AGENDA
18:00  Welcome Reception

19:00  **Interactive Session:** INTERFACE: POLITICS BETWEEN THE VIRTUAL AND THE REAL

Major foreign policy decisions are today communicated through a single tweet and Instagram Live has become a legitimate platform for engaging political constituencies. This has become a new normal in politics, and the feedback loops between the virtual and the real are now more dense than ever before. Technology will not only change how we communicate as individuals but also how states conduct diplomacy, business and war. How are events in the virtual world influencing politics? How should leaders from government, business and civil society navigate this new normal?

Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)

Abhinandan Sekhri, Co-founder, Newslaundry

Shazia Ilmi, Spokesperson, Bharatiya Janata Party

André-Michel Essoungou, Political Affairs Officer, United Nations

Ambassador Amandeep Gill, UN Secretary General’s High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation

Maha Aziz, Professor, International Relations Program, New York University

20:00  Dinner
9:00  CONFERENCE OPENING

Ilyas El-Omari, President, Regional Council of Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma
Moulay Hafid Elalamy, Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy, Morocco
Sunjoy Joshi, Chairperson, Observer Research Foundation
Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation

10:00  Keynote

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Former President of the Government of Spain; Member of the World Leadership Alliance - Club de Madrid (WLA-CdM)

10:30  TRUST IN TECH

Decades of unbridled optimism about the transformative impact of technology has given way to a growing pushback against technologies and social-media platforms. How can tech giants address this growing trust deficit? What role can governments play in shaping the future of technologies? Do we need new frameworks to address the paradigm shift that is resulting from technological transformation?

Ali Aslan, TV Presenter (Moderator)
Arvind Gupta, CEO, MyGov.in
Melissa Lo, COO, Roboterra
Ali Seddiki, Managing Director in Charge of Industry, Ministry of Industry, investment, Trade and Digital Economy, Morocco
Charity Wayua, Research Manager, IBM Africa
Sunjoy Joshi, Chairperson, Observer Research Foundation

11:30  Break

11:45  COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Technology platforms are now the world’s public sphere. The velocity and scale of information flows have aided political freedoms as much as they have enabled malicious narratives. The algorithmic curation of content by technology platforms has only exacerbated the challenge. What solutions should platforms adopt to prevent the dissemination of violent content? How should governments and international organisations cooperate
with technology platforms? What best practices should families, educators, faith leaders, and other community stakeholders adopt to build resilient societies?

Regina Mihindukulasuriya, Journalist, The Print (Moderator)

Mariam Wardak, Her Afghanistan
Franz Josef Berger, Manager, Moonshot CVE
David Scharia, Head of Mission, UN Security Council Counterterrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UNCTED)
Latifa Akharbach, President of HACA and Vice President-in-Office of Network of African Instances of Communication Regulation

12:45

**Speedtalk**

**ENCODING ETHICS:** Wendell Wallach, Ethicist, Yale University

13:00

**Break**

13:15

**Lunch Session 1: DISRUPTING SOCIAL PROTECTION**

Automation, AI and robotics are expected to indelibly transform the nature of work. Some view this transformation as a crisis, while others regard it as another in a series of disruptions going back to the dawn of civilisation. How should states de-link social protection from employment? How can technologies be deployed to revolutionise social protection and welfare?

*Proposition: The workforce will benefit from the flexibility enabled by 4IR disruptions.*

Urvashi Aneja, Founding Director, Tandem Research, India (Moderator)

Wendy Cukier, Professor, Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University
Maggie Sprenger, Managing Director, Green Cow Venture Capital
Abdou Khadre Lo, Director for Africa, Access Partnership
Nicolo’ Andreula, Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Lunch Session 2: DIGITIZING THE NATION STATE: NATIONALISM AND DIGITAL IDs**

Digital IDs offer an opportunity for improving the efficiency and reach of governments for uplifting their citizens’ lives. However, there is now an emerging contest over ownership of these technological systems. The politics of nationalism is spilling over
onto the development and deployment of digital infrastructures. How do we establish ownership over Digital ID systems? What new institutions do we require to develop and deploy these technologies?

