

## Recent achievements of the Media and Information Society Division (Nov. 2011)

### Recent on-line publications

[http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/media/Doc/Publications\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/media/Doc/Publications_en.asp)

**Media revolution in Europe: ahead of the curve**, by Karol Jakubowicz. ISBN 978-92-871-6939-6

A collection of reports and papers on developments in the media landscape since the 90s, on the important angle of freedom of expression and of the media, by one of the most prominent specialists of the subject in Europe.



**Human Rights in the Information Society**

- **NEW : Media matters in the cultural contradictions of the « information society » - Towards a human rights-based governance** By Divina Frau-Meiggs. ISBN 978-92-871-6834-4

- Copyright and human rights

- Protecting children from harmful content

**“Living Together” spreads its coverage with 3 new language versions: Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian**

The reference tool on Council of Europe standards on the contribution of the media to harmonious living among different communities and groups in a democratic society.

**New versions by the Journalists Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina English, French, Albanian, Bulgarian (Compliment of the Bulgarian Ministry of Transports, Information Technologies and Communications), Russian, Turkish and Ukrainian.** Available in pdf version at <http://www.coe.int/media>



### Events

**EuroDIG 2011 – 30-31 May, Belgrade**

*multistakeholder dialogue on Internet governance must be further strengthened*

The fourth “European Dialogue on Internet Governance” conference, EuroDIG 2011, finished with a broad support of participants to further strengthening the multistakeholder dialogue model for Internet governance, based on the understanding that it is the only way to effectively address the challenges the Internet brings to public policy.

Over the years, EuroDIG has been recognised as the European Forum on Internet governance.

<http://www.eurodig.org>

**EuroDIG**  
The European Dialogue on Internet Governance

**The Council of Europe and IGF**

*Internet Governance - Maximising rights, minimising restrictions in cyberspace*

Rights should be maximised and restrictions minimised while protecting the Internet from disruptions, protecting human rights online and fighting cybercrime. This will be the key message of the Council of Europe at the 6th Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which the UN is organising in Nairobi from 27 to 30 September.

Access to the Internet has become a pre-condition for people’s freedom of expression and ability to assemble and participate in public life.

<http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/>



### Contact

**Media Division**  
Directorate general I - Council of Europe  
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

Tel.: +33 (0)3 88 41 35 66 –  
Fax: +33 (0)3 88 41 27 05  
E-mail: [media@coe.int](mailto:media@coe.int)  
<http://www.coe.int/media>



**Steering Committee on Media and New Communication Services latest texts adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (November 2011)**

www.coe.int/media

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www.coe.int/media

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**Pressure and attacks on new media, whistleblowers and human rights defenders websites are against freedom of expression**

The Council of Europe alerts about the risks to freedom of expression and association that may be created by politically motivated pressure on Internet platforms and online service providers. It also expressed concern about the threat to these rights caused by cyber attacks against websites of independent media, whistleblowers, human right defenders and dissidents. (CM Declaration adopted on 8 November 2011)

**10 Principles for Internet governance**

that should be upheld by Council of Europe member states when developing national and international policies related to the Internet: protection of human rights, democracy and the rule of law; multistakeholder governance; responsibility of states; empowerment of Internet users; universality; integrity; decentralised management; open standards, interoperability and end-to-end nature; open network; and cultural and linguistic diversity. (CM Declaration adopted on 23 September 2011)

**The principle of network neutrality**

The Council of Europe is committed to the principle of network neutrality and should explore the matter further with a view to providing guidance to member states and/or to facilitating the elaboration of guidelines with and for private sector actors in order to define more precisely acceptable management measures and minimum quality-of-service requirements. (CM Declaration adopted on 29 September 2010)

**Measures to promote respect of article 10 of the European Convention of Human Rights**

Genuine democracy and democratic processes require freedom of expression and information, including freedom of the media. When those freedoms are not upheld, accountability is likely to be undermined and the rule of law can also be compromised. Council of Europe member states have undertaken to secure to everyone within their jurisdiction the fundamental right to freedom of expression and information, in accordance with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights. (CM Declaration adopted on 13 January 2010)

**Children on Internet – protection and participation**

Public-private partnerships are encouraged to

- create and facilitate confidence building environments for children on the internet;
- create a HR based pan-European trust mark for new and existing online content labelling systems,
- improve children's Internet literacy through those actors which play a key role in children's lives

(CM/Rec(2009)5 - 8 July 2009)

**Internet filters - freedom of expression and information**

The use of Internet filters has to strike a balance between freedom of expression and information and the protection of children against harmful content on the Internet. (CM/Rec(2008)6 – 26 March 2008)

**International cooperation to face disruptions to the Internet**

The Council of Europe the Committee laid out a framework of co-operation for member states with a view to preserve a global, stable and open Internet as a means of safeguarding freedom of expression and access to information. (Recommendation CM Rec(2011)8 – 23 September 2011)

**A new notion of medias**

States should adopt a new broad notion of media and acknowledge that social networks, online games or online whistleblower sites are entitled to media freedom rights and responsibilities. (Recommendation CM Rec(2011)7– 23 September 2011)

**Freedom of expression fully applies to domain names**

The Council of Europe states that the right to freedom of expression is fully applicable to domain names and strings. This is particularly important in view of the extension of the domain name space to include generic names in 2012. (CM Declaration adopted on 23 September 2011)

**Digital Agenda for Europe**

The Council of Europe welcomes the Granada Ministerial Declaration and the Digital Agenda for Europe and invites the European Union to co-operate with the Council of Europe in this field, emphasising that the Council of Europe values are essential in the building of an inclusive and open pan-European digital society. (CM Declaration adopted on 29 September 2010)

**The Internet protocol address resources: shared public resources**

The Council of Europe considers that the Internet protocol address resources should be regarded as shared public resources and allocated and managed in the public interest by the entities entrusted with these tasks taking into account the present and future needs of Internet users. (CM Declaration adopted on 29 September 2010)

**Council of Europe to be an observer at ICANN's governmental advisory body**

Internet and other information and communication technologies serve to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms and therefore have high public service value. Enabling access to and use of the Internet, as well as ensuring their protection, should be high priorities for member states' policies for Internet governance. (CM Declaration adopted on 26 May 2010)