



03 October 2018

Synopsis

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The **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India** are preparing for the implementation of a **National Digital Communications Policy 2018**, a new telecom policy, by meeting with key stakeholders to discuss the policy aspects of this new initiative.

China are set to host the 5th **World Internet Conference** with the theme of 'creating a digital world for mutual trust and collective governance – towards a community with a shared future in cyberspace.' Several guests from international organisations, the Government, technology companies and non-governmental organisations will be attending the conference on November 7-9.

Vietnam's ruling **Communist Party** are increasing their control over the **internet**, after it was announced they jailed a man for 27 months after he was found posting anti Government posts on the social media site **Facebook**.

The **EU** have announced that they will take a more proactive role in developing high performance computers because at the moment the EU only provides 5% of **supercomputing** resources.

The **Scottish Government** and the National Cyber Resilience Leaders' **Board** have published a **Cyber Resilience Strategy**, which sets out steps the Scottish Government and partners will take to support the growth of Scottish **cybersecurity** firms. £1 million has been granted to Scottish Enterprise to identify ways to develop the sector, including £370,000 for the creation of a cluster management organisation, £500,000 for a Cyber Essentials voucher scheme for small and medium-sized third and private-sector organisations, and £250,000 to stimulate cyber-specific innovation.

GCHQ's National Cyber Security Centre created a one-day course for pupils aged 11 to 14 years old on 22nd September. School pupils learnt about **digital forensics** and how to crack code. The programme was run by **Cardiff University** computer science academics and was partially funded by the **NCSC** and the **Institute of Coding**.

The **United States** has sued the Californian Governor Jerry Brown for signing an executive order which allows California to retain their strict **net neutrality** rules. US Attorney General Jess Sessions said, “states do not regulate interstate commerce — the federal government does. Once again the California legislature has enacted an extreme and illegal state law attempting to frustrate federal policy.”

U.S. President **Donald Trump** is set to meet with **internet** giants and social media companies such as **Google** at the White House however no date or agenda has yet been announced.

The **United States** are expected to confirm that they would provide **cyber warfare** assistance to **NATO** if the threat from **Russia** warranted it.

According to technology company **Microsoft** more regulations are needed not less to ‘govern the development and use of AI.’ Dr Hon a Microsoft Executive in **Singapore** said ‘we think there needs to be open, fair, clear guidelines’ around **AI** to encourage innovation.

A group of companies operating in the global defence, **internal security** and peacekeeping industries known as **Paramount Group** in **Africa** have launched a new robotics competition which seeks to teach young learners how to build desktop-scale robots while also encouraging them to further their careers by studying **STEM**.

The **World Trade Organisation** has predicted that **technology** could increase **global trade** by 1.8% – 2.0% annually until 2030.

Disclaimer: Please note that this monitor is a summary of news sources and does not reflect the official views of IEEE.

For more information, visit the [IEEE Internet Initiative website](#), and see [IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor](#) past issues. Join [IEEE Collabratec™](#) Internet Technology Policy Community discussions related to internet policy issues and to collaborate with other members of the global technical and policy communities.

IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor

03 October 2018

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Europe

Internet governance

20.09.19

Computer Weekly

[Digital economy competition panel meets to discuss regulations](#)

The UK Government have created a new digital economy competition panel to discuss regulations and competition in the digital economy, chaired by former advisor Jason Furman.

“Experts on a new panel put together to review competition in the digital economy have met for the first time to discuss how to ensure the country has the right regulations in place.”

“The government’s new panel, which aims to investigate how to ensure fair competition and that the UK remains a world leader in the digital economy, has held its first meeting.”

21.09.18

Reuters

[Britain preparing to set up internet regulator](#)

The UK Government have announced plans to set up an internet regulator to hold technology companies to account for fake news and hateful content published on their platforms.

“The UK government is working on plans to set up an internet regulator, BuzzFeed News reported on Thursday.”

“The regulator would, if established, hold technology companies accountable for content published on their websites and sanction sites if they failed to take down illegal material and hate speech within hours, the report said.”

26.09.18

[Disinformation crackdown: Tech giants commit to EU code of practice](#)

Technology giants, Google, Facebook and Mozilla have signed new code of practice rules set by the European Commission in a bid to tackle fake disinformation online before the European elections next year.

“A group of tech giants including Google, Facebook and Mozilla have agreed to abide by landmark new standards set out by the European Commission in the battle against the dissemination of fake news across the EU.”

“Signatories have committed to a new code of practice in an attempt to fight disinformation online in the all-important run-up to the European elections next year.”