Proposition: Digital IDs will usher in new tools for surveillance and control.

Arun Sukumar, Head, Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)

Sanjay Anandaram, Global Ambassador, Ispirt
Mailin Asmae, Spokesperson, Office of the President, Estonia
John Hering, Cybersecurity Strategist, Microsoft
Karim Tajmouati, Director General, National Agency for Land Conversation, Cadaster and Cartography

Lunch Session 3: E-COMMERCE WITH A FLAG

While cross-border e-commerce is expected to drive economic growth in the coming years, states are increasingly adopting nationalist postures in policymaking. From rules relating to data localisation to limitations on foreign investment and ownership, e-commerce policies around the world are attempting to protect national innovation ecosystems. What will this trend signify for the future of digital trade? How can states strike a balance between incubating national innovation and encouraging the free flow of data?

Proposition: e-commerce will emerge as an area of contest for digital sovereignty.

Sameer Patil, Fellow, International Security Studies Programme, Gateway House (Moderator)

Deborah James, Director of International Programs, Center for Economic and Policy Research
Emily Paragamian, Associate, The Asia Group
Małgorzata Krusiewicz, Policy Coordinator, European Commission, Brussels

Break
CREATIVE AI: HUMAN IDENTITY IN THE AGE OF VIRTUAL FLUX

Amidst raging debates on the future of work, production and security in the age of AI, machine learning and robotics, an oft-ignored aspect of technological transformation is its impact on society and identity. AI algorithms are capable of writing music, holding conversations and even guiding human behaviour. Can AI ever truly replace human creativity and ingenuity? How should we visualise our relationship with future technologies?

Lydia Kostopoulos, Cybersecurity Consultant (Moderator)
Karen Hao, Journalist, MIT Technology Review
Polina Aronsson, Editor, openDemocracy, Russia
Taoufik El Khiraoui, Data Scientist, OCP Group
Abeba Birhane, Cognitive Science PhD Candidate, University College, Dublin
Mounir Ghogho, Professor of Data Science, International University of Rabat, Morocco

Speedtalk

THE FUTURE OF ROBOTICS: Anindo Roy, Founder & CTO, NextStep Robotics

Break

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND ETHICS

Advancements in biotechnology will soon allow humans to alter the natural course of evolution. The fusion of our physical, digital and biological worlds will affect social relations in complex and uncertain ways. What ethical considerations should apply in the development and deployment of biotech products? Will advancements in areas such as genetic editing exacerbate inequality? What standards and safeguards should the scientific community adopt to ensure the safe development of biotechnologies?

Arun Mohan Sukumar, Head, Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)
Christina Larson, Global Science and Environment Correspondent, Associated Press
Manuela Appendino, Clinical Engineer, Bioethicist, Founder, WeWomEngineers
Wendell Wallach, Ethicist, Yale University’s Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics.
Shinjini Kundu, Medical Researcher, UPMC (MIT 35 innovators under 35)
Charity Wayua, Research Manager, IBM Research Africa

17:30  
**Keynote**

Ambassador Amandeep Gill, UN Secretary General’s High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation

17:45  
**Break**

18:00  
**ALGORITHMIC TRANSPARENCY AND THE QUEST FOR ETHICAL AI**

ML and AI applications increasingly make inferences about the world around us—infences that affect decisions relating to insurance, healthcare, criminal justice and even war. However, the opacity and complexity of algorithms often leads them to be unexplainable. Will black box algorithms exacerbate inequality? How do we make AI interpretable? What technical and legal measures are required to ensure fairness, accountability and transparency in ML and AI systems?

