAL ISOLATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGY: HOW THE INTERNET AND MOBILE PHONES IMPACT AMERICANS’ SOCIAL NETWORKS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Keith N. Hampton et al. November 4, 2009. 15

TWITTER AND STATUS UPDATING, FALL 2009. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox et al. October 21, 2009. 15

PUBLIC CITIZEN 15

INTERNET FREE SPEECH. Public Citizen. January 2010..... 15

RAND 16

TOWARDS A DIGITAL EUROPE, SERVING ITS CITIZENS --The EUREGOV Synthesis Report. Constantijn van Oranje-Nassau, R. Weehuizen. RAND, January 2010. 16

U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE 16

ONLINE DISCOURSE IN THE ARAB WORLD: DISPELLING THE MYTHS. U.S. Institute of Peace. Joel Whitaker and Anand Varghese. December 2009..... 16

YALE GLOBAL 16

CHINA AND GOOGLE: SEARCHING FOR TROUBLE PART II. YaleGlobal. Jeffrey Garten. January 21, 2010. 16

CHINA AND GOOGLE: SEARCHING FOR TROUBLE PART I. YaleGlobal. Jonathan Fenby. January 19, 2010. 17

TERRORISM’S NEW AVATARS PART II: AL QAEDA RECRUITS TERRORISTS ON-LINE, TURNING THE DEMOCRATIC SPACE ON ITS HEAD. YaleGlobal. Gabriel Weimann. January 12, 2010. 17

HTTP://WWW.ECOMMERCE-GUIDE.COM/ 17

AN E-COMM BUYERS’ GUIDE TO CHOOSING TRUSTMARKS. By Vangie Beal. January 25, 2010..... 17

SEVEN TIPS FOR PICKING THE BEST E-COMMERCE PROGRAM. By Kerry Watson. January 22, 2010 17

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS..... 18

SOCIAL NETWORKING EXPERIMENT SHOWS EFFECTS OF MASS MOBILIZATION. By Stephen Kaufman. Department of State Staff Writer. 20 January 2010..... 18

CAN GOOGLE BEAT CHINA? Timothy B. Lee. *The New York Times*, January 15, 2010. 18

FRONT COVER:

Photo:

A man uses a computer in the reception area of Google's China headquarters in Beijing, China, Friday, Jan. 22, 2010. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday urged China to investigate cyber intrusions that led search engine Google to threaten to pull out of that country, and challenged Beijing to openly publish its findings. (AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

Article:

<http://www.america.gov/st/democracyhr-english/2010/January/20100121130421ajesrom0.9331629.html>

Transcript:

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2010/January/20100121142618eaifas0.6585352.html>

Video:

<http://link.brightcove.com/services/player/bcpid1705667530?bctid=62730021001>

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS BRIEF REPORTERS ON INTERNET FREEDOM--Officials describe links between Internet freedom, human rights. 23 January 2010

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2010/January/20100123124856SBlebahC1.357234e-02.htm>

ADVERSE EVENTS IN HOSPITALS: PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ABOUT EVENTS. Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Stuart Wright. January 5, 2010.

Office of Inspector General found only limited public disclosure of information about adverse events among entities reviewed including, State adverse event reporting systems, Patient Safety Organizations (PSOs), and CMS. Publicly disclosing adverse event information can educate healthcare providers about causes of events, compel providers to correct vulnerabilities that lead to events, and assist patients in making decisions about their care. Additionally, all reviewed entities maintain policies, practices, and legal provisions to protect patient privacy. <http://www.oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-09-00360.pdf>

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS AND SPECTRUM RESOURCES: POLICY ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Linda K. Moore. November 10, 2009.

Effective emergency response is dependent on wireless communications. To minimize communications failures during and after a crisis requires ongoing improvements in emergency communications capacity and capability. The availability of radio frequency spectrum is considered essential to developing a modern, interoperable communications network for public safety. Equally critical is building the radio network to use this spectrum. Opinions diverge, however, on such issues as how much spectrum should be made available for the network, who should own it, who should build it, who should operate it, who should be allowed to use it, and how it might be paid for. [PDF format, 40 pages].

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40859_20091110.pdf

CONGRESSIONAL PRINTING: BACKGROUND AND ISSUES FOR CONGRESS. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. R. Eric Petersen. November 5, 2009.

