Agenda

Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa 2019

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | 23 - 26 September

#FIFAfrica19 | #InternetFreedomAfrica
Pre-Sessions

Africa Internet Rights Alliance (AIRA) meeting (CLOSED)
Digital Security Training Workshop (CLOSED)
DefendDefenders | AccessNow | Code4Africa

Internet Freedom and the Universal Periodic Review (UPRoar) - Small Media | CIPESA (INVITE ONLY)
Non-Legal Interventions Around Misinformation, Disinformation and Hate Speech Online in Ethiopia (INVITE ONLY) - Internews

Localisation Sprint - Localization Lab

**Lunch**

Africa Internet Rights Alliance (AIRA) meeting (CLOSED)
Digital Security Training Workshop (CLOSED)
DefendDefenders | AccessNow | Code4Africa

Non-Legal Interventions Around Misinformation, Disinformation and Hate Speech Online in Ethiopia (INVITE ONLY) - Internews

Internet Freedom and the Universal Periodic Review (UPRoar) - Small Media | CIPESA (INVITE ONLY)

Africa Internet Rights Alliance (AIRA) meeting (CLOSED)
Internet Freedom and the Universal Periodic Review (UPRoar) - Small Media | CIPESA (INVITE ONLY)

Digital Rights Research Methods Workshop and Internet Measurement Lab | CIPESA | University of Essex | Netblocks | International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)

Ethiopia Bloggers Forum
UNESCO | Access Now | CIPESA

Digital Rights Research Methods Workshop
UNESCO | Access Now | CIPESA

**Lunch**

Africa Internet Rights Alliance (AIRA) meeting (CLOSED)
Digital Security Training Workshop (CLOSED)
DefendDefenders | AccessNow | Code4Africa

Internet Freedom and the Universal Periodic Review (UPRoar) - Small Media | CIPESA (INVITE ONLY)

Building an Enabling Environment for Inclusive Digital Transformation in Africa
Centre for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)

Ethiopia Bloggers Association Workshop
UNESCO | Access Now | CIPESA

Digital Rights Research Methods Workshop
UNESCO | Access Now | CIPESA

| Internet Measurement Lab | CIPESA | University of Essex | Netblocks | International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)
# Main Events

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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| 7:00-9:00| **Donors Breakfast Meeting** *(CLOSED)*  
Conference room 1                                                                 |
| 9:00-9:30| Welcome and Opening remarks  
H.E Dr. Getahun Mekuria, Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MINT), Ethiopia |
| 9:30-11:00| Opening Panel  
H.E Dr. Getahun Mekuria, Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MINT), Ethiopia  
| 11:00-11:30| Tea break                                                                                   |
| 11:30-13:00| End of Politeness: African Feminist Movements and Digital Voice  
Nana Akosua Hanson, Drama Queens Ghana  
Beatrice Mateyo, Coalition for the Empowerment of Women and Girls (CEWAG), Malawi  
Selam Mussie, Media and Communications Consultant, Ethiopia  
Lugain Mahmoud, Fifty (Women Representation) Campaign, Sudan  
**Moderator: Rosebell Kagumire, AfricanFeminism.com** |
| 14:00-15:30| Digital Rights in Revolution and Beyond: Stories from Sudan  
Telecom Privatisation: Lessons for Ethiopia  
Evolution of Censorship  
Hub Cities: Emergency Measures, Protection Mechanisms and Relocation for Activists  
**Moderator: Paul Kimumwe, CIPESA** |
| 16:00-17:30| Promoting Digital Rights in Challenging Environments: Cases from Francophone Africa  
Dr. Qemal Affagnon, Internet Sans Frontiers  
| 18:00-19:30| Cocktail                                                                                     |

**Wednesday, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
**Lightning Talks**

**Creating the First Hate Speech Database in Africa to Preserve Freedom of Expression**
Julie Owono

**Internet For Mass Mobilisation**
Demba Kande

**A Tale of Two Prime Ministers: Internet Shutdowns in Ethiopia**
Yohannes Eneyew Ayalew

**Mobilisation in Exile: Collective Identity and Digital Public**
Sarah Creta

**Advocating for Universal Internet Access and Free Public Access in South Africa**
Izak Minaar

**Social Media Strengthening Democratic space - Gambia Experience**
Aji Rohey Bah

**Cyber-Anarchaziation of the Internet in Uganda and Tanzania**
Moses Owiny

**Data Tracking on Digital New: The Prevalence of 3rd Party Tracking on Independent News Website and the Threat to Reader Privacy**
Dr. Daniel O'Maley