02.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[UK will legislate to ensure tech giants take online responsibilities seriously – Javid](#)

Home Secretary Sajid Javid during the Conservative Party Conference announced that the UK would introduce legislation to ensure that technology companies are held to account.

“Britain will legislate to ensure that technology firms take their responsibilities for online security seriously, interior minister Sajid Javid said on Tuesday.”

“Online there are new threats to cyber security and keeping our children safe ... That includes standing up to the tech giants and demanding that they take their responsibility seriously,” Javid told the annual Conservative party conference in Birmingham, central England.”

Cybersecurity

19.09.18

Cardiff University

[Pupils urged to pursue cyber security careers](#)

GCHQ's National Cyber Security Centre created a one-day course for pupils aged 11 to 14 years old on 22nd September. School pupils learnt about digital forensics and how to crack code. The programme was run by Cardiff University computer science academics and was partially funded by the NCSC and the Institute of Coding.

Pupils from south Wales are learning about cyber security on a one-day course designed by UK government security experts.

The hands-on activities at Cardiff University's School of Computer Science and Informatics aim to inspire a new generation of cyber security professionals.

20.09.18

The Scottish Government

[Cyber Resilience – The Economic Opportunity](#)

The Scottish Government and the National Cyber Resilience Leaders' Board have published a Cyber Resilience Strategy, which sets out steps the Scottish Government and partners will take to support the growth of Scottish cyber security firms. £1 million has been granted to Scottish Enterprise to identify ways to develop the sector, including £370,000 for the creation of a cluster management organisation, £500,000 for a Cyber Essentials voucher scheme for small and medium-sized third and private-sector organisations, and £250,000 to stimulate cyber-specific innovation.

“Digital technologies offer huge opportunities for Scotland as a modern, progressive and economically successful nation.”

“Our citizens, businesses, charities and public services are making increasing use of these technologies to innovate and play an active role in our society and economy.”

27.09.18

Euractiv

[Companies may try to bypass GDPR fines by negotiating with cybercriminals, Europol say](#)

According to Europol the new European data protection laws which came into effect recently may lead to more companies negotiating with cybercriminals to avoid large fines.

“Europol, the EU’s policing agency, has warned that EU data protection laws may lead to an increase in cyber-extortion in a report released on Tuesday (18 September).”

“The fifth Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment (IOCTA) was presented at the INTERPOL-Europol Cybercrime Conference in Singapore and warned of the implications of companies breaching General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules and choosing to pay hackers bribes.”

Privacy

28.09.18

Reuters

[Belgium to sue Google for not blurring images of defence sites](#)

The Belgium Defence Minister has announced he would sue Internet giant Google for not blurring images of military sites.

“The Belgian defence ministry will sue Google for not complying with its requests to blur satellite images of sensitive military sites, a ministry spokeswoman said on Friday.”

“Citing national security, the ministry said it had requested that sites such as air bases and nuclear power stations be obscured on Google’s satellite mapping services.”

Internet Inclusion

21.09.18

Sky News

[Britain to create 2,000-strong cyber force to tackle Russia threat: Sky News](#)

Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson has announced a new scheme called the Cadets CyberFirst programme, delivered by the Ministry of Defence cadet organisations and the GCHQ National Cyber Security Centre, which will equip over 2,000 cadets a year with cyber skills. £1 million will be spent per year under the programme to teach cadets the basics in cybersecurity.

“Britain is significantly increasing its ability to wage war in cyberspace with the creation of a new offensive cyber force of up to 2,000 personnel, Sky News reported on Thursday.”

“The new force which is expected to be announced soon would represent a near four-fold increase in manpower focused on offensive cyber operations,” Sky said.

25.09.18

Tes

[Tes and WorldSkills UK launch strategic partnership](#)

Tes, formally known as the Times Educational Supplement a weekly UK publication aimed at primary school teachers has announced a new strategic partnership with WorldSkills UK to promote technical education and apprenticeships.

“Ahead of EuroSkills Budapest 2018, Tes is announced as the new education partner for WorldSkills UK.”

“Tes and [WorldSkills UK](#) have agreed a new strategic partnership to promote technical education and apprenticeships.”

26.09.18

Computer Weekly

[Fujitsu teams up with UTCs on cyber security training](#)

Japanese multinational information technology company Fujitsu, University Technical Colleges across England, and other private sector partners have launched a programme aimed at training 500 students a year in cybersecurity skills.

“Fujitsu, University Technical Colleges across England and other private sector partners have joined forces to help address the cyber security skills gap.”

