

Forward or Backward?

Reviewing the Multi-Stakeholder Model in Internet Governance from the GDC

By Yige Lian



About Me



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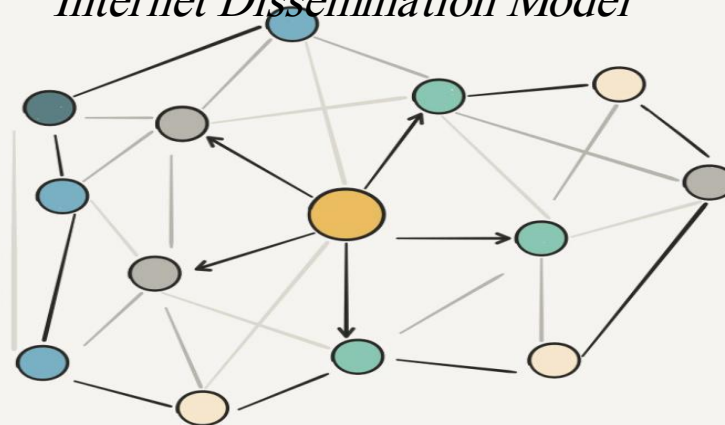
ICANN?

From Medium Governance to Internet Governance

Laswell: Information Dissemination Model



Internet Dissemination Model



Agenda



**United
Nations**

Global Digital Compact

An open, safe and secure digital future for all.