**Women's Digital Leadership**

**Disrupting Development: How Internet Shutdowns Impede the Sustainable Development Goals**
Zama Ndege Godden, Blacked Out | Alp Toker, NetBlocks | Berhan Taye, AccessNow | UNECA

**Moderator: Peace Oliver Amuge, Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)**

**Model Laws or a Checklist for Democratic Internet Laws in Africa**

**Moderator: Koliwe Majama, Africa Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms (AfDec) Coordinator**

**Headline Clinic: Remedies for Your Digital Rights Headline Headaches**
Amanda Lichtenstein and Nwachukwu Egbunike, Global Voices

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**Tea break**

**Election Security and Democracy**

**Does Africa Need New Norms to Protect Association and Assembly Rights in the Digital Age?**
Dr. Daniel O’Maley, Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA) | Edet Ojo, Media Rights Agenda | Afef Abrougui, Ranking Digital Rights | Hlengiwe Dube, University of Pretoria

**Moderator: Irene Petras, ICNL**

**Addressing Fundraising Challenges for Internet Freedom Initiatives**
Ford Foundation and Open Society Foundations (OSF)

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**Bilateral meeting - Kenya ICT Committee and Ethiopia Office of the Prime Minister (CLOSED)**

**Lunch**
14.00-15:30

**Navigating Hate Speech, False and Misleading Information**

**Building an Enabling Environment for Inclusive Digital Transformation in Africa**
Myriam Said, Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MINT) | Peter Mwencha, Africa eTrade Group | Grace Githaiga, KICTANet | CIPESA | **Moderator: Lousia Tomar, CIPE**

**Network for Digital Rights in Ethiopia**
Internet Society

**Africa Digital Transformation Strategy Consultation**
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

15:30-16:30

**Closing Panel and remarks**
Trends in Internet Freedom in Africa: 1999 - 2019
Hon. Mark Nyamita, Member of Parliament, Kenya | Julie Owono, Internet Sans Frontiers (ISF) | H.E Dr. Getahun Mekuria | **Moderator: Lillian Nalwoga, CIPESA**

16:30-17:30

Networking
End of Politeness: African Feminist Movements and Digital Voice

Access to the internet has connected young Africans in ways that were not possible before. Also on these platforms Africans have been able to challenge long notions of what should and shouldn’t be. It’s no surprise that African young women are using these platforms to exert pressures on societies where they were often preferably unheard. The current pan-African feminism movement is thriving on access to technologies that earlier generations didn’t have, to advance women’s right to self expression in many new ways. This session will bring experiences and lessons across the continent to look into how feminist movements are being defined and the online backlash that many young women have to face in order to make themselves heard. African internet freedom mimics freedoms offline. Fewer women accessing resources means fewer women on line and often their voices can be drowned or not supported. This session will show trends of how African feminist online communities are pushing for greater freedoms beyond women’s rights to encompass rights of minorities like LGBTI as well as support radical expression like that of Dr Stella Nyanzi. Most of the participants already are writers for AFRICANFEMINISM.COM so they well versed with greater freedom of expression discourse.

Biometric Surveillance: Emerging Trends and Practices in the Use, Capability and Response to Facial Recognition Technology

Are we at a crossroads in the governance of facial recognition technology and human rights? In recent years, there have been a series of emerging trends and practices in the use, capability and response to facial recognition technology in Europe. Increasingly, similar movements are being made in Africa albeit shrouded with concerns on the ethical use of such data, particularly against state critics.

The growing prominence of facial matching technology globally, has been accompanied with controversy. While original public uses of this technology can be traced back over decades, technological advances in the form of image analysis and algorithmic processing have generated shifts in the capability of facial recognition. The session will include a presentation on the growth of these technologies use and human rights challenges associated with it in different parts of the world.

Ethiopia Computer Crimes Proclamation

One of the decisive actions that the reformist Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia took just after he acquired power is to revise repressive laws that the former regime have put in place over the years. One of the laws that have been considered for revision is the Ethiopian Computer Crimes Proclamation of 2016. This session will discuss the progress so far and what needs to be done so that the revised proclamation responds to the aspiration of the Ethiopian people.