“A programme aimed at training 500 students a year in cyber security skills to address the national and global shortage has been launched by [University Technical Colleges](#) (UTCs) in partnership with Fujitsu.”

28.09.18

Euractiv

[Supercomputers: EU to develop high-performance data infrastructures](#)

The EU have announced that they will take a more proactive role in developing high performance computers because at the moment the EU only provides 5% of supercomputing resources.

“Member states from across the European Union agreed on Friday (28 September) to take a leading role in the development of high-performance computers on the continent, an area where Europe has fallen seriously behind China and the US.”

“High-performance computing involves the large-scale computation of data that can’t be performed by general-performance computers.”

United States of America

Internet governance

01.10.18

Reuters

[US sues after California governor signs 'net neutrality' law](#)

The United States has sued the Californian Governor Jerry Brown for signing an executive order which allows California to retain their strict net neutrality rules. US Attorney General Jess Sessions said, “states do not regulate interstate commerce — the federal government does. Once again the California legislature has enacted an extreme and illegal state law attempting to frustrate federal policy.”

“The US Justice Department late on Sunday (Sep 30) filed a suit after California Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation to restore open internet protections known as net neutrality in the state after the Trump administration repealed the rules in December 2017.”

“This marked the latest clash between the Trump administration and California, which have sparred over environmental, immigration and other hot-button issues.”

Cybersecurity

28.09.18

Euractiv

[Facebook unearths security breach affecting 50 million users](#)

Facebook has announced that nearly 50 million users were affected by a cyber-attack after hackers found a security flaw on the internet giants' platform.

“Facebook Inc said on Friday (28 September) that hackers had discovered a security flaw that allowed them to take up to 50 million user accounts, a major breach that adds to a bruising year for the company's reputation.”

“Facebook, which has more than 2 billion monthly active users, said it has been unable to determine yet whether the attackers misused any of the affected accounts or stole private information.”

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[With an eye on Russia, US pledges to use cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO](#)

The United States are expected to confirm that they would provide cyber warfare assistance to NATO if the threat from Russia warranted it.

“The United States is expected to announce in the coming days that it will use offensive and defensive cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO if asked, a senior Pentagon official said, amid concerns about Russia's increasingly assertive use of its cyber capabilities.”

“The 29-nation NATO alliance recognized cyber as a domain of warfare, along with land, air and sea, in 2014, but has not outlined in detail what that entails.”

Privacy

26.09.18

Channel NewsAsia

[US Justice Department meeting with state officials focuses on data privacy](#)

The U.S. Justice Department and state officials met last week to discuss data privacy and what the Government can do to better safeguard consumers online.

“A U.S. Justice Department “listening session” with state attorneys general on Tuesday focused on how the government can safeguard consumers online, the Justice Department said after the meeting.”

“The group made no immediate plans to file any case or open any investigation, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said after the meeting, which lasted about an hour.”

Internet Inclusion

24.09.18

Computer Weekly

[Microsoft commits \\$40m to five-year push to explore 'AI for human good' use cases](#)

Internet giant Microsoft have announced plans for a \$40m programme to explore how Artificial Intelligence can be harnessed to help during natural disasters.

“Microsoft wants to encourage non-government organisations and humanitarian groups to help it explore potential use cases for artificial intelligence during times of natural disasters.”

“Microsoft is embarking on a five-year, \$40m programme to explore how [artificial intelligence](#) (AI) can be used to bolster the response of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to humanitarian disasters.”

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Trump to meet with Google, other tech execs – Kudlow](#)

U.S. President Donald Trump is set to meet with internet giants and social media companies such as Google at the White House however no date or agenda has yet been announced.

“U.S. President Donald Trump plans to host executives of internet and social media companies at the White House, likely later this month, White House adviser Larry Kudlow said on Tuesday.”

“Kudlow said Google Chief Executive Sundar Pichai has committed to coming back to the White House for a tech conference. “We're going to have a little conference - the president will preside over it - we will have big internet companies, big social media companies, search companies,” he said. “And some who are dissatisfied with those companies.”

Pan-Asia

Internet governance

28.09.18

The Economic Times

[Trai to hold talks on new policy implementation](#)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India are preparing for the implementation of a National Digital Communications Policy 2018, a new telecom policy, by meeting with key stakeholders to discuss the policy aspects of this new initiative.

“The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) is planning to hold consultations with several stakeholders in order to prepare a roadmap for the implementation of the new telecom policy, termed the National Digital Communications Policy 2018.”

“We are readying ourselves and will consult stakeholders on the policy aspects that require attention,” chairman RS Sharma said.”