Periodically, concerns have been raised about the number and variety of products created to document congressional activity. Other concerns focus on the process for authorizing and distributing printed government documents to Members of Congress, committees, and other officials in the House and Senate. The report provides an overview and analysis of issues related to the processing and distribution of congressional information by the Government Printing Office. Subsequent sections address several issues, including funding congressional printing, printing authorizations, current printing practices, and options for Congress. Finally, the report provides congressional printing appropriations, production, and distribution data in a number of tables.

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/R40897_20091105.pdf [PDF format, 37 pages].

A BILL TO PROHIBIT THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FROM FURTHER REGULATING THE INTERNET: INTERNET FREEDOM ACT OF 2009. THOMAS, Library of Congress. Introduced by Senator John McCain. October 22, 2009.

Latest Major Action: 10/22/2009 Referred to Senate committee. Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. [PDF format, 2 pages].

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:s1836is.txt.pdf

A BILL TO AMEND THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934 TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL BROADBAND POLICY, SAFEGUARD CONSUMER RIGHTS, SPUR INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION, AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES: INTERNET FREEDOM PRESERVATION ACT OF 2009. THOMAS, Library of Congress. Introduced by Congressman Edward J. Markey. July 31, 2009.

Latest Major Action: 7/31/2009 Referred to House committee. Status: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. [PDF format, 13 pages].

http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h3458ih.txt.pdf

WHITE HOUSE DOCUMENTS

ANOTHER MILESTONE IN MAKING GOVERNMENT MORE ACCESSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE. White House blog, Posted by Norm Eisen on January 23, 2010 at 12:12 PM EST

If you visit data.gov, you'll find a wide array of new, high-value datasets that federal agencies have uploaded pursuant to the Open Government Directive. This information serves two valuable functions. First, it facilitates private innovation by allowing entrepreneurs, scientists, and others to utilize raw data to build new services and conduct insightful studies that serve Americans. Second, citizens will also be able to use this data to hold government accountable—again, so it can better serve the people.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/01/22/another-milestone-making-government-more-accessible-and-accountable>

PRESIDENT OBAMA AT TOWN HALL MEETING IN SHANGHAI ; Obama answers questions from Fudan University students and the Internet. The White House, 16 November 2009



The free flow of information on the Internet builds a stronger society, encourages creativity and helps people around the world participate in the political process and hold their governments accountable, President Obama told Chinese students in Shanghai November 16.

Speaking at a town hall meeting ahead of meetings with Chinese leaders in Beijing, Obama said he is “a big believer” in technology and openness and a “big supporter of noncensorship” even though it means that he finds himself the subject of constant criticism. In the United States, “the fact that we have free Internet or unrestricted Internet access is a source of strength,” and the president said open Internet use should be encouraged.

<http://www.america.gov/st/texttrans-english/2009/November/20091116095135eaifas0.900326.html>

THINK TANKS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

IN THE MATTERS OF PRESERVING THE OPEN INTERNET BROADBAND INDUSTRY PRACTICES: COMMENTS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES (“ACLU”) AND THE TECHNOLOGY AND LIBERTY PROJECT OF THE ACLU. American Civil Liberties Union. Michael Macleod-Ball et al. January 14, 2010.

The ACLU's vision of an uncensored Internet was shared by the U.S. Supreme Court when it declared, in *Reno v. ACLU*, the Internet to be a free speech zone, deserving at least as much First Amendment protection as that afforded to books, newspapers and magazines. The government, the court said, can no more restrict a person's access to words or images on the Internet than it could be allowed to snatch a book out of a reader's hands in the library, or cover over a statue of a nude in a museum. [PDF format, 12 pages].

http://www.aclu.org/files/assets/ACLU_Comments_on_FCC_Net_Neutrality.pdf

BERKMAN CENTER FOR INTERNET & SOCIETY AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

CASTING A WIDER INTERNET. Interviewee: Yochai Benkler, Faculty Co-Director, Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard; Interviewer: Roya Wolverson, Staff Writer, CFR.org. January 21, 2010. **STREAMING AUDIO**

