



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

United Nations and Cyber Security

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Outline of the presentation

- The UN in general
- Cyber security in the UN
- The UN Group of Governmental Experts on ICTs and International Security (GGE)
- Main disputable issues
- Other UN 'cyber' topics

UN in general

- Founded in 1945, now 193 member states
- Main purpose: peace and security
- Main bodies: General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, (the Trusteeship Council), the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat.

General Assembly and its main committees

- 1 – Disarmament and International Security
- 2 – Economic and Financial
- 3 – Social, Humanitarian and Cultural
- 4 – Special Political and Decolonization
- 5 – Administrative and Budgetary
- 6 – Legal

Cyber security in the UN

- Russian initiative since 1998
- UN GGE (group of governmental experts on developments in the field of ICTs in the context of international security) since 2004
- Currently 20 member states in the Group
- UN – global level of compromise

Members of the GGEs

Country	2004–2005	2009–2010	2012–2013	2014–2015
Argentina			X	
Australia			X*	
Belarus	X	X	X	X
Brazil	X	X		X*
Canada			X	X
China	X	X	X	X
Colombia				X
Egypt			X	X
Estonia		X	X	X
France	X	X	X	X
Germany	X	X	X	X
Ghana				X
India	X	X	X	
Indonesia			X	
Israel		X		X
Italy		X		
Japan			X	X
Jordan	X			
Kenya				X
Malaysia	X			X
Mali	X			
Mexico	X			X
Pakistan				X
Qatar		X		
Russia	X*	X*	X	X
South Africa	X	X		
South Korea	X	X		
Spain				X
UK	X	X	X	X
US	X	X	X	X

The UN GGE

reports

2004/2005 – no final report;

2009/2010 – confirmed the connection between development and the use of ICTs and international peace and security;

2012/2013 – international law applies in cyberspace;

2014/2015 – how international law applies + recommendations for political norms.

The framework of the UN GGE

Current structure of dialogue:

- existing and emerging threats;
- legal norms (international law);
- political norms (“norms, rules and principles”);
- confidence building measures and
- capacity building measures.

Main disputable issues

- What are the main threats?
- What is cyberterrorism?
- Content *vs.* form, information security *vs.* cybersecurity
- Sovereignty and non-intervention *vs.* human rights and fundamental freedoms
- New treaty or existing norms?

UN GGE 2015



Other UN 'cyber' topics

- Human rights (same rights online and offline)
- Criminal law (incl. fight against terrorism)
- Development – 'digital divide' (follow-up to the World Summit on Information Society – WSIS)



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Thank you!

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