

International Telecommunications Union
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Danish response to invitation to Member States to provide input on actions that have been undertaken or to be undertaken by governments in relation to various international Internet-related public policy issues

Below are the responses from the relevant Danish authorities to the question from the Council Working Group on Internet-related public policy issues in Circular letter 13/168 of 22 November 2013. Please note, that Denmark supports the opening of the Council Working Group on Internet-related public policy issues to participation from all relevant stakeholders.

Multilingualization of the Internet Including Internationalized (multilingual) Domain Names

Denmark has actively supported the IDN policy making process and decisions in ICANN. We also support the European initiatives to implement IDN variants for Bulgaria and Greece. Presently there is no demand on a national level for any Danish IDN's. Both Greenland and the Faro Islands have been delegated their own 2-character ISO 3166-1 top-level domain.

International Internet Connectivity

In the Danish eGovernment Strategy for 2011-2015, the government has set a number of benchmarks focusing on investment and development of the digital infrastructure that is secure and robust enough to meet future requirements. The digital strategy benchmarks are both set to promote the supply and the demand for high speed broadband (NGA).

The government has an ambitious broadband target that all households and businesses should have access to a broadband connection of minimum 100 Mbps download and 30 Mbps upload by 2020.

On 13 March 2013, the government furthermore launched 22 specific initiatives to promote the development and improvement of the framework conditions for the telecommunications companies' investments in broadband infrastructure in Denmark and promote the municipalities' opportunities of providing better coverage requirements through public procurement of high speed broadband in areas where there is currently poor coverage.

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The government is also working on an initiative to develop a more detailed broadband mapping to replace the now annual survey based on data from telecommunications companies. In general, there have been considerable investments in broadband infrastructure in Denmark. This has contributed to a well-developed broadband infrastructure. For example, approx. 81 pct. of all Danish households and businesses have access to a broadband connection with a download speed of 30 Mbps, and we are in the top 3 among OECD countries in terms of the number of broadband connections per 100 inhabitants.

Finally, in December 2012 the government has set up a growth team consisting of high level public and private experts, which will hand over recommendations to the government on how to promote the access and usage of broadband infrastructure to an even greater extent. The growth team is expected to submit its recommendations to the government in early 2014. The government will make a growth plan to address the growth team's recommendations.

International public policy issues pertaining to the Internet and the management of Internet resources, including domain names and addresses

As a consequence of ICANN's decision of June 2011 to launch the new gTLD programme a new bill regarding domain names is being debated in the Parliament in order to facilitate letters of non-objection to applicants for gTLD's with a geographic name that is related to Denmark. The Danish Government is presently hosting meetings with ISP's and business associations in order to cooperate with the parties regarding information to Danish enterprises about IPv6. The Danish Government is also hosting regular multi-stakeholder meetings regarding ongoing internet governance issues and input to ICANN meetings and is responsible for the annual Danish Internet Governance Forum.

The security, safety, continuity, sustainability, and robustness of the Internet

The Danish Government established a new Centre for Cyber Security in 2012 as stipulated in the Danish government coalition agreement from 2011. The aim of the centre is to strengthen the protection of the critical infrastructure, which supports vital functions in the Danish society. The centre is the national it-security authority and comprises the civilian and military Computer Emergency Response Teams in order to prevent, detect and mitigate cyber threats.

The Danish government will present a proposal for a new law on the Centre for Cyber Security in the spring of 2014. The aim of the new law is to strengthen the centre's abilities to examine and prevent cyber attacks. Furthermore, the aim is to regulate the processing of personal data in the centre in order to strengthen the protection hereof.

Currently, the Danish government is working on a national strategy for cyber security, which will be presented later this year. The strategy will include strategic priorities and tangible initiatives on the cyber security area, which will enable the continuous prevention, detection and mitigation of known as well as emerging cyber threats. The strategy will also recommend a strengthening of the cooperation between the government agencies and the private sector.