Cybersecurity

No new items of relevance

Privacy

19.09.18

Channel News Asia

[Global tech firms gear up to fight India's planned data law](#)

New legislation in India will legally bind Facebook and PayPal to store user data in the country, however these technology giants claim such legislation would hurt ‘investment and the business models of foreign and domestic firms.’

“Global tech companies plan to oppose new legislation in India that would require Facebook, PayPal and others to store user data in the country, arguing it will hurt investment and the business models of foreign and domestic firms.”

“In July, a government panel recommended that all “critical personal data” should be processed in India and presented a draft bill that could affect how global firms store customer data.”

20.09.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Select Committee on deliberate online falsehoods report: What you need to know](#)

A Singaporean Select Committee on ‘deliberate online falsehoods’ has released a new document full of guidance on how to tackle fake news. The Committee noted that there are public concerns that stopping deliberate online falsehoods would damage freedom of speech. However, they claim that stopping falsehoods is ‘in line with the right to free speech’ because ‘fake news harms democracy.’

“The Select Committee on deliberate online falsehoods (DOFs) has released a 279-page report containing [recommendations to tackle fake news](#) and the guiding principles behind its proposals.”

“This comes six months after the committee [concluded](#) its final hearing in late March, having been formed to study the problem of DOFs and gather evidence through written and oral representations from various segments of society.”

Internet Inclusion

25.09.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Vietnam jails activist for 27 months over anti-government Facebook posts](#)

Vietnam’s ruling Communist Party are increasing their control over the internet, after it was announced they jailed a man for 27 months after he was found posting anti Government posts on the social media site Facebook.

“A court in Vietnam has jailed an activist for two years and three months on accusations of abusing democracy rights following anti-government posts on social media site Facebook, authorities said.”

“Despite sweeping economic reform and increasing openness to social change, Vietnam's ruling Communist Party retains tight media censorship and does not tolerate criticism.”

26.09.18

Computer Weekly

[Fujitsu teams up with UTCs on cyber security training](#)

Japanese multinational information technology company Fujitsu, University Technical Colleges across England, and other private sector partners have launched a programme aimed at training 500 students a year in cybersecurity skills.

“Fujitsu, University Technical Colleges across England and other private sector partners have joined forces to help address the cyber security skills gap.”

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29.09.18

Gadgets Now

[Alibaba Cloud launches second data centre in India](#)

Alibaba, a Chinese multinational conglomerate has launched its second data centre in India which will offer products including, Elastic Computing, Storage, Big Data Analytics.

“Alibaba Cloud, the cloud computing arm of Chinese e-tailer giant Alibaba, on Friday announced the launch of its second data centre in India.”

“The new ‘availability zone’, located in Mumbai, will offer product lines such as Elastic Computing, Storage, Database, Network, Application Services and Big Data Analytics to support the requirements of local governments and enterprises in the Alibaba Cloud India region, the company said in a statement.”

30.09.18

Gadgets Now

[China to host 5th World Internet Conference](#)

China are set to host the 5th World Internet Conference with the theme of ‘creating a digital world for mutual trust and collective governance – towards a community with a shared future in cyberspace.’ Several guests from international organisations, the Government, technology companies and non-governmental organisations will be attending the conference on November 7-9.

“Beijing: [China](#) will hold the fifth World [Internet](#) Conference (WIC) in its river town of Wuzhen in November, officials said on Friday.”

“Liu Liehong, Deputy Director of the Cyberspace Administration of China, made the announcement at a press conference of the State Council Information Office, Xinhua news agency reported.”

Rest of the World

Internet governance

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Tech giants allied against proposed Australia law seeking encrypted data](#)

Facebook, Apple, Alphabet and Amazon are lobbying against a new Australian law which would force technology giants to provide Australia access to private encrypted data to help with criminal investigations.

“Four global tech giants: Facebook, Apple, Alphabet and Amazon: will oppose an Australian law that would require them to provide access to private encrypted data linked to suspected illegal activities, an industry lobby group said on Wednesday (Oct 3).”

“Australia in August proposed fines of up to AU\$10 million (US\$7.2 million) for institutions and prison terms for individuals who do not comply with a court request to give authorities access to private data.”

Cybersecurity

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[With an eye on Russia, US pledges to use cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO](#)

The United States are expected to confirm that they would provide cyber warfare assistance to NATO if the threat from Russia warranted it.

“The United States is expected to announce in the coming days that it will use offensive and defensive cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO if asked, a senior Pentagon official said, amid concerns about Russia's increasingly assertive use of its cyber capabilities.”

