ACTA
Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement
https://www.eff.org/issues/acta
• Proposed multinational agreement to establish enforcement of intellectual property rights, signed in 2011, which triggered protests across Europe and the USA.

ADR
Alternative Dispute Resolution
http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/issues/arbitration
• A legal mechanism offered in lieu of traditional courts. ADR mechanisms include arbitration, a widely used mechanism to resolve a range of cases, including Internet-related cases.

A4AI
Alliance for Affordable Internet
https://a4ai.org/
• Brings together businesses, governments, and civil society actors to deliver the policies needed to reduce the cost to connect and make universal, affordable Internet access a reality for all.

AFRINIC
African Network Information Centre
http://www.afrinic.net/
• One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing the African region.

AI
Artificial Intelligence
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_intelligence
• Refers to the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines.

AoC
Affirmation of Commitment
http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/aoc
• An assertion of agreement or commitment. In Internet governance (IG) G language, commonly refers to the latest stage of the legal relations between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the US Department of Commerce, signed in 2009.
APC
Association for Progressive Communications
http://www.apc.org/
- One of the oldest civil society organisations on Internet issues aimed at promoting access to a free and open Internet, empowering users through information and communication technology (ICT). In December 2010, APC had 50 members in 35 countries, the majority from developing countries.

APEC
Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation
http://www.apec.org/
- Asia-Pacific economic forum.

APNIC
Asia-Pacific Network Information Centre
http://www.apnic.net/
- One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing the Asia-Pacific region.

ARIN
American Registry for Internet Numbers
https://www.arin.net/
- One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing the North America region (the USA, Canada, parts of the Caribbean, and Antarctica).

ARPANET
Advanced Research Projects Agency Network
http://computer.howstuffworks.com/arpanet.htm
- The academic network precursor to the Internet.

ASCII
American Standard Code for Information Interchange
http://www.ascii-code.com/
- A 7-bit character code. Each single bit represents a unique character.

AT&T
American Telephone and Telegraph
http://www.att.com/shop/internet/internet-service.html#fbid=5AH6V5gJ_ps
- Large US telecom and Internet provider.
AU
African Union
   https://au.int/
• A continental body consisting of the 55 member states that make up the countries of the African Continent. It was officially launched in 2002 as a successor to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU, 1963-1999).

BBS
Bulletin Board System
• Computer system using software to connect users/user groups in the 1980s and early 1990s.

BGP
Border Gateway Protocol
• One of the main protocols of the Internet, carrying out fully decentralised routing based on path, network policies, and/or rule-sets.

blog
From weblog: web + blog or online blog
   http://www.thefreedictionary.com/weblog
• A website that displays in chronological order the postings by one or more individuals and usually has links to comments on specific posts.

BYOD
Bring your own device
   http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/BYOD-bring-your-own-device
• An emerging practice allowing employees to use their own devices at work. Smartphones are now the most common device, but laptops, tablets, and other devices may be brought into the workplace, adding a significant security challenge to corporate data and corporate network risk.
CC
Creative Commons
http://creativecommons.org/
- An open licensing system that assists authors in sharing their work.

CCWG-Accountability
Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability
- The CCWG-Accountability gathers community feedback for proposed enhancements to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)’s accountability framework that it has identified as essential to happen or be committed to before the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) Stewardship Transition takes place.

ccTLD
country code Top Level Domain
http://www.icann.org/en/resources/cctlds
- Two-letter country code top-top level domain names, such as .ve (Venezuela) or .uk (United Kingdom), which are administered by the country code manager.

CDN
Content Delivery Network
- Data centres that consist of proxy servers. CDNs are used for swifter delivery of Internet traffic to the specific geographic region to prevent bottlenecks. CDN is a group name for different networks delivering video streaming, software downloads, applications, social media, etc.

CERN
European Centre for Nuclear Research
http://home.web.cern.ch/
- Leading Geneva-based scientific organisation involved in many breakthroughs in Internet technology (invention of WWW and grid-computing).

CERT
Computer Emergency Response (or Readiness) Team
http://www.enisa.europa.eu/activities/cert
- Teams of security and computer experts organised at national and government, corporate, or other levels, to prevent and instantly react to cyber-attacks or major incidents on networked systems in order to limit damage and ensure the continuity of critical services.
CI
Critical Infrastructure
- CI is generally considered as the key system, services, and functions whose disruption or destruction would have a debilitating impact on public health and safety, commerce, and national security, or any combination of these. CI is composed of both physical elements (such as facilities and buildings) and virtual elements (such as systems and data).

CIA triad
- A concept commonly used in cybersecurity, to refer to the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information and its underlying infrastructure.

CIIP
Critical information infrastructure protection
- One of the main objectives of cybersecurity strategies and policies, to protect critical information infrastructure of the country (and institutions) including links, data, hardware, and software.