U.S. President Barack Obama has made universal access to high-speed Internet central to his technology agenda. In response, some policymakers, including the U.S. Justice Department, are pressing the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to provide more spectrum for wireless high-speed Internet service to compete with broadband service, which they say would make accessing the Internet more affordable. Yochai Benkler, faculty co-director of Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet and Society, says that wireless initiatives are important, but the FCC needs to concentrate more on giving new Internet providers access to existing infrastructure laid down by established providers. Otherwise, continued reliance on only one or two U.S. Internet providers will hamper U.S. economic competitiveness and innovation, Benkler says, who advised the FCC on revising its Internet policy. Download Audio:

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21259/casting_a_wider_internet.html

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION

CLOUD COMPUTING FOR BUSINESS AND SOCIETY | A Governance Studies Event. Brookings Institution, January 20, 2010. **FULL EVENT AUDIO + TRANSCRIPT**

Cloud computing – defined as computing delivered as a service over the Internet – has the potential to offer governments, enterprises and individuals greater choice and flexibility while spurring significant efficiency gains, lower IT costs, as well as creating incentives and online platforms for innovation.

http://www.brookings.edu/events/2010/0120_cloud_computing.aspx



IMPROVING BROADBAND INNOVATION AND INVESTMENT. Event. Brookings Institution, Monday, November 09, 2009. 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM. FULL EVENT AUDIO + TRANSCRIPT

Broadband and wireless technologies are key elements of our nation's economic, social and civic development. With the Federal Communications Commission's stated goals of bringing broadband access to all Americans, it is crucial to determine how to be innovative when investing in broadband infrastructure. On November 9, the Brookings Institution hosted a policy forum to examine this issue and to discuss ways to overcome barriers to developing this infrastructure.



http://www.brookings.edu/events/2009/1109_broadband_innovation.aspx

BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE



SOFTWARE PIRACY ON THE INTERNET: A THREAT TO YOUR SECURITY. Business Software Alliance. October 2009.

Individuals are turning to peer-to-peer (P2P) networks and auction sites in staggering numbers to acquire or transfer illegal software and in doing so are harming the economy whilst exposing themselves to malware, identity theft and criminal prosecution, according to the report.

<http://global.bsa.org/internetreport2009/2009internetpiracyreport.pdf>

[PDF format, 28 pages].

CATO INSTITUTE



FAIRNESS 2.0: MEDIA CONTENT REGULATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY. Robert Corn-Revere. CATO Institute Policy Analysis no. 651. November 10, 2009

Civil libertarians feared that a change of administrations would herald a revived Fairness Doctrine, a policy that previously permitted the government to oversee broadcast news coverage for "balanced views." A return to the Fairness Doctrine, however, now seems unlikely. It is very likely, however, that politicians from both the left and the right will try to extend government control over the media beyond current policies. New rules adopted or proposed by the Federal Communications Commission suggest that the agency may be poised to enforce the most intensive government oversight of broadcast programming in decades—perhaps even in the history of the agency. The FCC voted last year to require each broadcast licensee to file quarterly "enhanced disclosure" reports—highly detailed information regarding its programming and editorial choices. This information will be used by organized groups to file complaints to pressure broadcasters to air programming that the complainants prefer. The FCC is also formulating programming guidelines based on the enhanced disclosure reports purporting to ensure that broadcasters meet local needs. This "broadcast localism" effort may also require broadcasters to appoint local boards to oversee their performance and their editorial decisions. As the FCC seeks to expand regulation of broadcast media, the traditional justification for its authority—spectrum scarcity—has lost credibility, and the agency's new efforts are likely to run afoul of the First Amendment.

http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=10934

CENTER FOR INFORMATION & SOCIETY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
TECHNOLOGY FOR EMPLOYABILITY IN WASHINGTON STATE. CIS, October 29, 2009

Do information and communication technology skills training programs improve employment opportunities for low-income, older, and unemployed workers? Do they improve wage levels? Aspirations? The research revealed that programs that combined ICT training with soft skills and employment support services are more likely to reintegrate people into the labor market — even amid the early signs of an economic recession. After attending training, the percentage of participants with employment increased from 17 to 58 percent, with higher levels of ICT skills correlated to increased employment outcomes.