“The 29-nation NATO alliance recognized cyber as a domain of warfare, along with land, air and sea, in 2014, but has not outlined in detail what that entails.”

Privacy

No new items of relevance

Internet Inclusion

25.09.18

Computer Weekly

[InfoWatch opens training centre to help address Middle East skills shortage](#)

Software company, InfoWatch have opened a new Digital Technology and Cyber Security Training Centre in Dubai to equip candidates with cybersecurity and digital technology skills.

“Security supplier offers Middle East customers cyber security and digital training facility as organisations in the region struggle to equip staff with latest skills.”

“Digital security supplier InfoWatch has opened a cyber security training centre to focus on developing best practices, skills transfer and knowledge sharing to bridge a [skills gap in the Middle East](#).”

02.10.18

Computer Weekly

[How Australian firms are plugging the tech talent gap](#)

Recruitment firm Robert Half found in their study that 86% of CIOs find it more difficult to hire qualified IT professionals compared with five years ago. Half of those questioned believe that a new global visa scheme could help address the issue. This is why Australian software companies such as Atlassian and Ansarada are dealing with the cyber security skills gap by looking at international options to access relevant talent for their businesses.

“Australian companies such as Atlassian and Ansarada are now turning to international options to access scarce talent.”

“The battle to find IT skills continues for Australian CIOs. Some are looking to the nation’s new global talent visa scheme for relief, while others are exploring a raft of other international options to access scarce talent.”

24.09.18

IT News Africa

[Robotics play an active role in 4th Industrial Revolution](#)

A group of companies operating in the global defence, internal security and peacekeeping industries known as Paramount Group in Africa have launched a new robotics competition which seeks to teach young learners how to build desktop-scale robots while also encouraging them to further their careers by studying STEM.

“Paramount Group, an African-based global defence and aerospace business, proudly announces the launch of an excitingly-new annual robotics competition entitled ‘Parabotics’, a contest (commencing in January, with finals scheduled for December) open to high school pupils, college students and university undergraduates from all across South Africa.”

The Parabotics competition will enable young learners to be educated and trained on how to build and program world class, desktop-scale robots, while being encouraged to pursue tertiary education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

26.09.18

Channel NewsAsia

[More, not fewer, regulations needed to spur AI developments: Microsoft exec](#)

According to technology company Microsoft more regulations are needed not less to ‘govern the development and use of AI.’ Dr. Hon a Microsoft Executive in Singapore said ‘we think there needs to be open, fair, clear guidelines” around AI to encourage innovation.

“There is a need to have more, not fewer, regulations that govern the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI) as this would help spur the maturing of the emerging tech, said Microsoft Research Asia managing director Hon Hsiao Wuen on Wednesday (Sept. 26).”

“In an interview with Channel NewsAsia, Dr. Hon said while tech companies usually call for fewer rules as they argue that these stifle innovation, Microsoft takes a contrarian stance.”

Global Institutions

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[WTO sees tech adding one third to annual trade by 2030](#)

The World Trade Organisation has predicted that technology could increase global trade by 1.8% – 2.0% annually until 2030.

“Technology and innovation will increase global trade by 1.8-2.0 percentage points annually until 2030, the head of the World Trade Organization wrote in a report published on Wednesday.”

“Notwithstanding the current trade tensions, we predict that trade could grow yearly by 1.8 to 2.0 percentage points more until 2030 as a result of the falling trade costs, amounting to a cumulated growth of 31 to 34 percentage points over 15 years,” WTO Director-General Roberto Azevedo said in the foreword of the WTO’s World Trade Report 2018.”

03.10.18

Channel NewsAsia

[With an eye on Russia, US pledges to use cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO](#)

The United States are expected to confirm that they would provide cyber warfare assistance to NATO if the threat from Russia warranted it.

“The United States is expected to announce in the coming days that it will use offensive and defensive cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO if asked, a senior Pentagon official said, amid concerns about Russia’s increasingly assertive use of its cyber capabilities.”

“The 29-nation NATO alliance recognized cyber as a domain of warfare, along with land, air and sea, in 2014, but has not outlined in detail what that entails.”

Diary Dates

Women in Tech Council – 20.09.18

London England

5th Annual Industrial Control Cyber Security USA – 18.09.18 – 19.09.18

Sacramento, USA

ISC2 Secure Summit Toronto – 01.10.18

Toronto, Canada

**MESCON Cybersecurity Conference (Middle Eastern Security Conference)
Muscat – 02.10.18 – 03.10.18**

Muscat, Oman