CIX
Commercial Internet Exchange
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commercial_Internet_eXchange
- An early step towards the Internet, which permitted exchange of Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) traffic.

CJEU
Court of Justice of the European Union
http://curia.europa.eu
- The CJEU constitutes the judicial authority of the European Union and interprets EU law to make sure it is applied in the same way across all EU countries, and settles legal disputes between national governments and EU institutions.

CoE
Council of Europe
http://hub.coe.int/
- European organisation with 47 member states active in Internet governance: cybersecurity, digital human rights, data protection, etc.
COP
Child Online Protection
http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/issues/child-safety-online
• Also referred to as child safety online; an area of digital policy dedicated to the protection of children online.

CRC
Convention on the Rights of the Child
http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx
• Considered the cornerstone of children’s rights, the convention recognised for the first time that children are people who have human rights, and is one of the most widely ratified international human rights treaties.

CSAM
Child sexual abuse material
http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/issues/child-safety-online
• Also referred to as child pornography, especially in legislation, refers to content or material which abuses or exploits children in a sexual way.

CSIRT
Computer Security Incident Response Team
• An entity tasked with coordinating responses to cyber incidents

CSTD
Commission on Science and Technology for Development of United Nations ECOSOC
http://unctad.org/en/Pages/cstd.aspx
• A body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) which gives advice to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on science and technology issues. Mandated to review the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) process and to initiate discussions about Enhanced Cooperation in Internet Governance.

Cyclades
Not an acronym, a name taken from the Greek
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CYCLADES
• One of the technical predecessors to the Internet.
D

DARPA
Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
http://searchnetworking.techtarget.com/definition/DARPA
• US defense precursor to the Internet, sometimes used interchangeably with ARPANET.

DCAF
Democratic Control of Armed Forces
http://www.dcaf.ch/
• Geneva-based think-tank which supports security sector governance through security sector reform; active in cybersecurity issues.

DDoS
Distributed Denial of Service
• A systematic attack to disable a network resource by causing suspension of service, for example through server overload.

DLT
Digital Ledger Technology
A system for recording data in multiple locations or among multiple participants at the same time.

DMCA
Digital Millennium Copyright Act
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_Millennium_Copyright_Act

DNS
Domain Name System
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domain_Name_System
• A system managed by Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), allowing strings of letters (the domain name) to be assigned to an Internet Protocol (IP) address, for ease of URL (uniform resource locater) management by the user.

DNSSEC
Domain Name System Security Protocol
• Technology to secure the domain name system (DNS).
DoC
Department of Commerce
http://www.commerce.gov/
• The US Department of Commerce is relevant in the Internet governance context because it is mandated to perform US oversight over the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) as a non-profit registered in state of California.

DoD
Department of Defense
http://www.defense.gov/
• The US Department of Defense was involved in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPANET) and the early stages of Internet development.

DPI
Deep Packet Inspection
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFPHUv1LfS4&list=PLa6vw8V5aVvqDSitCVXFdFmnqABXWcMA&index=6
• Inspection or review of the data (content) of each digital packet, to improve protocol and routing and avoid security threats. There is concern that it can be used for surveillance, privacy breaches, or other types of data-mining.

DRM
Digital Rights Management
http://computer.howstuffworks.com/drm.htm
• Technologies that impose rights-based limits and controls on the software, media, and applications on users’ devices.

DSM Directive
Digital Single Market Directive
EC
European Commission
    http://ec.europa.eu/
• A body that represents the EU as a whole, made up of 28 commissioners, and proposing proposes and enforcing enforces laws for the EU.

ECOSOC
Economic and Social Council
• The United Nations (UN) platform to address economic and social issues.

ECPAT
End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
    http://www.ecpat.net/
• A global network of organisations working together for the elimination of child prostitution, child sexual abuse content, and the trafficking of children for sexual purposes.

EEA
European Economic Area
https://www.efta.int/eea/eea-agreement
• Based on the The Agreement on the European Economic Area, which entered into force on 1 January 1994, EEA brings together the EU member states and Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway – in a single market, referred to as the Internal Market.

ENISA
European Union Agency for Network and Information Security
https://www.enisa.europa.eu/about-enisa
• The European Union’s response to cybersecurity issues, it serves European institutions as well as member states. Many of the European countries’ Computer Emergency Response (or Readiness) Teams (CERTs) are active members, as ENISA plays a central information role for cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection.

enQuire
Not an acronym, but the name of a software project written in 1980
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ENQUIRE
• A predecessor to the World Wide Web, enQuire was a software program written by Tim Berners-Lee.
EuroDIG
European Dialogue on Internet Governance
http://www.eurodig.org/
• A regional European discussion forum on Internet governance.

Europol
European Police
https://www.europol.europa.eu/
• The European Union’s law enforcement agency which assists EU member states in the fight against serious international crime and terrorism.