<http://cis.washington.edu/employability/2009/10/29/technology-for-employability-in-washington-state/>

CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS)
SECURITY, CLOUD COMPUTING AND THE COMING MOBILE ENVIRONMENT. Center for Strategic and International Studies. EVENT, Thursday, Dec 3, 2009. VIDEO

We are moving into a different cyber environment. Your information will be stored in the cloud – a computer somewhere else whose location you do not know – and you will connect to it with a mobile device – a cell phone or PDA. This change is bigger than any previous Internet evolution and while there are huge new opportunities, there are also significant new risks. This is a discussion of the evolving cybersecurity challenges, the role of the national communications infrastructure, and the need to bolster innovation.



<http://csis.org/event/security-cloud-computing-and-coming-mobile-environment>

COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS
CHINA HACKERS HIT MEDIA COMPANIES AND ACTIVISTS ONLINE. Committee to Protect Journalists. January 13, 2010.

The Committee to Protect Journalists expressed concern after Google said that it had uncovered evidence of cyber attackers from China targeting its own and other companies' infrastructures, as well as individual Gmail accounts. The committee welcomed Google's statement that it was no longer willing to censor its Chinese search engine, Google.cn, in light of the discovery. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://cpj.org/2010/01/hackers-hit-media-companies-and-activists-online-f.php#more>

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS (CFR)
GOOGLE, CHINA, AND DUELING INTERNETS? Interviewee: Adam Segal, Ira A. Lipman Senior Fellow for Counterterrorism and National Security Studies, CFR; Interviewer: Jayshree Bajoria, CFR.org. January 14, 2010. STREAMING AUDIO

CFR's Adam Segal says the showdown between Google and the Chinese government could result in a world of separate regional Internets and comes at a difficult time in U.S.-China relations.

http://www.cfr.org/publication/21203/google_china_and_dueling_internets.html?breadcrumb=%2Fissue%2F114%2Fhealth_science_and_technology

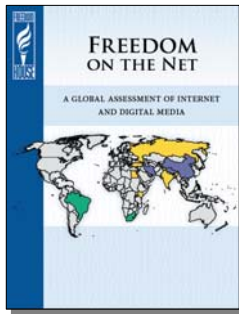
EUROPEAN COMMISSION/UNION

AGREEMENT ON EU TELECOMS REFORM PAVES WAY FOR STRONGER CONSUMER RIGHTS, AN OPEN INTERNET, A SINGLE EUROPEAN TELECOMS MARKET AND HIGH-SPEED INTERNET CONNECTIONS FOR ALL CITIZENS. EUROPA. November 5, 2009.

Viviane Reding, the EU Telecoms Commissioner who had been an active party to the final talks, welcomed the agreement found between Parliament and Council: "It is very good news for Europe's citizens that negotiators of the Parliament and Council last night reached agreement on a new Internet freedom provision to be included in the telecoms reform package. This Internet freedom provision is unprecedented across the globe and a strong signal that the EU takes fundamental rights very seriously, in particular when it comes to the Information Society. The agreement on the new Internet freedom provision, which has the unanimous support of all negotiators, now paves the way for a swift entry into force of this telecoms reform. [HTML format with links].

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/09/491>

FREEDOM HOUSE



FREEDOM ON THE NET: A GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF INTERNET AND DIGITAL MEDIA. Freedom House. April 1, 2009.

As internet and mobile phone use explodes worldwide, governments are adopting new and multiple means for controlling these technologies that go far beyond technical filtering. Freedom on the Net provides a comprehensive look at these emerging tactics, raising concern over trends such as the "outsourcing of censorship" to private companies, the use of surveillance and the manipulation of online conversations by undercover agents. The study covers both repressive countries such as China and Iran and democratic ones such as India and the United Kingdom, finding some degree of internet censorship and control in all 15 nations studied. [PDF format, 126 pages].

http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/specialreports/NetFreedom2009/FreedomOnTheNet_FullReport.pdf

HERITAGE FOUNDATION

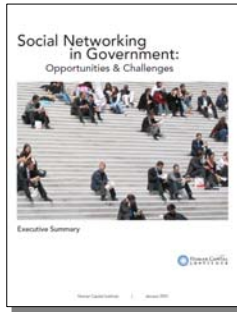


HOW ONLINE LEARNING IS REVOLUTIONIZING K-12 EDUCATION AND BENEFITING STUDENTS. Dan Lips. Heritage Foundation Backgrounder #2356. January 12, 2010

Virtual or online learning is revolutionizing American education. It has the potential to dramatically expand the educational opportunities of American students, largely overcoming the geographic and demographic restrictions. Virtual learning also has the potential to improve the quality of instruction, while increasing productivity and lowering costs, ultimately reducing the burden on taxpayers. Local, state, and federal policymakers should reform education policies and funding to facilitate online learning, particularly by allowing funding to follow the students to their learning institutions of choice.

http://s3.amazonaws.com/thf_media/2010/pdf/bg_2356.pdf

HUMAN CAPITAL INSTITUTE


SOCIAL NETWORKING IN GOVERNMENT: OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES. Human Capital Institute. January 2010.