Sandro Gaycken, Founder and Director, ESMT Berlin (Moderator)
Soo-young Lee, Professor, Korea Advanced Institute for Science and Technology
Mallory Knodel, Head of Digital, Article 19
Yenatfanta Shifferaw, Researcher, Ethiopian Biotechnology Institute
Neira Dali Chaouch, Community Development Manager, Women in AI

19:00  
**Keynote**

David Scharia, Head of Mission, UN Security Council Counterterrorism Committee Executive Directorate (UNCTED)

19:15  
**Break**

19:30  
**Presentation**

Bharatbala Ganapathy, Director, India
20:30  **Dinner Session 1: THE GEOPOLITICS OF 5G**

5G communications infrastructure will exponentially increase our ability to deploy digital technologies. The future of 5G, however, will be implicated by an emerging geopolitical contest between the US and China. Yet, the choices that developing countries make will be equally consequential. How should states and businesses manage supply chain risks in an interconnected world?

*Proposition:* The contest for 5G leadership will lead to the emergence of the splinternet

Arun Mohan Sukumar, Head, Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative, ORF (Moderator)

Wang Dong, Associate Professor, Peking University

May-Ann Lim, Executive Director, Asia Cloud Computing Association

Jennifer McArdle, Assistant Professor and Faculty Fellow, Salve Regina University

Trisha Ray, Junior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

**Dinner Session 2: A NEW PROTAGONIST: STORIES OF CHANGE FROM ASIA AND AFRICA**

The recent successes of Afro-Asian stories and histories within the global entertainment industry hold many important lessons. The asymmetry in storytelling worldwide seems to be a product of the inadequate pathways for disseminating content arising out of the global south. How must the creation of content from Africa, South Asia and other emerging parts of the world be encouraged and sustained? What are the current initiatives geared towards this goal?

Hindol Sengupta, Chevening Scholar, Oxford University (Moderator)

Vani Tripathi, Central Board of Film Certification, India

Johnny Miller, Founder, africaDrone

Nigel Mugamu, Founder, 263chat

Peter Essoka, President of the National Communication Council of Cameroon and current President of the RIARC

Sahraa Karimi, Director General, Afghan Film

**Dinner Session 3: NEW AGE MICROFINANCE: LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGIES TO EMPOWER**

New technologies such as AI, data analytics and micro-targeting are creating pathways for tailored finance products that can foster inclusion and provide social protection.
How are start-ups and entrepreneurs bypassing brick-and-mortar institutions to build these digital businesses? Does this herald the end of traditional finance?

Proposition: Traditional financial institutions will become obsolete following in the AI age.

Mike Patel, CEO, LXM.IO (Moderator)

Lucy Corkin, Business Manager, Rand Merchant Bank
Karsten Wenzlaff, Founder, Institute of Communications for Social Media (ikosom)
Arun Sharma, Director, Direct Benefits Mission, India
Gautam Saxena, Founder and Managing Partner, Pegasus 7 Capital
Technology.
Innovation.
Society.
EMERGING VOICES & POPULAR MOVEMENTS FOR PEACE IN CYBERSPACE

Governments are increasingly attempting to exploit or even weaponise software to achieve national security objectives, and governmental investments in military cyber capabilities continue to grow year after year. Civilians and emerging economies are a frequent collateral of this escalating cyber conflict. This panel will highlight a new generation of collaboration among people from around the world, coming together to fight for the right to a free and secure internet. Panellists will discuss key new and inclusive initiatives – including the Digital Peace Now campaign, Paris Call for Trust & Security in Cyberspace and Tim Berners-Lee's Contract for the Web. It will also explore the next steps for this growing movement.

Abdul Hakim Ajijola Member, Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace (Moderator)

Jairus Khan, Outreach, Internet Health, Mozilla
Jamal Edwards, Policy Program Manager, Microsoft
Maria Smekalova, Expert, Russia Council for International Affairs
Ingrid Brudvig, Gender Policy Manager, World Wide Web Foundation

Keynote
Aziz Hilali, ICANN 2019 NomCom, Chair of the Africa At-Large Organisation (AFRALO)

Keynote
Driss El Yazami, The President of the Council of the Moroccan Community Abroad

Break

Keynote
Abdelmounaim Dinia, Deputy General for Support, Credit Agricole du Maroc Group

In Conversation: Women, Tech and Media
Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)
Vani Tripathi, Board Member, Central Board of Film Certification, India
Richa Chadda, Bollywood Actress
Faruk Kabir, Writer, Director, Producer.