FCC
Federal Communications Commission (USA)
https://www.fcc.gov/
• Regulates interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable in all 50 US states, the District of Columbia, and US territories. An independent US government agency overseen by Congress, the FCC is the federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing communications law and regulations in the USA.

FOC
Freedom Online Coalition
https://freedomonlinecoalition.com
• A partnership of 31 governments working to advance Internet freedom.

FRT
Facial Recognition Technology
• The ability of technology to identify and verify a person’s identity from a digital image or video.
GAC
Governmental Advisory Committee (part of ICANN)
https://gacweb.icann.org/display/gacweb/Governmental+Advisory+Committee
• Representatives of state governments, forming an advisory committee which reports to and advises the Internet Corporate Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) board.

GATS
General Agreement on Trade and Services
https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/serv_e/gatsqa_e.htm
• A WTO treaty that entered into force in January 1995 created to extend the multilateral trading system to the service sector.

GATT
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/gatt_e/gatt_e.htm
• A multilateral agreement promoting international trade by reducing or eliminating trade barriers such as tariffs or quotas.

GCSC
Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace
https://cyberstability.org
• An international and multistakeholder 26-member commission working to ‘promote mutual awareness and understanding among the various cyberspace communities working on issues related to international cybersecurity’.

GDPR
General Data Protection Regulation
https://eugdpr.org/
• EU Regulation 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data. It repealed Directive 95/46/EC (Data Protection Directive).
**GGE**

*Group of Governmental Experts*


- A United Nations (UN) GGE examines, for example, the existing and potential threats from the cyber-sphere and possible cooperative measures to address them; it proposes norms of responsible behaviour and comments on how international law applies.

**GIP**

*Geneva Internet Platform*

www.giplatform.org

- An initiative of the Swiss authorities operated by DiploFoundation, which includes a centre for research and training, and an online digital policy observatory (*Digital Watch observatory*).

**GSMA**

*Groupe Speciale Mobile Association*

www.gsma.com

- GSMA represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide.

**gTLD**

*generic Top Level Domain*

http://www.icann.org/en/about/learning/glossary

- Sponsored or unsponsored generic top level domains. The first seven gTLDs established in 1980 were .com, .edu, .gov, .int, .ml, .net, .org.

**3G**

*Third Generation*

- The third generation of wireless mobile telecommunications technology, succeeding 2G and 2.5G.

**4G**

*Fourth Generation*

- The fourth generation of broadband cellular network technology, succeeding 3G.

**5G**

*Fifth Generation*

- The fifth generation of cellular network technology, succeeding 4G.
**HTML**

HyperText Mark-up Language

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTML

- Commonly used mark-up language for creating web pages and for preparing information for display in a web browser.

**IAB**

Internet Architecture Board

https://www.iab.org

- Chartered both as a committee of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and as an advisory body of the Internet Society. Its responsibilities include architectural oversight of IETF activities, Internet Standards Process oversight and appeal, and the appointment of the RFC Editor. The IAB is also responsible for the management of the IETF protocol parameter registries.

**IANA**

Internet Assigned Numbers Authority

http://www.ntia.doc.gov/page/iana-functions-purchase-order

- Originally the global coordinator of the domain name system (DNS) root, Internet protocol (IP) addressing, and other IP resources, IANA allocated IP addresses to the Regional Internet Registers (RIRs) and implemented the changes in the root zone file. The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has been mandated by the US Department of Commerce (DoC) to perform IANA functions through a contract with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA; this contract is expected to expire by the end of 2016).

**IAP (IBP)**

Internet Access Providers (also Internet Bandwidth Providers)

http://searchsoa.techtarget.com/definition/IAP

- Major national, regional, or global Internet service providers (ISPs) or entities that provide broadband Internet access to users and other ISPs (commonly big telecom companies).

**IBRD**

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development


- A global development cooperative owned by 189 member countries. As the largest development bank in the world, it supports the World Bank Group’s mission by providing loans, guarantees, risk management products, and advisory services to middle-income and creditworthy low-income countries, as well as by coordinating responses to regional and global challenges.
ICANN
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
http://www.icann.org/
• Corporation registered in the state of California, USA, which coordinates key technical services for the Internet domain name system (DNS), generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs) and country code Top Level Domains (ccTLDs), as well as Internet numbering resources.

ICC
International Chamber of Commerce
http://www.iccwbo.org/
• Paris-based global business forum addressing issues of world economy.

ICG
IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group
http://www.ianacg.org/
• A discussion group for collaboration related to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)/ the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)/ the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) transition.

ICMEC
International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children
http://www.icmec.org/
• A non-governmental organisation (NGO) which leads a global movement to protect children from sexual exploitation and abduction; also offers training to law enforcement officers.