Blogs, wikis, RSS feeds and social networking sites like Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn have provided creative ways to recruit, engage, connect and retain employees. They have also provided an opportunity to facilitate strategic knowledge sharing across organizations and government agencies. Most SN tools are Web-based and provide a variety of ways for users who share interests and/or activities to interact. Users can share best practices and build communities of practice. "Sixty-six (66) percent of government workplaces use some type of SN tool — and sixty-five (65) percent of those are using more than one tool," according to the report. [PDF format, 5 pages]

http://www.hci.org/files/field_content_file/SNGovt_SummaryFINAL.pdf

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOUNDATION


EXPLAINING INTERNATIONAL MOBILE PAYMENTS LEADERSHIP. By Stephen Ezell. ITIF, November 17, 2009

In a small, but growing number of nations the mobile phone has evolved from a simple personal communications device to become both a platform for commerce and an indispensable part of a "lifestyle infrastructure" that enhances personal productivity, manages financial transactions, and makes life far more convenient and efficient. Indeed, around the world, consumers can use mobile phones as electronic wallets to pay for public transit, to check in at airline gates, and to make purchases from merchants, kiosks, and vendors. But not in the United States, which lags behind world leaders in leveraging the mobile phone as a platform to effect commercial transactions. The result is lagging productivity and reduced convenience for America and Americans. In this report ITIF identifies the leading nations in mobile payments, explains why the United States lags so far behind, and offers a set of policy recommendations for how the federal government can take steps to speed the arrival and adoption of more sophisticated forms of mobile commerce transactions.

<http://www.itif.org/files/2009-mobile-payments.pdf>


THE ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION IN SECURING INFORMATION SYSTEMS. By Daniel Castro. ITIF Web Memo, October 14, 2009

Cybersecurity is finally getting increased attention in Washington; however, one problematic idea that appears to have gained some traction is the development of a national certification program for cybersecurity professionals. While ostensibly targeted at the public sector and to protect critical infrastructure, it will have broad implications for the private sector. Such a proposal, while sounding helpful, will offer few benefits, introduce burdensome costs to the government and the private sector, and not address the root cause of most cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

<http://itif.org/files/WM-2009-05-certification.pdf>

THE ROLE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN MEDICAL RESEARCH. By Daniel Castro. ITIF, October 12, 2009

Using information technology (IT) to modernize our health care system will lead to improvements in medical research. Health informatics will allow medical researchers to determine the effectiveness of a particular treatment for a given population or to discover the harmful side-effects of a drug. While some of this research will occur in the private sector, public investment in this area will play a major role. This report finds that both the United States and the United Kingdom commit roughly the same percentage of total public medical research funds to health informatics. However, the United Kingdom is uniquely positioned to benefit from advancements in health informatics research because it is significantly ahead of the United States in its transition to electronic health records among primary care providers. More importantly, the National Health Service (NHS) has made an important strategic decision to emphasize medical research as one of its core missions. Thus, as the NHS continues to develop its IT infrastructure, it will be able to make technical upgrades and policy changes to improve information sharing and its information base for research. The United States currently lacks the capacity being developed by the NHS to turn its existing or future electronic health records into a usable database for medical research. To benefit from the full potential of health informatics, the United States should develop the capability to share medical data for authorized research in a timely and efficient manner.

<http://itif.org/files/2009-it-medical-research.pdf>

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**IFLA/UNESCO INTERNET MANIFESTO GUIDELINES. International Federation of Library Association. September 2006.**

The Internet Manifesto was created out of a perceived need for a document that brought the traditional library values of freedom of expression and freedom of access to information into the age of the Internet. It is a document that reaffirms the library profession's commitment to these values and their importance in all of the services that libraries can provide. [PDF format, 37 pages].