12:30

**Keynote**

Abdul Hakim Ajijola, Commissioner, Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace

12:45

**Speedtalk**

**INNOVATION AND EDUCATION:** Adil Belkhadir, Project Manager, 1337/YouCode, OCP Group

13:00

**Break**

13:15

**Lunch Session 1: JOURNALISM IN THE AGE OF NEW MEDIA**

Journalism as an industry is being buffeted by the convergence of technological change and attendant cultural shifts. Trust in mainstream media is at its lowest in years, automated curation of content is altering the publications process, and social media has rendered past business models ineffective. How should journalists revive their credibility in an era of misinformation and deep fakes? How will AI transform the way we report and consume the news? How should media organisations generate economic value in an era of free digital services?

*Proposition: Trust in mainstream media will deteriorate for the foreseeable future*

Chitra Subramaniam, Media Person, India/Switzerland (Moderator)

Olga Stern, Founder, Genews
Peace Chikodinaka Eze, Anchor, AIT Africa
Ali Aslan, TV Presenter
Chaimae Lahssini, journalists, Morocco
Aicha Akalay, Publication Director & Editor-in-Chief, TelQuel Weekly Magazine

**Lunch Session 2: PRIVACY INC: BUILDING PROFITABLE PRO-PRIVACY BUSINESS MODELS**

Individuals today trade personal information in exchange for a plethora of digital services. This model has become increasingly
unsustainable as it creates a market for surveillance technologies. Are alternative business models that protect privacy and still generate economic and social value viable?

Proposition: The trade-off between personal Information and commercial services has so far led to more good than harm

Arun Sukumar, Head, Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative, Observer Research Foundation (Moderator)
Kasia Odrozek, Project Manager, Internet Health Report, Mozilla Foundation
Laura Sallstrom, Head of Practice, Data Policy and Trust, Access Partnership
John Hering, Cybersecurity Strategist, Microsoft
Rohit Bansal, Group Head of Communications, Reliance Industries Ltd

Lunch Session 3: INNOVATING FOR THE WEST

For many years, Silicon Valley had boasted of its ability to provide solutions to the world. Recently, we have been witnessing a reversal of this trend. We see innovations in digital payments and micro mobility emerging from the developing world and being adopted in developed states. What are the emerging contours of these new flows in technology? How are they implicating the global digital ecosystem? What solutions can developing nations create for the world?

Laura Sallstrom, Head of Practice, Data Policy and Trust, Access Partnership (Moderator)
Pan Haidong, CEO, Hudong.com
Hanae Bezad, Managing Director of Le Wagon Morocco and founder of Douar Tech
Prerna Mukharya, Founder, Outline India
Mohsine Bouya, Director of Innovation and Transfer (UIR)
Tazi Riffi, CEO, Med Logistics Hub

Break

14:45
15:00

EMTECH AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Facial recognition, predictive policing, autonomous weapons: technologies that were once only in the realm of science fiction are rapidly becoming reality. How can we strike a balance between collective security and individual freedoms? What red lines can we draw in the deployment of smart technologies for policing and defence? How should governments work with technology platforms to ensure the safe deployment of these technologies?
INVESTING IN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

Despite the emphasis on diversity in tech development, few start-ups and VC funds today are run by women. This gap is only accentuated in the developing countries of Africa and Asia. What are the reasons for the gaps in diversity of funding? What strategies can women-led start-ups and VC funds employ to access finance?