ICT
Information and Communication Technology
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_and_communications_technology
• A synonym for information technology (IT), describing the use of all media communications and computer technologies. Its strategies and access are important for development and the economy, and are documented globally by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

IDA
International Development Association
http://ida.worldbank.org/
• The part of World Bank that helps the world’s poorest countries. Overseen by 173 shareholder nations, IDA aims to reduce poverty by providing loans (credits) and grants for programmes that boost economic growth, reduce inequalities, and improve people’s living conditions.
**IDN**

**Internationalised Domain Name**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internationalized_domain_name

- Domain names that include characters in character sets other than the basic Latin alphabet. In 2010, the first Arabic IDNs were put into use.

**IEC**

**International Electrotechnical Commission**

http://www.iec.ch/

- Geneva-based leading global organisation for publication of international standards for electrical, electronic, and related technologies (electrotechnologies).

**IEEE**

**Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers**

http://www.ieee.org/about/ieee_history.html

- An association for the advancement of technology and innovation.

**IETF**

**Internet Engineering Task Force**

http://www.ietf.org/

- A technical support organisation for the Internet organised by the Internet Society (ISOC).

**IG**

**Internet Governance**

http://www.diplomacy.edu/IGBook

- The management of the Internet, emphasising the legal, social, linguistic and economic perspectives of the Internet, in addition to its technical base.

**IG4D**

**Internet Governance for Development**


- Emphasis on the capacity of the Internet to foster development.

**IGC**

**Internet Governance Caucus**

http://igcaucus.org/

- An online civil society discussion group to address Internet governance (IG) as it affects human rights, social equity and interdependence, cultural concerns, and social and economic development.
IGF
Internet Governance Forum
http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/
• A forum for multistakeholder policy dialogue to discuss public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance (IG) as established in Paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

IGO
Inter-governmental organisation
• An organisation created by a treaty between two or more nations, to work on issues of common interest, particularly peace and security.

IMF
International Monetary Fund
https://www.imf.org/external/index.htm
• An organization of 189 countries, working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world.

INTERNET
INTERconnected NETworks
http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Internet
• The global computer network which links computers and users worldwide.

INTERPOL
International Criminal Police Organization
http://www.interpol.int/
• An intergovernmental organisation with 190 member countries, which assists law enforcement agencies around the world in combating all forms of transnational crime and terrorism.

IoT
Internet of Things
• First proposed by Kevin Ashton in 1999, the IoT would assign a unique identifier to each unique identifiable object, no matter how small or large, in an Internet-like structure.
IP
Internet Protocol
http://www.icann.org/en/about/learning/glossary
• The communications protocol that allows a unique identifier to be assigned to a computer, that is called the IP address, which identifies the location of a device on the Internet.

IPO
Initial Public Offering
http://www.investopedia.com/terms/i/ipo.asp
• The first sale of stock by a private company (to the public).

IPR
Intellectual Property Rights
http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/trips_e/intel1_e.htm
• IPRs are the rights a creator has to their creation, for a certain period of time, especially copyright and industrial property rights.

IPv4
Internet Protocol version 4
http://www.techterms.com/definition/ipv4
• The fourth and most commonly used version of the Internet protocol, which uses a 32-bit format.

IPv6
Internet Protocol version 6
http://www.techterms.com/definition/ipv6
• The sixth version of the Internet protocol, which uses 128-bit addresses, increasing the number of available IP addresses to an extremely large, though still finite number (IPv6 allows approximately 340 trillion trillion trillions of IP addresses, compared to IPv4, which uses 32-bit addresses. IPv4 has approximately 4.3 billion addresses).

IRC
Internet Relay Chat
http://www.irchelp.org/
• Networks of separate servers which allow users to connect as large groups of users, instead of the typical one-to-one chat of text messaging.
IRPC
Internet Rights and Principles Dynamic Coalition
http://internetrightsandprinciples.org/site/charter/
• An international network of individuals and organisations working to uphold human rights in the online environment and across the spectrum of internet policy-making domains that has produced a Charter of human rights and principles for the Internet.

IRTF
Internet Research Task Force
https://irtf.org
• Body that focuses on longer-term research issues related to the evolution of Internet protocols, applications, architecture, and technology.

ISOC
Internet Society
http://www.internetsociety.org/
• A global organisation aligned with the technical community, dedicated to keeping the Internet open, transparent, and user-defined.

ISP
Internet Service Provider
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_service_provider
• An organisation (generally a business) that provides access to the Internet, and related support services.

IT
Information Technology
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information_technology
• The use of computers and other telecommunications devices to store, retrieve, transmit, and manipulate data as a support mechanism for a larger enterprise.

ITR
International Telecommunication Regulations
http://www.internetsociety.org/itr
• A treaty developed at the 1988 World Administrative Telegraph and Telephone Conference, to facilitate global interconnection and interoperability of telecommunications traffic across national borders, and amended during the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) Dubai in 2012 in a controversial voting process.
**ITU**

**International Telecommunication Union**

http://www.itu.int/en/Pages/default.aspx

- Geneva-based United Nations (UN) specialised agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs).