Availability, affordability, reliability, and quality of service, especially in the developing world

Access to Information and Communications Technologies has a considerable potential in securing access to information and basic services for the world's poor populations. The Strategy for Denmark's development cooperation "The Right to a better Life" identifies access to ICT as an important element in ensuring the population in Danish partner countries, including poor and marginalized population groups, access to information and influence on matters affecting their life and thus the ability to participate in democratic processes. Furthermore access to ICT can contribute to innovative ways of ensuring access to basic services.

Example: In Kenya Danida is supporting, in cooperation with Grundfos and IFU, establishment of so called LifeLink systems ensuring access to clean drinking water. The system is made up of solar powered water pumps, a remote monitoring system ensuring maintenance, and a mobile phone based pre-payment system. The project delivers clean drinking water to at least 27.500 citizens and at the same time collects valuable information on patterns of consumption use for the further development of the system.

Developmental aspects of the Internet

The overall aim of Danish support to civil society is to support the development of a vibrant, independent and diverse civil society in developing countries while also contributing to the popular foundation and engagement in Denmark in development work. Approximately DKK 1 billion is allocated for this purpose in the Danish fiscal act.

In 2013, an innovation pool was established in an effort to encourage Danish civil society organisations to rethink their way of working with partners in developing countries and to promote innovative partnerships and methodologies by providing the funds for testing new ideas. Twelve Danish civil society organisations received a total of DKK 29 million from the pool. Many of the projects proposed the use of innovative methods, particularly in relation to new information and communication technology (ICT), social media etc., with the aim of producing evidence based documentation for activism, broad mobilisation, and national and international advocacy.

Respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data

The Danish parliament has adopted Act number 429 of 31 May 2000 on the processing of personal data as amended. The Act is drafted in accordance with Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data. It follows from Section 55 of the Danish Act on Protection of Personal Data that Datatilsynet – a supervisory authority – supervises the processing of data covered by the Act.

In light of the present focus on data protection, in relation to the ongoing negotiations of the European Personal Data Regulation, the Danish government has initiated a national debate among stakeholders with a broad view on "digital trust", focusing especially on the economic perspectives of data protection for both consumers and business. The Danish Government works on bringing this perspective of the data protection debate to the European level, in order to create a strong link between actions for both the protection of privacy and growth initiatives in regards to i.e. Big Data.

Protecting children and young people from abuse and exploitation

Safer Internet Centre Denmark consists of three well established and experienced organizations. The Media Council for Children and Young People is appointed as the Awareness Centre with the main task to serve as a knowledge hub and mediator of the newest developments within the area of children and young people's use of online technologies and thereby we inform and educate on a safe and positive use of digital media. Save the Children Denmark upholds the task as a hotline where anyone can report online child abuse images. Centre for Digital Youth Care is the centre's helpline as they offer online counseling to all children and young people in Denmark.

Since 2004 Safer Internet Centre Denmark has established a strong national stakeholder network of different organizations in Denmark – all with a focus and interest in children and young people's use of online technologies. The network is an important resource and knowledge base for the Safer Internet Centre Denmark, just as the centre plays an important role in the organizational and political landscape of children and young people's use of online technologies. The Safer Internet Centre Denmark has established a national advisory board to steer and inspire the centre in the right direction. This board consists of representatives from academic institutions, the industry, governmental bodies and law enforcement.

Besides the day-to-day activities, the main focus is set on empowering children, parents, primary, secondary and high schools in all aspects of Media Literacy. A part of these activities corresponds closely to point 11 regarding "Respect for privacy and the protection of personal information and data", in the sense that the Safer Internet Centre Denmark encourages

the dialogue between generations on children and young people's digital culture and their understanding of privacy and fundamental rights in the digital age.

For the time being the future of the European network of Safer Internet Centers is uncertain. It is possible that the Safer Internet Network will continue within the framework of EU's Connecting Europe Facility Program, but the situation is not clarified.