



ARTICLE 19

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Internet of Rights Fellowship

Digital Programme

The Internet is shaping our societies—but who is shaping the development of the Internet? And what standards should this development be based on?

The Internet of Rights Fellowship Program aims to facilitate stronger considerations for human rights within Internet governance processes and to shape the human rights agenda for the Internet. Currently, there is little diversity among participants in Internet governance processes, resulting in approaches to policymaking that are not open or inclusive. ARTICLE 19 seeks to effectively promote and protect key democratic values and increase the diversity of engagement within Internet governance forums, so that there is a greater pluralism of voices within these spaces that especially includes those that have been underrepresented until now.

Over the course of this program, Fellows will be introduced to the technical and policy discussions across the Internet governance landscape, and will be trained to meaningfully develop human rights considerations within these discussions. As a result, Fellows will be well-equipped to continue developing a robust approach to human rights within these technical communities beyond the life of the program.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Are you someone who is passionate about ensuring human rights online? Are you interested in learning more about human rights and its application to Internet governance and standards development? Do you believe that the Internet should function as a free and open civic space? If so, we want you to work with us on fostering digital freedom at the infrastructural level of the Internet.

We expect that our Fellows will possess strong technical proficiency, and competitive applicants will demonstrate a facility with some of the issues currently under discussion and debate within Internet governance forums such as ICANN, the IETF, the IEEE, and the ITU. However, eligibility for the Fellowship isn't contingent on a minimum education level or professional level, nor do we require applicants to already possess professional experience in human rights or the civil society sector. We are looking for a diversity of perspectives and experiences.

We will select Fellows based on an assessment of the following three principles:

- Fellows should have technical competence, which may include knowledge and experience in computer networking and protocols, systems design and architecture, and Internet protocol development.

Alternatively, Fellows should demonstrate previous technology social or legal policy experience, alongside a capacity to understand and apply abstract technical concepts.

- Fellows should be new entrants to the Internet governance landscape. Though Fellows may possess some pre-existing familiarity with Internet governance forums and processes, they should nevertheless have had little experience attending physical forum conferences or meetings in the past. This Fellowship is designed to be a learning experience.
- Fellows should demonstrate a clear commitment to protect and promote human rights and Internet freedom. Particularly, this commitment should be evident in the Fellows' plans beyond the program.

THE FELLOWSHIP

Fellows must be committed to working with ARTICLE 19 for one year, from May 2017 to May 2018, with the possibility of extension to a maximum of two years. Fellows are expected to commit to an average of eight hours per week engaging in forum-specific discussions, participating in working groups, and completing optional projects; additionally, Fellows will be expected to participate in three Internet governance forum meetings over the course of the year. The program will be conducted entirely in English, and Fellows must have written and spoken proficiency in the language.

During the program, Fellows will have the opportunity to produce a varied and rich body of work. We will strongly encourage the Fellows to develop a community that is supportive of individual endeavours contributing to the body of knowledge in these areas. Some of the projects Fellows may wish to take on may include, but are not limited to:

- Contributing to existing IETF Internet Drafts and introducing new Internet Drafts.
- Conducting research and publishing research papers on the findings.
- Preparing policy papers and briefs.
- Developing human rights impact assessment models.
- Creating an interactive online tool to track Internet governance processes and policy development

The Fellowship program is designed to be flexible and dynamic, and we encourage Fellows to be innovative and creative in their approach. We will work closely with our Fellows in order to develop a schedule and work program that is highly particularized, based on each individual's interests, forum focus, skills and experience, and pre-existing time commitments. This structure will be clearly delineated for each Fellow at the start of the program. All participation in forum meetings and conferences as part of this program will be supported through a travel and accommodation stipend.

The Fellowship itself is divided into two mutually-reinforcing courses: the Strands of Engagement, or the specialized tracks from which each Fellow will choose to focus the scope of their work over the year; and the Educational Program that will provide Fellows with a stronger foundation in Internet governance through workshops, webinars, skills-based trainings, and syllabi.

I. Strands of Engagement

We have identified the following technical, social policy, and legal policy tracks that we envision our Fellows taking over the course of the program—we've termed these tracks "Strands of Engagement", which follow particular technical policy areas. However, this is not an exhaustive list; if they so choose, we encourage prospective Fellows

to propose their own tracks, in consultation with the Digital Programme, given that they adhere to the objectives, outcomes, and parameters of the program.

