

HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT

Stock-taking

Framework of Cooperation with Business Partners

Presentation, RIPE NCC
Reykjavik, 22 May 2019

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Strategy

Council of Europe **Internet Governance Strategy 2016 - 2019** recognises the critical role that internet companies play in addressing today's challenges of the digital age

Objective

Combine Council of Europe's expertise in HR-based policies and partners' expertise in digital technologies

Opportunities for companies



- Boost public confidence
- Access to the network of the Council of Europe's 47 member states and 6 observer states and civil society organisations
- Better understand government and societal expectations
- Influence the development of Council of Europe policies for the internet
- Devise and implement corporate social responsibility initiatives more effectively.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS with companies

- 14 internet companies and associations joined in November 2017
- 2 new partners joined in May 2018
- On-going discussions with potential partners



- ✓ Apple, Deutsche Telekom, Facebook, Google, Microsoft, Kaspersky Lab, Orange, Telefónica and Cloudflare.
- ✓ Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA), DIGITALEUROPE, the European Digital SME Alliance, the European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO), GSMA, the Global Network Initiative (GNI) and EuroISPA.



Companies

Cloudflare

Deutsche Telecom

European Digital

SME Alliance

EuroISPA

Facebook

GNI

Google

Kaspersky Lab

Strasbourg, 23 May 2018

Official meeting Committee of Ministers and internet companies (TC-INF meeting)

- Implementation mechanisms for the Recommendation on the **roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries**
- Opportunities for further cooperation regarding **new technologies** and **artificial intelligence**

Open Workshop on issues of current concern

- ✓ **cyber-security**
- ✓ **data protection**
- ✓ **content moderation**
- ✓ **e-participatory processes**

Open workshop focus

DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES AND MICRO-TARGETTING

- New tools aim to provide transparency and integrity to election processes
- E-voting still lacks trust
- More balanced newsfeeds



DATA PROTECTION

- AI requires Big Data
- The risk of bias is embedded in the data used to train algorithms
- Use of Big Data in justice systems poses challenges in terms of equality before the law
- Strengthening the rights of data subjects is necessary

CONTENT MODERATION

- Increasingly performed by AI (99% for Facebook)
- A human-rights based approach to the removal of illegal content is required
- Transparency and responsibility in the use of algorithms is necessary

CYBER SECURITY

- AI is sensitive to cyber-threats
- Cyber-security services and education become increasingly important
- Holistic stakeholder forums are needed



World forum for Democracy 2018, 20 November 2018

“Gender Equality : Whose Battle ?”

Participation of Google and Microsoft representatives to a roundtable “Artificial Intelligence and gender (in-) equality”



World forum for Democracy 2019, 6-8 November 2019

Information and democracy

[Call for initiatives >>](#)

Deadline: **24 May 2019**

For this year’s Forum, the initiatives must help us understand how democracy and democratic institutions and practices can help combat disinformation and fake news, and how artificial intelligence and new technologies can become an enabler of democracy



Companies

Internet Industry
Association (eco)
Microsoft
Global Network
Initiative (GNI)
Facebook
Google
Telefonica
Orange

High level conference, Helsinki, 26-27 February 2019

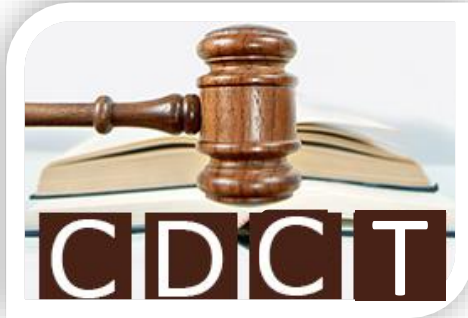
“Governing the Game Changer – Impacts of artificial intelligence development on human rights, democracy and the rule of law”

- High-level representatives of the Internet Industry Association (eco) and of Microsoft spoke at the event
- Microsoft arranged a demo-stand presenting their work in the field of AI



Selected conclusions

- All relevant stakeholders should engage in in-depth exploration and research into the impacts of AI on human rights, democracy and the rule of law
- Ethical guidelines and self-regulation constitute additional tools to promote these values
- Algorithmic transparency is crucial for building trust and ensuring due rights protection