<http://archive.ifla.org/faife/policy/iflastat/Internet-ManifestoGuidelines.pdf>

INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM**FOURTH MEETING OF THE INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (IGF) SHARM, EL SHEIKH, EGYPT, 15-18 NOVEMBER 2009. Internet Governance Forum. November 2009.**

With more than 1800 participants from 112 countries the Sharm meeting had the biggest attendance so far. 96 governments were represented. 122 media representatives were accredited.

Access to Internet had become much more important recently, given the billions of people using the Internet each day. Security, openness and privacy were interlinked and the key question was to find the right balance among access to knowledge, the freedom of expression, and intellectual property rights

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/index.php/component/content/article/314-2009-meeting> [HTML format with links].

<http://www.un.org/webcast/igf/ondemand.asp> Archives of Webcast

MIGRATION POLICY INSTITUTE

TRANSATLANTIC INFORMATION SHARING: AT A CROSSROADS. Migration Policy Institute. Hiroyuki Tanaka et al. January 7, 2010.

The attempted Christmas Day attack on a U.S. airliner has refocused interest on the data collected by governments on international travelers, and how information sharing can be used to prevent terrorism and secure travel if properly shared and analyzed. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the United States and European Union worked out agreements to expand the sharing of personal information about international travelers as a means to prevent acts of terrorism and fight international crime. However, according to the study, negotiations on a binding international agreement that will govern the sharing of personal information for law enforcement purposes between the U.S. and the European Union face significant challenges. [PDF format, 60 pages].

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/infosharing-Jan2010.pdf>

OPENNET INITIATIVE

WHAT'S NEW AT THE OPENNET INITIATIVE? OpenNet Initiative. January 2010.

The OpenNet Initiative finds that the Internet censorship and surveillance are growing global phenomena. Its mission is to identify and document Internet filtering and surveillance, and to promote and inform wider public dialogs about such practices. The website contains links to reports and research related to Internet freedom around the world. [HTML format with links].

<http://opennet.net/>

PEW INTERNET & AMERICAN LIFE PROJECT



FEDERAL AGENCIES: FIRST RESPONDERS TO HEALTH QUESTIONS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox. January 20, 2010.

Fox provides data on the current internet population, with a particular focus on health communication, wireless adoption, social media, and implications for public health planning.

<http://www.pewinternet.org/Presentations/2010/Jan/Federal-HIVAIDS-Web-Council-Meeting.aspx> [HTML format with links].

INTERNET, BROADBAND, AND CELL PHONE STATISTICS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Lee Rainie. January 5, 2010.

In a national survey between November 30 and December 27, 2009, the survey finds, 74% of American adults, ages 18 and older, use the internet, a slight drop from our survey in April 2009, which did not include Spanish interviews. 60% of American adults use broadband connections at home, a drop that is within the margin of error from 63% in April 2009. 55% of American adults connect to the internet wirelessly. The figure did not change in a statistically significant way during 2009. [PDF format, 16 pages].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2010/PIP_December09_stats.pdf

TEENS AND SEXTING. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Amanda Lenhart. December 15, 2009.

As texting has become a centerpiece in teen social life, parents, educators and advocates have grown increasingly concerned about the role of cell phones in the sexual lives of teens and young adults. A new survey from the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project

found that 4% of cell-owning teens ages 12-17 say they have sent sexually suggestive nude or nearly nude images or videos of themselves to someone else via text messaging, a practice also known as "sexting"; 15% say they have received such images of someone they know via text message. [PDF format, 16 pages].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media//Files/Reports/2009/PIP_Teens_and_Sexting.pdf

TEENS AND DISTRACTED DRIVING: TEXTING, TALKING AND OTHER USES OF THE CELL PHONE BEHIND THE WHEEL. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Mary Madden and Amanda Lenhart. November 16, 2009.

Over the summer of 2009, the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project conducted a survey of 800 teens ages 12-17 asking about their experiences with cell phone use in cars. All of the teens in our survey were asked about their experiences as passengers, and if they were age 16 or older and have a cell phone, they were also asked about their own actions behind the wheel including both talking and text messaging. The analyzes the findings. [PDF format, 16 pages].

<http://pewresearch.org/assets/pdf/teens-and-distracted-driving.pdf>

SOCIAL ISOLATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGY: HOW THE INTERNET AND MOBILE PHONES IMPACT AMERICANS' SOCIAL NETWORKS. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Keith N. Hampton et al. November 4, 2009.