Centre for Digital Resilience Helpdesk Demo

This skills workshop will focus on a live demo of CDR’s (Center for Digital Resilience) secure, open-source incident response and information sharing platform, Link. The platform enables the easy reporting and sharing of threats and solutions and facilitates connections. This technology stack is built on the open-source Zammad helpdesk platform and is customizable. It allows individuals to contact, ask for help, recommendations and resources through several different modes of communication (Telegram, Signal, WhatsApp, email, Twitter). Come learn about CDR Link and it’s offerings. Hear stories on how Link has been built and adapted to fit various use cases, and find out how you can tailor the technology for you and your community.

Digital Rights in Revolution and Beyond: Stories from Sudan

Leaders at the forefront of the pro-democracy uprising in Sudan will discuss the digital tools and tactics used to achieve their goals as well as new strategies deployed by the government to restrict access to the internet. The session will include an exploration of what the future of digital rights should look like in Sudan. It will be complemented with an open conversation exploring ideas and lessons from other regions in Africa and the global community that could support this historical moment in Sudan.
Agenda FIFAfrica19

Hub cities: Emergency Measures, Protection Mechanisms and Relocation for Activists

What happens to human rights defenders when they are at their most vulnerable - when their physical safety is threatened alongside their online safety? Where should they go? Who should help? The Ubuntu Hub Cities is an initiative trying to address this problem. It is a city-based relocation initiative for human rights defenders (HRDs) at risk across Africa. It provides an avenue for HRDs who have been subject to threats, violence, highly stressful and dangerous environments and extreme pressure as a consequence of their human rights work to temporarily relocate.

The initiative aims to ensure the physical and mental well-being of HRDs during their relocation period, while enabling them to continue their work. Through diverse partnerships across the continent, the project also provides an opportunity for HRDs at risk to learn and share experiences in their host countries and/or communities and return home with enhanced capacities to protect and promote human rights.

Evolution of Censorship

What path have patterns of censorship taken? What lessons can be learnt from different parts of the world to support a proactive pushback against censorship? This session looks at how censorship has evolved over the years including the patterns it has followed. In early 2019, there was an escalation of censorship in Turkmenistan which reinforced a pattern of how governments deploy technical censorship mechanisms and how they might continue to do so. The team from Jigsaw will use the Turkmenistan case as the basis of a discussion on where various African contexts might fall on this censorship narrative. The discussion will also include demonstrations of potential measurement and circumvention tools that would be helpful in proactively countering the censorship evolution in African contexts.

Fact checking Disinformation and Digital / Human rights abuse Investigations: An introduction to Open Source Investigations

Are you interested in learning how the web and social media networks can be used as data sources? Do you want to take your investigative journalism, blogging or research to another level? Join this session which will give an insightful and hands-on experience on the available tools and publicly available data readily available online that can help you perform open source investigations and support the push back against misinformation and affronts to human rights online and offline.

Technology and Disability

While technology has advanced and served to create avenues of inclusion, for some, especially persons with disabilities and those in rural areas, it has widened the extent to which they are excluded from the social and economic potential of the digital society. There are several factors, including; a non-conducive legal and policy environment, poor investments in telecommunication infrastructure that supports ICT access for persons with disability and the lack of access to the required assistive technologies – screen readers, screen magnifiers, braile.

Refugees and Digital Rights

Today, more than 65 million people are living as refugees or are internally displaced, uprooted from their homes in search of safety, and often struggling to access the basic means of survival. Further, millions in the refugee community across the world are also living without the connectivity they need to seek vital information, communicate, access basic services and to link to the local, national and global communities around them. The locations in which they live frequently lack digital networks and infrastructure, or have expensive connectivity costs. Thus, as the digital revolution transforms the world, refugees are left behind.

This session will explore refugee digital rights through the lens of access, affordability, data privacy and inclusion in the digital society.
Freedom of expression online and cyber security are increasingly under threat on the continent. Across the continent, governments are adopting various tactics to stifle human rights online ranging from overt internet shutdowns to blocking websites and criminalizing content shared online. These measures have led to increased self censorship and created increasingly difficult environments for the operations of activists and human rights defenders both online and off. In this multi lingual (English and French) session, digital rights advocates working in Francophone African countries will discuss their advocacy work, the challenges they have faced and the lessons they've learned with the goal of defining steps on how to mitigate the increasing affronts faced and in building the community advancing digital rights in these countries.