**ITU-D**

**International Telecommunication Union – Telecommunication Development Sector**

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/default.aspx

- ITU-D is a sector of the ITU dedicated to fostering (a) international cooperation on telecommunication and ICT development issues, (b) an enabling environment for ICT development, and (c) the development of telecommunication and ICT networks.

**ITU-R**

**International Telecommunication Union – Radio Communication Sector**

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/information/Pages/default.aspx

- ITU-R is a sector of the ITU focusing on creating the conditions for harmonised development and efficient operation of radiocommunication systems. Its primary objective is to ensure interference-free operations of radiocommunication systems.

**ITU-T**

**International Telecommunication Union – Telecommunication Standardization Sector**

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Pages/default.aspx

- ITU-T is a sector of the ITU comprising study groups that develop international standards (ITU-T Recommendations) for the global ICT infrastructure.

**IXP**

**Internet eXchange Point**

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_exchange_point

- Centres where ISPs and CDNs exchange Internet traffic. Traffic between parties is exchanged by BGP. IXPs reduce the amount the traffic to be sent upstream, therefore reducing delivery cost for ISPs. They also improve the Internet routing efficiency.
**JPA**

**Joint Project Agreement**

http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements

- The JPA of 2006 is an iteration in relations between the US Department of Commerce (DoC) and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), towards managing the transition of the domain name system (DNS) to the private sector. It builds on the previous Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two parties.

**kB**

**Kilobyte**

http://www.t1shopper.com/tools/calculate/

- A measure of data capacity, kB is 1024 bytes. Similarly, MB stands for Megabyte and refers to a thousand kilobytes (i.e., a million bytes) per second; GB stands for Gigabyte and refers to a thousand Megabytes (i.e., a billion bytes), etc.

**Kbps**

**Kilobits per second**

http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/K/Kbps.html

- A measure of data transfer speed, kilobits per second is 1024 bits per second. Similarly, Mbps stands for Megabits per second and refers to a thousand kilobits (i.e., a million bits) per second; Gbps stands for Gigabits per second and refers to a thousand Megabits (i.e., a billion bits) per second, etc.

**LACNIC**

**Latin America and Caribbean Network Information Centre**

http://www.lacnic.net/web/portal/inicio

- One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing Latin America and parts of the Caribbean.

**LIR**

**Local Internet Registry**


- Members of a Network Coordination Centre (NCC) called LIRs because they are responsible for the distribution of address space and registration of the address space on a local level.
mbps
Megabits (millions of bits) per seconds
http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/M/Mbps.html
• A measure of data transfer speed: megabits per second or one million bits per second (Mbps). Similarly kB is 1024 bits per second.

MDGs
Millenium Development Goals
https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/millennium-development-goals-(mdgs)
• Eight goals that UN member states agreed to try to achieve by the year 2015. The United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000, commited world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women.

MILNET
Military Network
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MILNET
• The part of the Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET) used for unclassified US Department of Defense (DoD) traffic; later the Defense Data Network.

MIT
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
http://web.mit.edu/
• A university founded in 1861 in the state of Massachusetts, USA, for the study of science and technology.

modem
MOdulate-DEModulate
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modem
• A device used to transmit and decode digital data.

MoU
Memo of Understanding
http://www.investopedia.com/terms/m/mou.asp
• A legal document outlining the terms and details of an agreement between parties, including each party’s requirements and responsibilities. In Internet governance language, it commonly refers to the agreement between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the US Department of Commerce (DoC).
MP3
Music file MPEG Layer 3
• A commonly used encoding format for digital audio which uses a form of lossy data compression, a data encoding method that compresses data by discarding (losing) some of it.

MSP
Multistakeholder process
http://toronto45.icann.org/node/34391
• Strategy to foster consensus between all involved stakeholders, even with diverging interests, to include the public domain, governments, the private sector, and civil society.

MUD
Originally Multi-User Dungeon, later both Multi-User Dimension and Multi-User Domain
http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Multi-User+Domain
• A computer program, usually run over the Internet that allows multiple users to participate in virtual reality role-playing games.

NIC
Network Information Centre
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/InterNIC
• A network information centre, but usually referring to one of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing Latin America and parts of the Caribbean (LACNIC), Africa (AFRINIC), Asia and the Pacific (APNIC), North America and parts of the Caribbean (ARIN), and Europe (RIPE). NIC also refers to the national registries of country-code top level domains (ccTLDs).

NIR
National Internet Registries
• Part of the hierarchical system for allocating IP addresses. NIRs receive certain number of IP addresses from RIRs to allocate on a national level. NIRs allocate to national ISPs and individual users.

NIS Directive
Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems
• Directive (EU) 2016/1148 of the European Parliament and of the Council dated 6 July 2016 concerning measures for a high common level of security of network and information systems across the EU.
NIST
National Institute for Standards and Technology
• Founded in 1901 as physical science lab by the US government, NIST is active in scientific domains as a measurements and standards institute. It has becoming increasingly present in cybersecurity and critical infrastructure protection.