Companies

CCIA
ETNO
EuroISPA
GNI
Google
Microsoft
TAT
Telefonica

Council of Europe Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT)

Thematic Session, 14 Novembre 2018

Terrorism and the Internet

Sharing best practices in preventing and combating terrorist-related offences and radicalisation leading to terrorism on the internet



CDCT agreed to ensure a follow up to the cooperation with internet companies and representative associations



ECRI and Inclusion and
anti-discrimination
programmes/No Hate
Speech and
Cooperation Unit



ECRI study on "**Discrimination, artificial intelligence and algorithmic decision making**"

Consultation of IT companies

EU High level group on **combatting racism, xenophobia and other forms of Intolerance**

Participation to a subgroup on Online Hate speech with IT companies

No Hate Speech and Cooperation Unit
prepares **a study on comparing approaches taken by different member states on complex cases touching on human rights concerns reported to the IT companies**

Facebook, Google, Twitter



Roundtable meeting, 18 January 2018

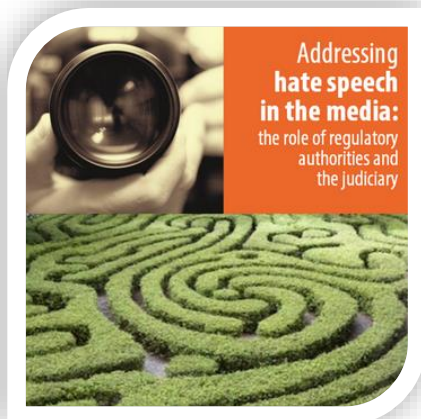
Presentation of the “Digital Citizenship Education” and other projects

Digital Europe, ETNO, Google, Orange

Working Group, 2018-2019

Drafting Guidelines for Governing Partnerships between Education Institutions and Private Sector

Apple, Deutsche Telecom, Google, Telefonica, TIE, ISFE & PEGI, ETNO, European Digital SME Alliance



International conference, 1-7 November 2018

Addressing hate speech in the media: the role of regulatory authorities and the judiciary

Facebook on Hate Speech in Social Media



MSI-AUT (Committee of experts on Human Rights Dimensions of automated data processing and different forms of artificial intelligence)

Regular participation of Deutsche Telekom, Microsoft, Google, EuroISPA, others



Participation in CoE workshops at various forums



Regular collaboration of EoL partners with the CoE – participation in workshops and open forums during Internet Governance related events (EuroDIG, IGF, etc.)