The issue of free and fair elections has dominated the global agenda over the past years. Consequently, security of the electoral systems and countering mass-scale disinformation campaigns have become a key challenge for governments, private sector and civil society organisations. While many of the policies and solutions adopted to date have aimed to address the problem primarily through regulation of online platforms, the possible contribution that cyber related diplomacy can make to this discussion has remained largely unexplored. For instance, the call for an open and free cyberspace and the protection of human rights online is one of the aspects where potential overlaps. What are the overlapping or conflicting issues in the discussion about election security and cyber diplomacy? How can the overall goals behind cyber diplomacy contribute free and fair elections?

As the scope of digital innovation expands around the globe, so must national and regional policies and regulations to facilitate greater competitiveness and inclusiveness while respecting online freedom and digital rights of consumers. However, how can the digital economy advance shared prosperity in Africa?

This session is a platform for the multistakeholder FIFAFrica19 audience to engage in discussions regarding regional opportunities on digital policy topics key for economic and entrepreneurial development including data flows and data privacy, eCommerce and eTrade, the future of work, cybersecurity, and opportunities for democratizing digitally driven growth in the region.

This session is an exploration of the strategies that have been employed for policy formulation and reform on the continent in order to access a more effective strategy. The African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms (AfDec) is a Pan-African initiative to promote human rights standards and principles of openness in internet policy formulation and implementation on the continent. Over the past years, there has been significant policy advocacy work on the continent in pursuit of democratic laws that affect or influence use and access to the internet.

In Ethiopia, digital rights have been abused by both state and non-state actors. As a result, the digital space is an uncertain space for citizens and affects economic and social opportunities. The Network for Digital Rights in Ethiopia (NDRE) is a group of volunteer individuals and organizations that is trying to address this situation. The session will introduce NDRE followed by a panel discussion on the question: “Digital Rights in Ethiopia – Is it a priority?”
The African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (the Commission) embraces the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly in the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights. However, how are these rights realised?

This panel will consider the extent to which existing African human rights standards apply to digital space and to what extent there is a need to articulate new or expanded standards to protect the exercise of fundamental freedoms in the digital space. Panelists will share experiences of protection standards that exist or are under development in other regions, and through multilateral institutions which might offer some ideas on how to effectively address the identified challenges and discuss what further action African civil society can take to develop or strengthen digital rights norms for the Continent.

Secure your online experience at the Digital Security Hub with experts from Access Now, DefendDefenders, Digital Security Alliance (DSA), Defenders Protection Initiative and Greenhost
Photographic Exhibition
“If I were free.
If we were free…”
Exhibition Summary

For a long time, African narrative was told by many but her own, with a gaze that was informed by different cultures, lived experiences, attitudes and interpretations which often were not a true reflection of her people, places, sights, tastes and sounds. With the digital society, there lies an opportunity to broaden the efforts aimed at promoting African narrative through an African lens.

While we still face network disruptions, self censorship, affronts to freedom of assembly and association offline and online, exclusion of marginalised and vulnerable communities such as women, youth and persons with disabilities (PWDs) there remains a deep seated spirit to rise above this all and take a stance for freedom of expression.

In this photographic exhibition curated by Afrophia Magazine Editor-in-Chief, Nobantu Modise, talents from across the continent and the diaspora explore the topic of freedom through photography and graphic art. It features a montage of a range of reflections on our current condition including colourful, optimistic forecasts on what is believed to be a life that is well within our reach including through the intersection of technology and the offline lived experience. It aims to display the varying perspectives held by Africa’s youth on the future of internet access and use.

It is hoped that as you view this exhibition, you will question how much more of Africa’s rich narrative remains unseen, untold, undocumented, with some gems fading away as time passes. More importantly, it is hoped that you will question what role you can play in advancing a free, fair and open internet where the freedoms declared by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are guaranteed.

Afrophilia is a digital Pan-African magazine that has a vested interest in seeing this beautiful continent fulfill its potential. Thus, it is dedicated to exploring and sharing all there is to love about Africa. From travel and lifestyle to business, tech and Pan-African development.