I .Multi-Stakeholder Model & GDC

II .Mainstream models and concepts of Internet governance

III. Multi-Stakeholder Model in New Era

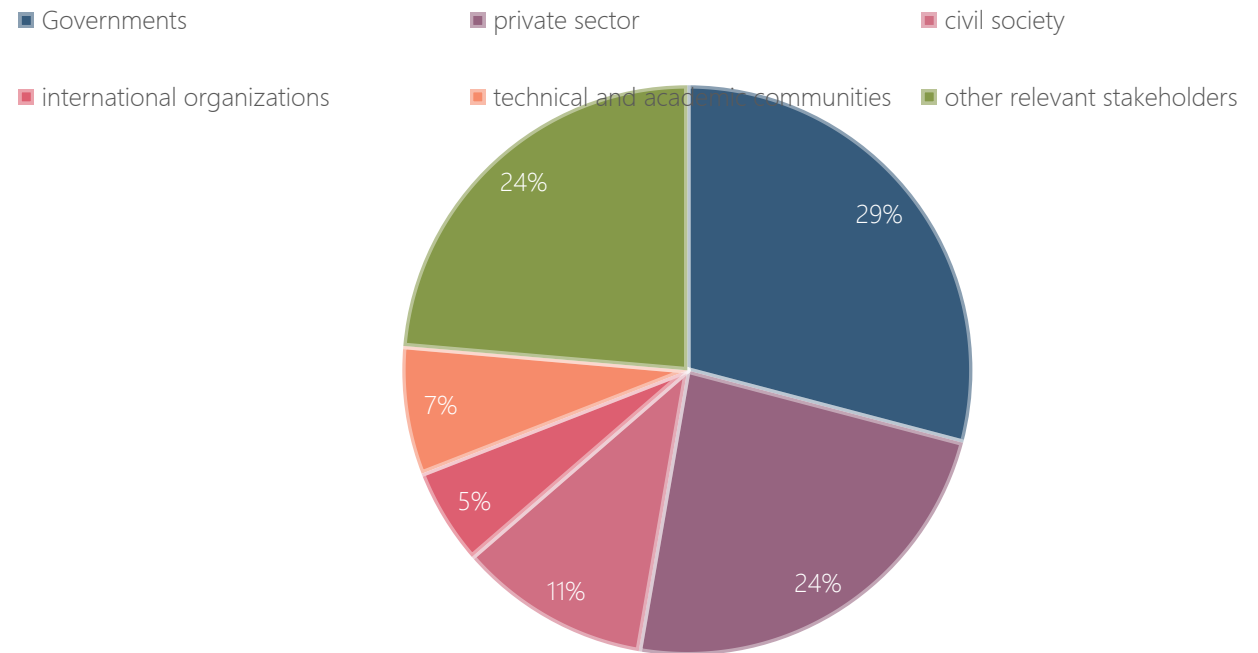
IV. Conclusion

I .Multi-Stakeholder Model in the Content of GDC

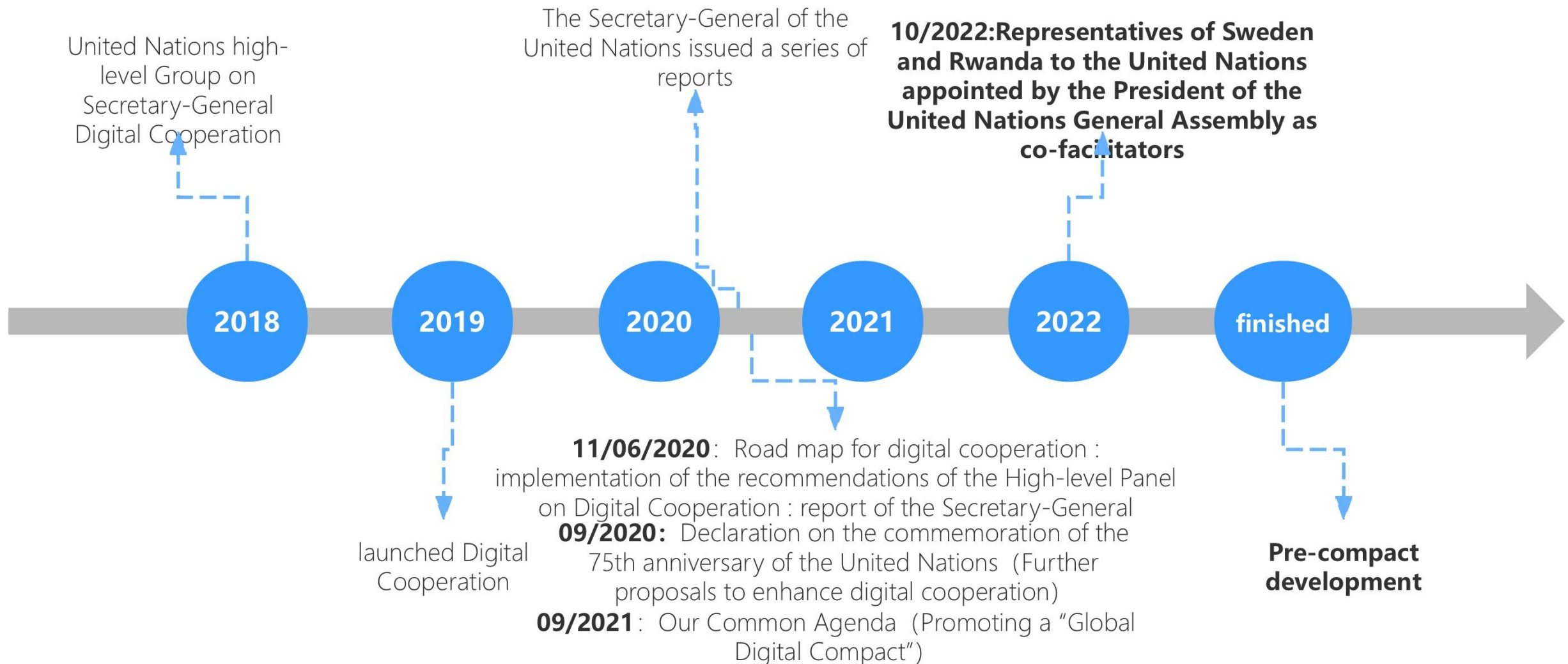
*We recognize that Internet governance must continue to be global and **multi-stakeholder** in nature, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders in accordance with their respective roles and responsibilities.*

Commitments and Actions (27)

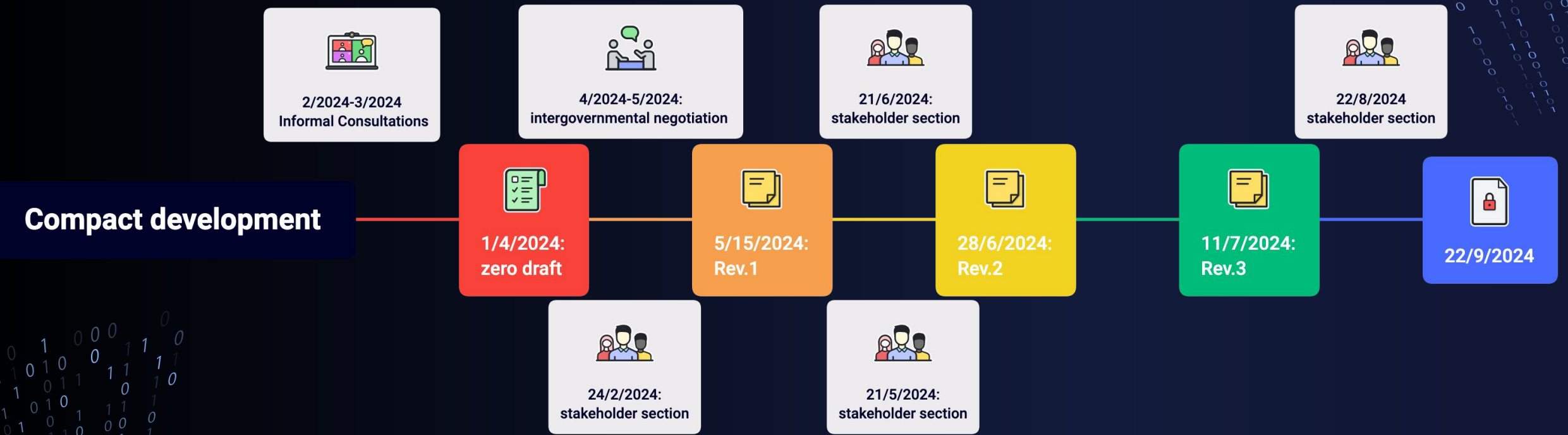
Number of Occurrences of Different Stakeholders