The report adds new insights to an ongoing debate about the extent of social isolation in America. A widely-reported 2006 study argued that since 1985 Americans have become more socially isolated, the size of their discussion networks has declined, and the diversity of those people with whom they discuss important matters has decreased. However, the Pew Internet Personal Networks and Community survey finds that Americans are not as isolated as has been previously reported. People's use of the mobile phone and the internet is associated with larger and more diverse discussion networks. format, 84 pages].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media//Files/Reports/2009/PIP_Tech_and_Social_Isolation.pdf [PDF

TWITTER AND STATUS UPDATING, FALL 2009. Pew Internet & American Life Project. Susannah Fox et al. October 21, 2009.

Some 19% of internet users now say they use Twitter or another service to share updates about themselves, or to see updates about others--up from 11% in April. [PDF format, 16 pages].

http://www.pewinternet.org/~media//Files/Reports/2009/PIP_Twitter_Fall_2009_web.pdf

PUBLIC CITIZEN

INTERNET FREE SPEECH. Public Citizen. January 2010.

The rapid growth of the Internet and Internet technologies provides a renewed opportunity for citizens to have their voices heard on a wide variety of issues, including their government, the corporations that have an increasing role in their economic security, and the unions that represent their labor interests. The Internet affords individuals the ability to exchange ideas on these and other issues with an ever-growing world community. The site includes guide for bloggers and non-profit organizations, legal perils and legal rights of Internet speakers, and Internet free speech cases.

<http://www.citizen.org/litigation/briefs/IntFreeSpch/> [HTML format, various paging].

RAND



TOWARDS A DIGITAL EUROPE, SERVING ITS CITIZENS --The EUREGOV Synthesis Report. Constantijn van Oranje-Nassau, R. Weehuizen. RAND, January 2010.

Mobility of citizens within European Member States and their participation with public authorities through access to government information and services across Europe is valuable in itself. These also support the realisation of a number of other important European policy goals, particularly that of stimulating the internal market and all its associated benefits. However, in practice many barriers to cross-border service provision and pan-European access remain. The digital provision of public services, eGovernment, can play an important role in resolving this, due to its ability to reduce the geographical constraints of service provision and to enable interoperability of different administrative and bureaucratic systems of Member States. The stimulation of the development of pan-European eGovernment Services (PEGS) are thus important objectives, and this report compiles and draws lessons from the various outputs of the EUREGOV project, which studied the development of PEGS in 2010 and beyond. In addition, it draws on parallel projects assessing the security aspects PEGS (Securegov) and the evaluation of various EU instruments to support the development of PEGS, such as the eTEN programme. In essence, the report is a comprehensive study of the phenomenon of PEGS. It provides insights into what PEGS are and how they evolve; what their impacts are on the organisation of government services and on the relations between government, citizens and businesses; how PEGS development, readiness and impact can be assessed and measured; and finally what possible policy measures could be taken to support the effective development and roll out of PEGS.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR673/

U.S. INSTITUTE OF PEACE



ONLINE DISCOURSE IN THE ARAB WORLD: DISPELLING THE MYTHS. U.S. Institute of Peace. Joel Whitaker and Anand Varghese. December 2009.

The report examines online discourse in the Arab world and emerging trends of the blogosphere. The report is based on an event held at the U.S. Institute of Peace on June 17, 2009, when researchers from Harvard University's Berkman Center for Internet & Society presented their findings from a comprehensive mapping of the Arabic-language blogosphere. The authors assess the conclusions of the groundbreaking research and their implications for policymakers and peace builders around the world.

http://www.usip.org/files/resources/arab_world_online_pb.pdf [PDF format, 13 pages].

YALE GLOBAL

CHINA AND GOOGLE: SEARCHING FOR TROUBLE PART II. YaleGlobal. Jeffrey Garten. January 21, 2010.

The China-Google tussle is about two visions of the future, according to Garten. It is about openness and globalization vs. stability and nationalism. For China, the desire is to continue to lift millions of its citizens out of poverty; if such a goal entails national stability, requiring control of the internet, so be it. To Westerners, who attach great value to the rule of law and freedom of expression this might appear backwards; but with the dented Western model, poor corporate governance, the credit crisis, and a failure at Copenhagen to adopt measures to

avert climate change, they don't have much of a moral high ground to stand on of late. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/china-and-google-searching-trouble-part-ii>

CHINA AND GOOGLE: SEARCHING FOR TROUBLE PART I. YaleGlobal. Jonathan Fenby. January 19, 2010.