Security and Privacy: The “Security and Privacy” Strand of Engagement is divided into the following two sub-tracks, from which interested Fellows may specialize in one.

A. **Security and Privacy | Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF):** This is a technical track on which Security and Privacy Fellows will work primarily on the development and adoption of several authentication and cryptographic protocols within the IETF that strengthen security and privacy in Internet communication.

Specifically, these Security and Privacy Fellows will focus on contributing to IETF Working Groups that specialize in the refinement and deployment of the following protocols:

- Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC)
- DNS-Based Authentication of Named Entities (DANE)
- Domain-Based Message Authentication, Reporting & Conformance (DMARC)
- Transport Layer Security (TLS) version 1.3

In addition, Fellows will contribute to IETF working groups of protocols that are currently suffering from fundamental security vulnerabilities that threaten privacy and free expression, for example:

- Border Gate Protocol (BGP), a routing protocol

Fellows will also work within ICANN on monitoring and researching deployment of DNSSEC among registries and registrars. Fellows will also follow the efforts of the DNSSEC Key Signing Key Rollover that is currently underway within ICANN to ensure that signed domain names continue to be validated.

B. **Security and Privacy | The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers:** This is a technical track on which Security and Privacy Fellows will contribute to the ongoing work within the IEEE to address the current structural vulnerabilities that threaten the privacy of public Wi-Fi access point users. These Security and Privacy Fellows will participate in the 802.11 standards working group on wireless local area networks. The specifications developed within the IEEE, which comprise the 802.11 standard, are the ones primarily applied in wireless network technologies that provide Wi-Fi access.

Current vulnerabilities in Wi-Fi security protocols establish a clear need for further strengthening the security and privacy dimensions of the Wi-Fi standard. However, there is currently little attention focused on these issues within the 802.11 working group. The Fellows will therefore work within the group to facilitate this discussion in order to incorporate greater privacy and security considerations in the future development of Wi-Fi.

Censorship | the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF): This is a technical and policy development track on which Fellows will participate within the IETF in order to address the following question: what can be done to ensure that IETF protocols are more resistant to censorship practices? Censorship Fellows will build on pre-existing work introduced by the Network Working Group on cataloguing worldwide censorship techniques by surveying established IETF standards as well as Internet-Drafts that are currently in development. Fellows may then proceed to work on one of two levels, depending on expertise and interest:

- Develop Internet-Drafts that introduce technical solutions to specific problems identified in the survey.
- Develop policy frameworks or technical methodologies that would allow IETF community members to conduct tests and standardized assessments of how resistant proposed and established protocols are to exploitation by regimes of censorship.

Algorithms | The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE): This is a legal policy development track on which Fellows will contribute primarily to the ongoing work of the IEEE to specifically address how algorithmic decision-making should be approached under international human rights law. Where applicable, Algorithms Fellows will also participate in select IETF working groups.

Specifically, Fellows will focus on contributing to the ongoing development of the first document published by the IEEE Global Initiative for Ethical Considerations in Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems: *A Vision for Prioritizing Human Wellbeing with Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems* (EAD).

Algorithms Fellows may supplement their work in the IEEE through some engagement within the IETF, specifically focusing on the active I-Ds that were initially developed by the now-concluded Software Defined Networking research group. Fellows will analyse these I-Ds in order to assess the human rights impacts of these potential protocols.

Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA): The “HRIA” Strand of Engagement is divided into the following two policy development sub-tracks, of which interested Fellows may specialize in one. On both sub-tracks, Fellows will implement the 2011 UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by developing HRIA frameworks that are designed to identify the adverse impacts of the policies and practices of the IETF and ICANN on human rights through approaches that are founded on international human rights legal standards and that specifically recognize the considerations of rights holders.

A. **Human Rights Impact Assessment** | The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF): HRIA Fellows will work towards developing an HRIA model that is well-adapted to the structure and mandate of the IETF. In doing so, Fellows will propose processes that consider the Internet standards and protocols that are developed within the body as well as the internal policies and practices that govern the IETF community. This work will not necessarily require participation in particular working groups within the IETF; rather, Fellows will develop a research program that will sample data from across the forum through collection methods such as surveys or interviews.