Soline Kaufmann, Engagement and Partnership Director, Blisce (Moderator)

Papa Amadou Sarr, Minister, General Delegate for Entrepreneurship, Senegal

Houda Chakiri, CEO, Enhanced Technologies

Martha Alade, Women in Tech in Nigeria

Priyanka Chaturvedi, Deputy Leader, Shiv Sena

Nabila Tbeur, Chargee de Mission, Executive Director of Industrial Operations, OCP

Salma Karim, Head of Human Capital and Innovation Department, Digital Development Agency

Speedtalk

MOZILLA INTERNET HEALTH REPORT: Kasia Odrozek and Jairus Khan

Break

18:00

CYBERSECURITY: PROTECTING THE NEW GLOBAL COMMONS
As developing countries migrate to digital systems to meet development goals and improve governance and business outcomes, it has become an imperative to create a robust cybersecurity infrastructure. How do we move towards a global commitment to protect these new virtual resources? What risks are specific to developing economies? Can we apply traditional cross-border infrastructure investment models to build cybersecurity capacity in the digital South?

John Mallery, Research Scientist, Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, MIT (Moderator)

John Alhassan, Head of Department of Cyber Security Science, School of Information and Communication Technology, Federal University of Technology, Minna

Gulshan Rai, Former National Cybersecurity Coordinator, India

Ghita Mezzour, Research Professor at TICLab and School of Computer Science and Digital (UIR)

Lydia Kostopoulos, Cybersecurity Expert

**Speedtalk**

Aurelio Amaral, Partnerships and Policy Development Officer at the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE)

**Break**

**19:30**  
**PROTECTING THE VOTE: ELECTORAL INTEGRITY**

Recent years have seen increasing interference in electoral processes, from hacking EVMs to armies of social media bots that spread misinformation with the intent to polarise. How can we build resilience in institutions and societies against these disruptive developments? What lessons can Asia and Africa glean from the failures of the West?

Ali Aslan, TV Presenter (Moderator)

Donara Barojan, Information warfare expert

Maria Elena Agüero, Secretary General, World Leadership Alliance, Club-de-Madrid

Shay Zandani, Principal, KPMG

Rema Rajeshwari, District Police Chief, Telangana State Police, India

Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation

**Vote of Thanks**

**Gala Dinner**
LIVE STUDIO @ CYFY AFRICA
8th JUNE

11:00 Toward Splinternet
Wang Dong, Associate Professor Peking University
Mikhail Korostikov, Journalist, Kommersant Publishing House
Kasia Odrozek, Internet Health Report Project Manager, Mozilla
In conversation with: Arun Sukumar, Observer Research Foundation

14:00 Politics of Representation: Populism and Social Media
Maha Aziz, Professor, New York University
In conversation with: Abhinandan Sekhri, Co-founder, Newslaundry

16:00 Encoded Lethality: The Effect of Autonomous Systems on National Security
Ambassador Amandeep Singh Gill, UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation
In conversation with: Trisha Ray, Observer Research Foundation

18:00 Women in the Future of Work
Sanchaita Gajapati Raju, Founder, SANA, National Executive Member, BJYM,
Media Panelist, Bharatiya Janata Party
Molishree, NITI Aayog
Bitseat Tadesse, Programmer at iCog-Labs

19:00 Digital Transitions to DTT: Social Impact on Communities
Babacar Diagne, President Audio Visual Regulation Council of Senegal
In conversation with: Sashidhar KJ, Associate Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

9th JUNE

11:00 Deep fakes and the End of Information Integrity
Donara Barojan, Information warfare expert
Shay Zandani, Principal, KPMG
In conversation with: Arun Sukumar, Observer Research Foundation

12:00 Pax Sinica: A New Normal for the Internet Economy
John Mallery, Research Scientist, MIT Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence
In conversation with: Sameer Patil, Gateway House

15:00 Human rights in the Digital Age
Caterina Assenti, ICRC Colombia Delegate, AICS Project Coordinator in Senegal
Davis Makori, Advocacy and Campaign Manager, Crisis Action
In Conversation with: Suthikorn Kingkaew, Thammasat University; Director of Research, Future Innovative Thailand Institute

16:00 Cultural Start-Ups from Asia and Africa
Hindol Sengupta, Chevening Scholar, Oxford University
In Conversation with Samir Saran, President, ORF

18:00 The Age of the Internet Influencer: Consumption and Marketing in the 21st Century
Richa Chadda, Bollywood Actress
In conversation with: Hindol Sengupta, Chevening Scholar, Oxford University