Google's recent dispute with China is not just about internet censorship; it's also about China's evolving role on the world stage, according to the report. It is unlikely Beijing will allow citizens to access banned Internet sites through Google, a condition the company demanded for staying in China. There are also concerns about Internet security in general, but the larger issue will be how multinational corporations engage with a more self-confident China. From protecting intellectual property to guarding against fuzzy legal practices, Western firms may need to reassess their China policy. But this is unlikely to shake China's growing self-confidence or provoke self-reflection. [HTML format, various paging].

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/china-and-google-searching-trouble>

TERRORISM'S NEW AVATARS PART II: AL QAEDA RECRUITS TERRORISTS ON-LINE, TURNING THE DEMOCRATIC SPACE ON ITS HEAD. YaleGlobal. Gabriel Weimann. January 12, 2010.

Amid the clamor surrounding intelligence failures and opening of new fronts in counter-terrorism effort, a new link has come to light, the open space of the Internet. Conventional wisdom holds that the war in Afghanistan weakened Al Qaeda and eroded its operational efficiency. Gabriel Weimann believes this to be far from the truth. Social networking sites, online chat rooms, streaming video and many other features have made the Internet an ideal tool not only to connect disparate terrorist cells, improving operational coordination, but also to recruit new members while bolstering cohesion among current jihadists.

<http://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/terrorisms-new-avatars-part-ii>

[HTTP://WWW.ECOMMERCE-GUIDE.COM/](http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/)

AN E-COMM BUYERS' GUIDE TO CHOOSING TRUSTMARKS. By Vangie Beal. January 25, 2010

On e-commerce Web sites, giving your customers a sense of security and trust can mean the difference between a dropped shopping cart and making a sale. Today, Web shoppers are savvy — they have a better understanding of online security, and they want to know that their personal information is protected. For the honest Web shop owners, especially smaller unknown companies, this can be a problem. A study commissioned by McAfee, Inc. (conducted by Harris Interactive) revealed that nearly half of consumers have terminated an online order or abandoned their shopping cart due to security fears at check-out time. This guide is designed for e-tailers who are currently interested in partnering with a trust service. In this guide we'll discuss different types of trustmark services you can consider and what is required to enroll in the programs.

<http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/article.php/3860526>

SEVEN TIPS FOR PICKING THE BEST E-COMMERCE PROGRAM. By Kerry Watson. January 22, 2010

So one of your New Year's resolutions is to start making money from your Web site with e-commerce. How do you get there from here?

All e-commerce programs or "shopping carts" include a way to manage and display multiple products, calculate shipping and tax, and include a private "back-end" portion of the Web site where the owner can log in to manage orders. Beyond these basics, the features can vary greatly. Some are stripped-down basic programs, others are loaded with many more features than you will ever need to use.

<http://www.ecommerce-guide.com/article.php/3860166>

ARTICLES FROM U.S. JOURNALS

SOCIAL NETWORKING EXPERIMENT SHOWS EFFECTS OF MASS MOBILIZATION. By Stephen Kaufman. Department of State Staff Writer. 20 January 2010



DARPA randomly placed 10 balloons across the continental United States and challenged social networking teams to locate them.

Washington — Many people who have a wide audience in social networks such as Twitter and Facebook probably have speculated about the true power of online information, wondering what its potential can be, how fast information can travel, and how quickly large groups of people can be mobilized in support of a cause.

<http://www.america.gov/st/scitech-english/2010/January/20100120140653esnamfuak0.4658777.html>

CAN GOOGLE BEAT CHINA? Timothy B. Lee. *The New York Times*, January 15, 2010.

Censorship is not primarily about technology. Human beings are much smarter than computers, and they inevitably find ways to circumvent filters to get the content they want. Rather, the basis of effective censorship in China, like all government power, is the ability to punish people in "real life" when they do something online the government doesn't like.

Timothy B. Lee is an adjunct scholar at the Cato Institute and a member of the Center for Information Technology Policy at Princeton University.

http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=11141