

Subject: WSIS+20 Zero Draft input

Colleagues,

Despite the implications of clauses 85, 88, and 89 of the Zero Draft, there is no explicit reference to the right to assembly and association that encourages freedom of expression and opinion in the context of the digital era. UDHR 20, ICCPR 21, ECHR 11 were all drawn up before digital technologies altered the civil landscape in ways that promote digital and online gatherings (consultation, discussion, dissent, advocacy). Restrictions on and control of the Internet and digital ecosystems, as well as digital surveillance have radically altered notions of assembly and association in ways that permit curtailment and repression. Is this something we wish to highlight and/or formulate in terms of the human rights and ethical dimensions of the Information Society?

Regards and best wishes,

Philip

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