Brussels, 29 January 2019

Presentation of the Convention 108+

Deutsche Telecom, Facebook, GNI, Microsoft

World Mobile Congress, 25-27 February 2019

Cooperation with GSMA

GSMA

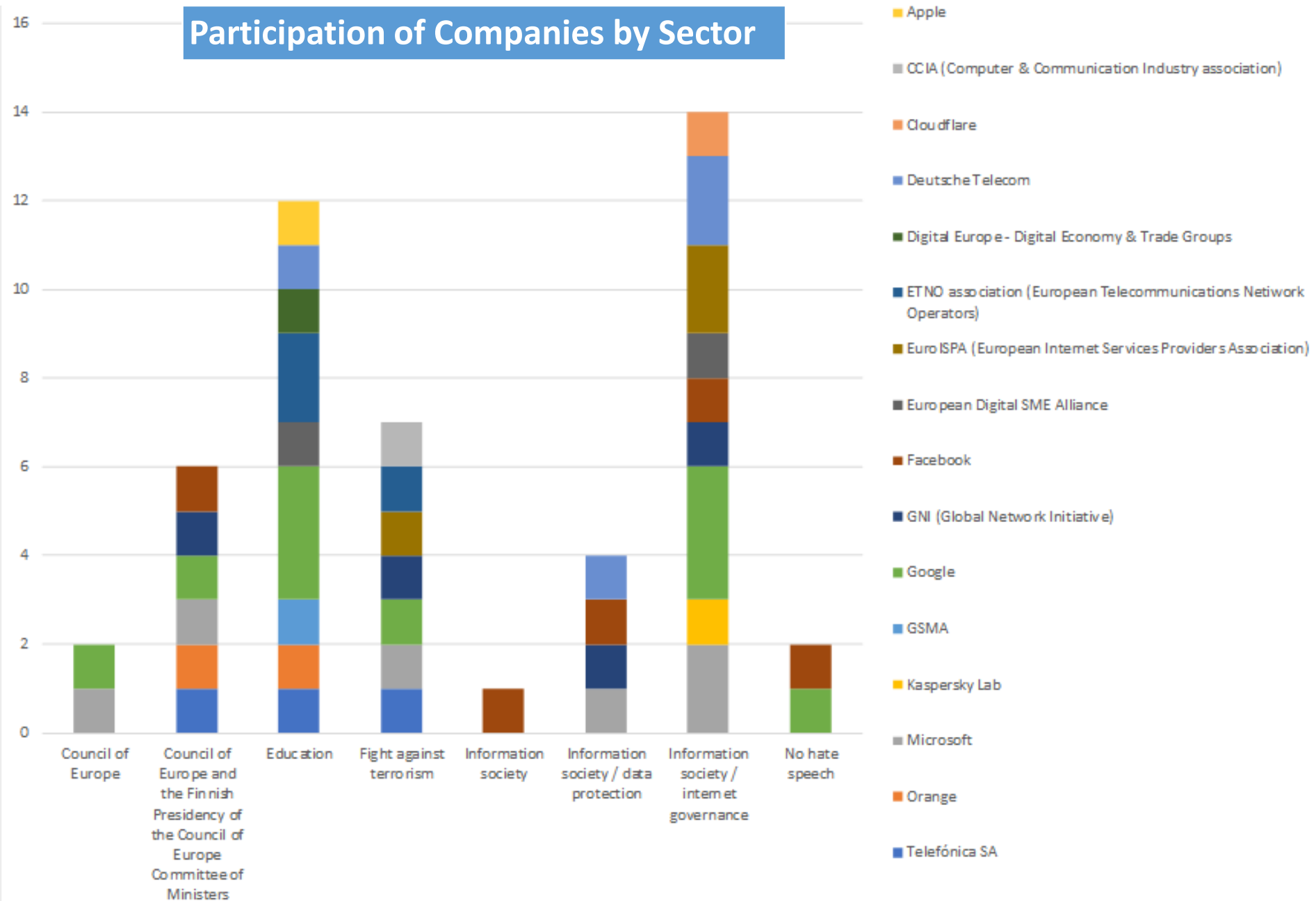


Octopus Conference 2018+, 11-13 July 2018

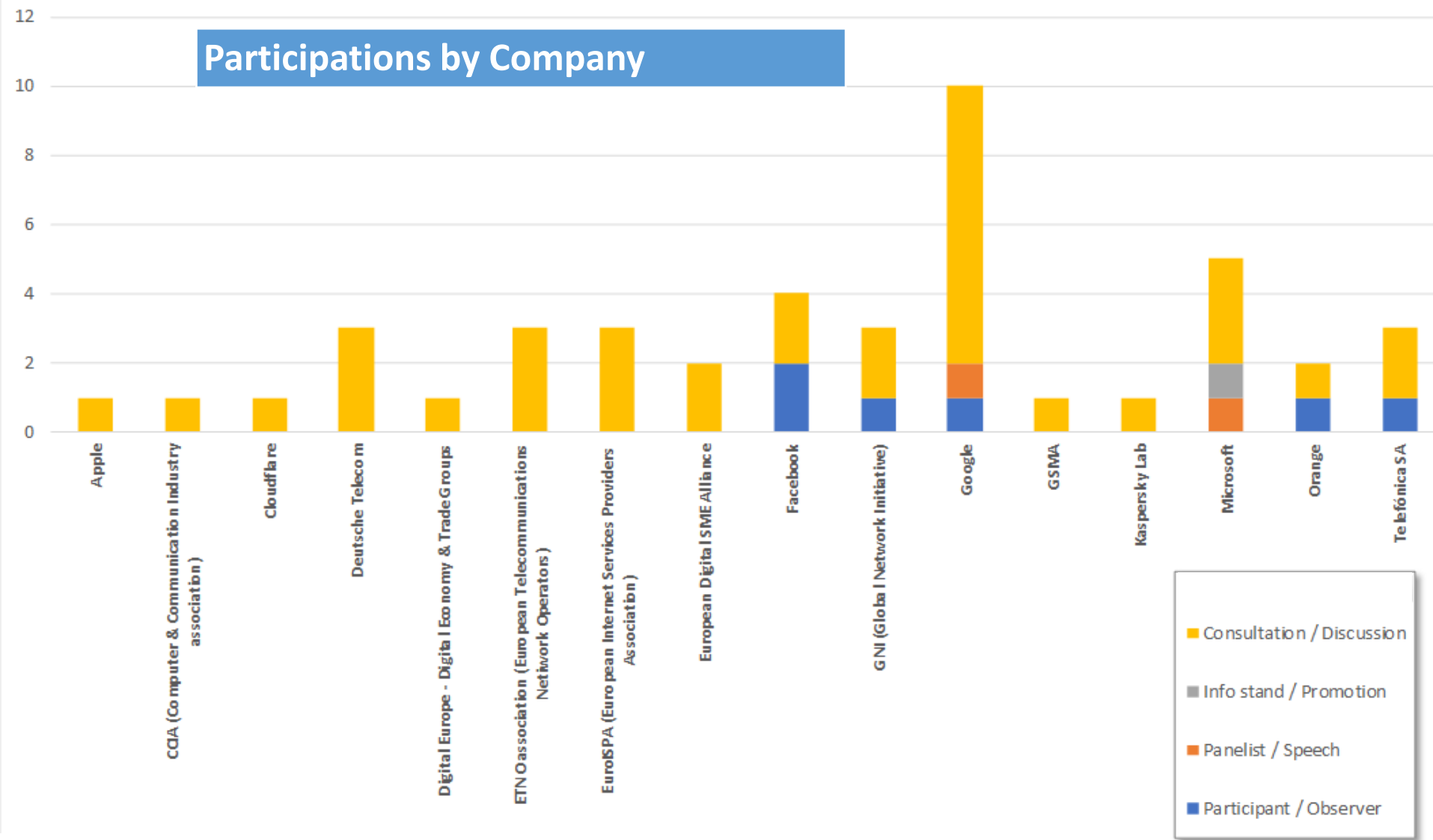
Consultations on the Protocol to the Budapest Convention

Cloudflare, Deutsche Telecom, EuroISPA, Facebook, GNI, Google, Kaspersky Lab, Microsoft, Telefonica, CCIA EUROPE, ICANN, Symantec

Participation of Companies by Sector



Participations by Company





Current and potential areas of cooperation

(non-exclusive list)

- bioethics;
- children's protection in the online environment;
- combating cybercrime and the use of the internet for terrorist purposes;
- data protection, including Big Data issues;
- digital literacy promotion;
- digitalisation of cultural heritage and cultural services;
- addressing abusive forms of expression online (i.e., incitement to violence) and disinformation ("fake news" phenomenon);
- democratic elections and e-voting;
- combating money laundering and corruption.

Additional agreements could be signed with other partners in the future. For further information please use the 'Contact us' button on the website of the Media and Internet Division at www.coe.int/freedomofexpression



FUTURE: focus on deeper cooperation

Strasbourg, 18 June 2019

Official meeting Committee of Ministers and internet companies (TC-INF meeting)

- Role of algorithms in content moderation (including identification of terrorist content, as well as mis- and mal-information during the election campaigns)
- Facial recognition in the light of works launched by Committee 108.



Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence

Address challenges:

- Lethal autonomous weapons
- Biomedicine and predictive medicine
- Regulation of autonomous objects and vehicles
- Regulation of online dispute resolution
- E-Democracy
- Education: benefits and limits of “adaptive learning”
- Social impact: job instability

Define responsibility:

- Identify the responsibility of the human behind the algorithms

Council of Europe
Foreign Affairs
Ministers meeting
Helsinki, 17 May 2019

Examine the feasibility of a legal framework for the development, design and application of artificial intelligence, based on the Council of Europe's standards on human rights, democracy and the rule of law

Thanks for your
attention !



further resources:

www.coe.int/en/web/freedom-expression/exchange-of-letters

Facebook Page

Information Society Group