NNTP
Network News Transfer Protocol
• An application protocol used for transporting Usenet news articles (netnews) between news servers and for reading and posting articles by end-user client applications.

NRO
Number Resource Organization
http://www.nro.net/
• Formed by the Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) to formalise their co-operative efforts, the NRO exists to protect the unallocated Number Resource pool, to promote and protect the bottom-up policy development process, and to act as a focal point for the Internet community’s input into the RIR system.

NSF
National Science Foundation
http://www.nsf.gov/
• An independent US federal agency created by the US Congress in 1950 to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; and to secure the national defense.

NSFNET
National Science Foundation Network
http://www.nsf.gov/about/history/nsf0050/internet/launch.htm
• NSF’s supercomputing program, launched in 1984, designed to make high performance computers accessible to researchers around the country (USA).

NTIA
The National Telecommunications and Information Administration
http://www.ntia.doc.gov/about
• NTIA is the US President’s principal adviser on telecommunications and information policy. It is one of the main points of contact of the US government with the Internet Corporation of Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).
ODR
Online Dispute Resolution
http://digitalwatch.giplatform.org/issues/arbitration
• Often referred to as the online equivalent of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR); uses technology to facilitate the resolution of disputes between parties.

OASIS
Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
https://www.oasis-open.org/
• A not-for-profit international consortium that drives the development, convergence, and adoption of open standards for the global information society. OASIS promotes industry consensus and produces worldwide standards for security, cloud computing, Internet of Things, the Smart Grid, content technologies, emergency management, eGovernment, and many other areas.

OECD
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
http://www.oecd.org/
• Paris-based organisation established in 1961 to provide a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems.

OES
Operators of Essential Services
• Certain businesses operating in critical industries (drinking water supply and distribution, energy, digital infrastructure, banking, financial market structures, health, transport) and subject to the NIS Directive. OES are obliged to implement a cyber resilience programme that incorporates measures for information security, business continuity, and incident response.

OSCE
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
http://www.osce.org/
• World’s largest regional security organisation with 57 member states from Europe, Central Asia, and North America; addresses cybersecurity through confidence building measures.

OSI
Open Systems Interconnection
http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/O/OSI.html
• An International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard for worldwide communications that defines a networking framework for implementing protocols in seven layers.
OTT
Over-the-top (services or providers)
http://www.itvdictionary.com/definitions/over-the-top_definition.html
• General term for service utilized over a network that is not offered by that network operator (commonly referring to Skype, Google, Facebook, and other online content and service providers).

PC
Personal Computer
• A general purpose computer meant for individual use.

PGP
Pretty Good Privacy
http://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/definition/Pretty-Good-Privacy
• A popular software program used to encrypt and decrypt e-mail over the Internet.

PKI
Public Key Infrastructure
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public-key_infrastructure
• A set of hardware, software, people, policies, and procedures needed to create, manage, distribute, use, store, and revoke digital certificates.

PLC
Programmable Logic Controller or Programmable Controller
http://www.plcdev.com/definition_of_a_plc
• A PLC is a device used in industrial control systems. Based on industry specific requirements, it monitors the inputs, processes and outputs of an automated process in order to verify their compliance with pre-established norms. Its use is closely related with Supervisory Control And Data Acquisitions (SCADAs).

PS
Packet-switching
• The approach used by some computer network protocols to deliver data across a local or long distance connection. Examples of packet switching protocols are Frame Relay, Internet Protocol (IP) and X.25.
PTI
Public Technical Identifiers
https://pti.icann.org
• Companies that work with ICANN on enabling technical implementation of basic DNS functions and managing public identifiers. PTI was incorporated in August 2016 as an ICANN affiliate.

RFC
Request for Comments
http://www.ietf.org/rfc.html
• Usually refers to the publication of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), established in 1969 by Steve Crocker to record Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET) notes. They are now used to record Internet specifications, communications protocols, etc.

RFID
Radio Frequency Identification
http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/gadgets/high-tech-gadgets/rfid.htm
• Smart labels or intelligent bar codes that can communicate with a networked system for tracking purposes.

RIPE
Ripe Network Coordination Centre
http://www.ripe.net/
• One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing the European region.

RIPE NCC
Réseaux IP Européens Network
http://www.ripe.net/
• One of five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) representing the European region.

RIP
Routing Information Protocol
• A distance-vector protocol that uses hop count as its metric. RIP is widely used for routing traffic on the global Internet and is an interior gateway protocol (IGP), which means that it performs routing within a single autonomous system.
RIR
Regional Internet Registry
  https://www.arin.net/knowledge/rirs.html
  • Non-profit corporations that administer and register Internet Protocol (IP) address space and Autonomous System (AS) numbers within a defined region. RIRs also work together on joint projects.