We look forward to meeting you at the exhibition hall.
- www.afrophilia.com

Exhibitors
Small Media and Together!
Jigsaw
Cyrilla Collaborative
Netblocks
Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)
Open Internet Principles
Localization Lab
Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF)
Safe Sisters
Internet Society
Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MINT), Ethiopia
Evolution of the Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa

Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)

The Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa (FIFAfrica) is an initiative of the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)

2018
Host Country: Ghana
Co-host: Media Foundation for West Africa

- Participants: 280
- Countries represented: 47
- Days: 6
- Panel sessions: 18

Topics Covered
- Many African Governments Hate the Free Internet - And That Is A Very Good Thing
- Advancing, Advocacy and Research on Gender-Based Violence Online in Africa
- Experiences of Censorship, Repression and Surveillance
- Big Data to Open Data
- Key Ingredients for Civic Technology and Social Innovation
- The Social and Economic Costs of Social Media Taxes
- What’s the Future of The Unconnected?
- Trends in Online Regulation
- Securing At-Risk Online Users: Experiences From the Frontlines
- The Impact of Shrinking Civic Space
- ICT-Based Initiatives for Democratization
- (Re)setting Online Narrative on Africa
- Cybercrime in Africa: Policies and Legislation
- Consumer Rights Protection in the Digital Age
- Last With the Story, First With the Truth: Media Navigating Fake Facts and Hidden Truths
- Online
- Privacy and Personal Data Protection in Africa: Trends and Challenges
- Advancing Access To Information through Internet Universality Indicators
- Securing Online Rights Through the African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms’ Network
- Protecting Free Speech And Online Dissent
- Data-Driven Advocacy Against Shutdowns in Africa
- More
- Lightning Sessions including Sexting and Selfies, Reimagining Social Norms on the Internet, Customer Service at WhatCost?
- Lightning Against Social Media
- Taxation in Uganda
- Case Study: Code for Online Press
- Informal session: Chat with Freedom Online Coalition representatives
- XB clinics ( Our Internet: My Rights, Shutdown stories, Researching Internet Freedom in Africa, Digital Defenders Partnership Cost Of Shutdown Tools (COST)
- Media Foundation for West Africa, Centre for Digital Resilience, Center for International Private Enterprise
- Reports launched

2017
Host Country: South Africa
Co-host: Association for Progressive Communication (APC)

- Participants: 250
- Countries represented: 35
- Days: 4
- Panel sessions: 21

Topics Covered
- Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cameroon, Chad, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Hungary, India, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Switzerland, Sweden, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom (UK), United States of America (USA), Zambia and Zimbabwe
- More

2016
Host Country: Uganda

- Participants: 240
- Countries represented: 24
- Days: 3
- Panel sessions: 13

Topics Covered
- Transparency and accountability of intermediaries, internet shutdowns, human rights in connectivity, using tech to defend the defenders, creative social tech and commentary, clickbait journalism, African frameworks on internet freedom, using data to track rights, online violence against women, researching internet rights, cost of shutdowns, cybersecurity strategies
- More
2015 Host Country: Uganda

19 Countries represented
Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe

2 Days

13 Panel sessions

Topics Covered
Violence against women online, cybercrime, net neutrality, media freedom, access to information, digital safety, freedom of expression online, creative expression, the economics of the Internet

More

- Commemoration of 10 years of Access to Information Law in Uganda
- Award of the most responsive public body

2014 Host Country: Uganda

80 Participants

6 Countries represented
Burundi, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Uganda

1 Day

4 Panel sessions

Topics Covered
Digital security and privacy, media and online safety, development of regional internet freedom strategies

More

- Commemoration of International Day for Universal Access to Information
- Digital security clinics
- Internet Policy Training for journalists and human rights defenders

Reports launched
State of Internet Freedoms in Africa 2017
Intermediaries’ Role in Advancing Internet Freedom: Challenges and Prospects
Calculating The Economic Impact of Internet Disruptions In Sub-Saharan Africa

State of Internet Freedoms in East Africa 2014
An Investigation Into The Policies And Practices Defining Internet Freedom in East Africa

State of Internet Freedoms in East Africa 2015
Survey on Access, Privacy and Security Online

State of Internet Freedoms in Africa 2016
Case Studies from Select Countries on Strategies African Governments Use to Stifle Citizens’ Digital Rights