

REIMAGINING BIG TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES AS NATION STATES

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About Me

I am a Master's candidate in Communication, Culture and Technology at Georgetown University. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Relations from Ashoka University, India. My research and professional focus stands at the intersection of technology and international relations. This is particularly centered around cyber policy, artificial intelligence and public-private partnerships in the same.

For the past year and a half, I have worked with the Center for Security and Emerging Technology at Georgetown University.

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Background

- The growth of the cyberspace is dominated by big technology companies
- In The Behavior of these companies has begun to deviate from their historical expansion
- Global cyber governance does not seem to have a clear and direct solution.

Introduction

- This research attempts to recategorize big technology companies as nation-states.
- In an international policy perspective, it is crucial to understand how best to have a holistic structure on cyberspace. This research highlights the need to fit big technology companies within any such structure.
- The presentation aims to classify big technology companies as nation states to underscore their importance in the larger sphere of global cyber governance.
- However, they remain non-state actors and therefore, this presentation also highlights a multistakeholder model to fit these companies in cyber governance.

Research Outline

- Classify big technology companies as net-states that operate like nation-states
- Global governance around cyber space
- Importance of the multistakeholder model in global governance

Case Study

- Meta includes Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp. Taken individually, each of these social media platforms have over a billion active users per month.
- The virtual platform acts as a sense of space that provides proximity between people, which allows people to be connected together. Even if there is no understanding of knowing every person on the platform, there is a sense of community and sameness which binds the users together in this net-state.

Discussion

- Big tech needs space as observers to whatever global organization that is developed to govern cyberspace.
- It is undeniable that big technology companies supports livelihoods in a manner that is difficult for society to now untangle from
- International organizations are norm-setters, agenda setters and they name and shame

Questions