IGF 2017 Reporting Template

Session Title
Online violence, data, publicness, memory and forgetting : Dynamic Coalition on Gender and Internet Governance

Date
20 December 2017

Time
1500-1600 hrs

Session Organizer
Bishakha Datta, Point of View, India

Chair/Moderator
Bishakha Datta, Point of View, India

Rapporteur/Notetaker
Jac SM Kee, Association for Progressive Communications (APC)

List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations
Valentina Pellizzer, Association for Progressive Communications, Bosnia-Herzegovina (civil society)

Professor KS Park, Open Net, South Korea (academic)

Cecile Greboval, Council of Europe (government)

Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue)
The session raised the following key issues:

If we look at the right to be forgotten through the lens of gender, what do we see?

How can we resist the datafication of women's bodies?

What are effective strategies to address online violence, including gendered hate speech?

If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each presentation

Valentina Pellizzer of APC talked about the datafication of the body in the age of big data. Today, "big-data," metadata and the technologies used to collect, store and analyse them are, similarly, by no means neutral, and come with their own biases and resultant exclusions. The "informatisation" of the body in the digital age is increasingly redefining how we understand

"embodiment" and bodily experience. At the level of ICTs and their relationship with public-policy development, both State and powerful non-State actors have come to view the body as data in order to provide services and/or segment and target markets, employing new ways to monitor, assess, analyse, categorise and ultimately manage and control the body. The term "dataveillance," which combines "data" and "surveillance," has been used to describe these systematic data-based surveillance practices that involve sorting and aggregating large quantities of data to monitor, track and regulate people and populations.

Professor KS Park of Open Net Korea outlined the relationship between gender and the right to be forgotten. Women and gender minorities have often been cited as the potential beneficiaries of the right-to-be-forgotten jurisprudence through the examples of non-consensual disclosures of revenge porn, past sex-related occupations, and sexual identities. However, these issues can be dealt with by the norms of privacy and personal rights already existing in most countries, which do respect people's right to access information. RTBF censors the information that has been made publicly available consensually, as such we do not need it.

Cecile Greboval of the Council of Europe shared how the council defines, understands and addresses online sexist hate speech. Such speech is often considered as harmless but rampant in many areas: it is part of a continuum of violence against women. It needs to be identified and addressed because it is one of the manifestation of multi-level attacks to women's rights. Potential action against hate speech includes protecting free speech without tolerating sexist hate speech, introducing legislative changes to include gender/sex in hate crime legislation, reviewing the responsibility of platform providers in relation to sexist hate speech, and using existing regulatory powers with respect to the media to combat the use of sexist hate speech.

Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session (3 paragraphs)
Since this was a 60-minute session, there was very little time for discussions. Past Gender DC sessions have been of 90 minutes.

Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways (3 paragraphs)
Given the short session duration, there was no time to get to this.

Gender Reporting

Estimate the overall number of the participants present at the session: 40

Estimate the overall number of women present at the session: 35

To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women's empowerment?
The session was largely dedicated to gender, since this was the main meeting of the Dynamic Coalition on Gender and Internet Governance

If the session addressed issues related to gender equality and/or women's empowerment, please provide a brief summary of the discussion
The session looked at three key issues at the crossroads of gender equality and digital rights:

1)The right to be forgotten, which is an important issue for women whose intimate images are circulated on digital platforms without their consent

2)Online sexist hate speech, which restricts women's freedom of expression

3)Big data as a form of surveillance that affects women's bodies, as such data is used for surveillance