B. **Human Rights Impact Assessment** | Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN): HRIA Fellows will participate in Cross Community Working Party on ICANN’s Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights and, more specifically, in the Work Stream 2 Subgroup on Human Rights in order to facilitate the incremental progression towards the widespread implementation of a human rights impact assessment process within ICANN. Over the course of the program, Fellows will contribute to research on the human rights impacts of the new policy development processes of other ICANN working groups. Fellows will also participate in the work that must follow the initial consensus on the proposed Framework of Interpretation for the new human rights ICANN Bylaw.

Access | The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU): This is a technical and policy development track on which Fellows will engage in processes both in the IETF and in the ITU—however, Fellows will focus their work within the ITU in either the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) or the Development Sector (ITU-D), depending on their skills and interests.

Within the IETF, Fellows will work in the Global Access to the Internet for All (GAIA), which is an initiative that aims to raise awareness among technical communities on the socio-economic barriers to digital inclusion, as well as ongoing research projects that document Internet infrastructural deployment and costs incurred in order to access the Internet.

Fellows will work within either the ITU-R or the ITU-D on spectrum allocation and management. Specifically, in the ITU-R, Fellows will monitor and contribute to the technical developments ongoing in Study Group 1 (ITU-R SG1). In addition, Fellows will track the allocation of spectrum frequencies across Member States, as well as the policies that govern this process, to ensure that this distribution is equitable and has not been captured by the interests of select Member States. The ITU-D presents more policy-driven opportunities to address inefficient spectrum management within states themselves. Fellows within the ITU-D will monitor and contribute to the research ongoing in Study Group 1 (ITU-D SG1), which includes refining and innovating new optimization strategies for spectrum management.

II. Educational Program

The Strands of Engagement that Fellows will be following over the course of the program necessitate robust engagement within specific Internet governance forums and processes. However, these forums represent long-standing communities, and although they may be welcoming to new entrants, it may be nevertheless overwhelming for a newcomer to meaningfully engage in these spaces at first. In response ARTICLE 19 will support its Fellows by providing a range of learning opportunities over the course of the program, including:

- An introductory workshop, presenting an overview of Internet governance as well as primers on key Internet governance forums.
- Webinars that will present on themes including the historical framework of the Internet, negotiating in Internet governance spaces.
- A syllabus of foundational reading on Internet governance, including theoretical texts, research papers, and blog posts.

WHO ARE WE?

At ARTICLE 19, we firmly believe that human rights should be fundamental considerations at the infrastructural level of the Internet. As such, we work to bridge the current knowledge gap that exists within its technical and standard-setting bodies, defending the inclusion of human rights considerations within the global Internet governance ecosystem that includes states, the private sector, and individuals. By actively participating within the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and Internet Research Task Force (IRTF), the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), we aim to build a strong enabling environment for sustaining Internet freedoms globally.

ARTICLE 19 is an independent, international non-profit organization that has been dedicated to the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and access to information as a fundamental human right for 30 years. ARTICLE 19's Digital Programme is a dynamic team that works around the world. Over the past five years, we have built a wealth of experience defending digital rights at the local, regional, and international levels.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested applicants should submit:

- A curriculum vitae.
- A two-page proposal. The first page should present the case for why the applicant should be selected as a Fellow; this includes an assessment of the applicant's skills, qualifications, experiences, and thoughts on how they plan to use this fellowship experience in future endeavours. The second page should present which Strand of Engagement (see above) the applicant wishes to work on during the fellowship; this

explanation should include why and, in doing so, explicate a particular policy or protocol that they would be interested in working on within the selected Strand and how they would elect to approach the issue over the course of the program. The applicant should be careful to demonstrate technical understanding of these issues.

- The contact information of two references.

Please send this all as ONE PDF DOCUMENT to fellowship@article19.org

The deadline for applications is Friday, March 17. Selected applicants will be invited to participate in a technical evaluation round, after which there will be an opportunity to interview. Candidates that are from Eurasia and the Global South are especially encouraged to apply. We also very much welcome non-male candidates as this is an equal opportunity fellowship. Please note that this is not a salaried position; however, a generous stipend for all travel, attendance, and participation in Fellowship workshops and Internet governance forum meetings and conferences will be provided. Apart from participation at forum meetings and conferences, Fellows will work remotely.