SCADA
Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition
  • Systems of centralised monitoring able to set the Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) parameters which may trigger an alarm in case of unusual behaviour.

SDGs
Sustainable Development Goals
  • A set of goals agreed upon by all members of the United Nations (UN), covering a broad range of development issues.

SOPA
Stop Online Piracy Act
  http://money.cnn.com/2012/01/17/technology/sopa_explained/index.htm
  • Known as SOPA, this proposed bill aims to crack down on copyright infringement by restricting access to sites that host or facilitate the trading of pirated content.

Spam
Adopted from the brand name SPAM (Hormel Spiced Ham)
  • Use of electronic messaging systems to send unsolicited bulk messages, especially advertising, indiscriminately.

SRI
Stanford Research Institute, now SRI International
  http://www.sri.com/about
  • US-based independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit research institute conducting client-sponsored research and development for government, industry, foundations, and other organisations.
**SSL**
Secure Sockets Layer
http://www.digicert.com/ssl.htm
- A standard security technology for establishing an encrypted link between a server and a client - typically a web server (website) and a browser; or a mail server and a mail client (e.g. Outlook).

**TCP/IP**
Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
- Arguably the single most important computer networking technology. The Internet and most home networks support TCP/IP as the 'language' computers use to find and connect with each other.

**TLD**
Top Level Domain
- The Internet’s domain name system (DNS) allows users to refer to websites and other resources using easier-to-remember domain names (such as www.icann.org) rather than the all-numeric Internet Protocol (IP) addresses (such as 192.0.34.65) assigned to each computer on the Internet. Each domain name is made up of a series of character strings (called labels) separated by dots. The right-most label in a domain name is referred to as its top-level domain (TLD).

**TMCH**
Trademark Clearinghouse
http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/about/trademark-clearinghouse
- A mechanism, developed by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), which has been built into ICANN’s new generic Top Level Domain (gTLD) programme; it works by authenticating information from rights holders and provides this information to registries and registrars.

**TPP**
Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement
https://ustr.gov/tpp
- A free trade agreement between 12 Pacific Rim countries: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam.
ToS
Terms of service
• Terms and conditions that users need to read and formally accept (by clicking ‘I agree’) when using most online services.

TRIPS
Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
  http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/whatis_e/tif_e/agrm7_e.htm
• The World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), negotiated in the 1986-1994 Uruguay Round, introduced intellectual property rules into the multilateral trading system for the first time.

TTIP
Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
  http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/in-focus/ttip/
• A free trade and investment agreement between the EU and the United States.

UCLA
University of California, Los Angeles
  http://www.ucla.edu/
• A public research university in Los Angeles, CA, USA.

UCSB
University of California, Santa Barbara
  http://www.ucsb.edu/
• A public university in Santa Barbara, CA, USA.

UDHR
Universal Declaration of Human Rights

UDRP
Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy
  http://www.icann.org/en/help/dndr/udrp
• Policy whereby most types of trademark-based domain-name disputes must be resolved by agreement, court action, or arbitration before a registrar will cancel, suspend, or transfer a domain name.
UN
United Nations
• International organisation with 193 member states, founded in 1945 to replace the League of Nations.

UN/CEFACT
United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
https://www.unece.org/cefact/
• A subsidiary, intergovernmental body of the UNECE which serves as a focal point within the UN ECOSOC for trade facilitation recommendations and electronic business standards.

UNCITRAL
United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
http://www.uncitral.org/
• The core legal body of the United Nations (UN) system in the field of international trade law. A legal body with universal membership specialising in commercial law reform worldwide for over 40 years. UNCITRAL’s business is the modernisation and harmonisation of rules on international business.

UNCTAD
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
https://unctad.org
• A permanent intergovernmental body established by the UNGA in 1964. It promotes the development-friendly integration of developing countries into the world economy. UNCTAD has progressively evolved into an authoritative knowledge-based institution whose work aims to help shape current policy debates and thinking on development, with a particular focus on ensuring that domestic policies and international action are mutually supportive in bringing about sustainable development.

UNESCO
United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
https://en.unesco.org/
• A specialised agency of the United Nations (UN) with five major programmes: education, natural sciences, social and human sciences, culture, and communication and information.
UN HLP-DC
UN High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation
https://digitalcooperation.org/
• The High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation was established by the UN Secretary-General in July 2018 to identify good examples and propose modalities for working cooperatively across sectors, disciplines, and borders to address challenges in the digital age. The Panel conducted a broad engagement and consultation process, resulting in a final report with recommendations in 2019.

UNICEF
United Nations Children’s Fund
http://www.unicef.org/
• A United Nations (UN) programme providing humanitarian and developmental assistance to children, and an important stakeholder working in the field of child online protection.

UNIX
Not an acronym, but an Open Group brand for a computer operating system, based on a play on words for MULTICS multitasking, multi-user computer operating system
• Today the definition of UNIX® takes the form of the worldwide Single UNIX Specification integrating X/Open Company’s XPG4, IEEE’s POSIX Standards and ISO C.

UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
http://www.unodc.org/
• United Nations (UN) body, established in 1997 to deal with illicit trafficking in and abuse of drugs, crime prevention and criminal justice, international terrorism, and political corruption.

USENET
Slang for ‘use the Net’
• Usenet is a worldwide distributed Internet discussion system. It was developed from the general purpose Unix-to-Unix Copy (UUCP) dial-up network architecture.

UUCP
Unix-to-Unix Copy
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UUCP
• The term generally refers to a suite of computer programs and protocols allowing remote execution of commands and transfer of files, e-mail, and netnews between computers.
**VoIP**  
*Voice over Internet Protocol*  
- A way to carry phone calls over an Internet Protocol (IP) data network, whether on the Internet or your own internal network. A primary attraction of VoIP is its ability to help reduce expenses because telephone calls travel over the data network rather than the phone company’s network.

**W3C**  
*World Wide Web Consortium*  
http://www.w3.org/  
- An international community where member organisations, a full-time staff, and the public work together to develop Web standards. Led by Web inventor Tim Berners-Lee and CEO Jeffrey Jaffe, W3C’s mission is to lead the Web to its full potential.

**WCIT**  
*World Conference on International Telecommunications*  
http://www.itu.int/en/wcit-12/Pages/default.aspx  
- The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) convened the World Conference on International Telecommunications (WCIT) in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 3-14 December 2012. This landmark conference reviewed the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR).

**WELL**  
*Whole Earth `Lectronic Link*  
http://www.well.com/aboutwell.html  
- One of the oldest virtual communities founded more than two decades ago in association with the Whole Earth Review. The service was recently purchased to be run by a group of its own long-term active members.

**WGIG**  
*Working Group on Internet Governance*  
- Working group on Internet governance (IG) set up by the Secretary General of the United Nations (UN) to investigate and make proposals for action on the governance of the Internet by 2005.

**WIPO**  
*World Intellectual Property Organization*  
http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/  
- United Nations (UN) agency dedicated to the use of intellectual property (patents, copyright, trademarks, designs, etc.) as a means of stimulating innovation and creativity.
WSIS
World Summit on the Information Society
http://www.itu.int/wsis/index.html
• Held in two phases. The first phase took place in Geneva hosted by the government of Switzerland from 10 to 12 December 2003; the second phase took place in Tunis hosted by the government of Tunisia, from 16 to 18 November 2005.

WTO
World Trade Organization
http://www.wto.org/
• International organisation runs by its member governments whose primary purpose is to open trade for the benefit of all.

WTPF
World Telecom and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy Forum of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
http://www.itu.int/en/wtpf-13/Pages/default.aspx
• A high-level international event to exchange views on the key policy issues arising from today’s fast changing information and communication technology (ICT) environment. The Fifth WTPF took place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 14 May to 16 May 2013.

World Wide Web
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Wide_Web
• Not to be confused with the Internet, the World Wide Web is a system of interlinked hypertext documents accessed via the Internet. With a web browser, one can view web pages that may contain text, images, videos, and other multimedia and navigate between them via hyperlinks.

XML
eXtensible Mark-up Language
http://www.w3.org/XML/
• A simple, very flexible text format derived from SGML (ISO 8879). Originally designed to meet the challenges of large-scale electronic publishing, XML is also playing an increasingly important role in the exchange of a wide variety of data on the Web and elsewhere.
DiploFoundation provides systemic capacity development support through online and blended courses, in situ workshops, policy research, policy immersion, and community support. In Internet governance (IG) processes, Diplo acts on all levels, from local to global, and works together with many partners to ensure long-lasting capacity improvements.

The main achievement of IG capacity development is a generation of leaders and pioneers who represent their countries and communities in Internet policy-making, and initiate capacity development work in their own communities. For more information: http://www.diplomacy.edu/ig/

The version 3.0 of the IG Acronyms Glossary is published in partnership with the Internet Society and the Geneva Internet Platform.

The Geneva Internet Platform, https://www.giplatform.org, is an initiative supported by the Swiss authorities and operated by DiploFoundation. The GIP’s work focuses on strengthening the participation of small and developing countries in Geneva-based digital policy processes. The GIP facilitates research for an evidence-based, multidisciplinary digital policy approach beyond existing policy silos (e.g. technology, security, human rights), and provides tools and methods for in situ and online engagement in digital policy processes.

The Internet Society, http://www.internetsociety.org, is the trusted independent source for Internet information and thought leadership from around the world. It is also the organizational home for the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). With its principled vision and substantial technological foundation, the Internet Society promotes open dialogue on Internet policy, technology, and future development among users, companies, governments, and other organizations. Working with its members and Chapters around the world, the Internet Society enables the continued evolution and growth of the Internet for everyone.