I .Multi-Stakeholder Practices in the Compact Development



I .Multi-Stakeholder Practices in the Compact Development



I .Two Important Arguments

① Language for Multi-Stakeholder

- The first revision retains the formulation of the zero text in terms of sustained multi-stakeholder cooperation
- The second revision of the GDC is slightly different from the first revision in its presentation of the roles of multiple parties.
- The third revision of the GDC, emphasised both multilateral and multi-party models were recognized as having an important role to play.

② Role of Technology Community

*the Internet is fragmented
the Internet is governed by specific institutions
Internet protocols are governed by international
frameworks and open standards
the positioning of WSIS and the IGF*

**ICANN community's feedback on the
GDC Policy Brief (13/6/2023)**

*A "tripartite" model of digital cooperation
that recognizes only three stakeholder groups:
the private sector, governments, and civil
society (including the technical community)*

**UN Secretary General's Special Envoy
for Technology Amandeep Singh Gill
(19/6/2023)**

The Global Digital
Compact : A Top—
Down Attempt to
Minimize the Role of
the Technical
Community

(21/8/2023)

II .Mainstream Models of Internet Governance



Multilateralism



Multistakeholderism

Core: where is the government

The **OSI** protocol, which has an overly complex structure, high implementation costs, and is overly bureaucratic, has lost out to the bottom-up, grassroots **TCP/IP** industry, which is rich in grassroots spirit. The failure of OSI is regarded as ITU's own failure², which directly determines the absence of the United Nations from the core battlefield of network governance after that.

Portocal Wars

1970s to mid-1990s
marginalized
spectator

else

At **ICANN**, government representatives are placed on the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and play a primarily advisory and consultative role.

The second effort was the **ITU's** expectation to fully intervene in the management of the **Internet's core resources** such as Internet root servers, domain names, addresses, etc., which ultimately failed with the formation of **ICANN led by the U.S. government in 1998**.

1998-2001
participant

The formation of ICANN marked a shift in the management of the Internet's core resources from a model centered on an intergovernmental body to a multistakeholder model, but it is also from this point

After 2000, the market for communication services, the technological base, the economic model of communication and the model of interaction at the provider level changed. The then UN Secretary General, Mr. Annan, strengthened the focus on the Internet and initiated global processes. This was marked by the **two WSIS conferences** held by the UN in Geneva and Tunis in **2002 and 2005**, respectively, to discuss the development and governance of the global information society, with the **IGF launched in 2006** as the main outcome.

After 21th
Successful
Explorers

Regional country-specific organizations are also making an entry: GDPR in May

GDC: Influe
ncer

Global cybergovernance formally enters a hybrid model of governance that is

III. Multi-Stakeholder Model in New Era



Development of AI

1. the **structural risk** that AI may bring to the Internet
2. AI capital-driven model that brings about a new **digital divide and smart divide**, and the further polarization and intensification of the rich-poor gap caused by the technology.



Platform Expansion

Platform is in a special zone **between governmentalized and de-governmentalized** governance.



Post-Epidemic and Post-Globalization Era

Cybersecurity, geopolitical tensions, and calls for data sovereignty have led many to the pessimistic belief that the **Internet is fragmenting**.

IV. Conclusion

Vint Cerf :

Because of its dynamic nature, the Internet may never reach a permanent solution, but continued dialogue and a willingness to engage in governance “battles” are essential. Internet governance is a shared responsibility that requires cooperation, understanding and compromise among all stakeholders in order to maintain and enhance the usefulness of the Internet for all humanity.

THANKS