

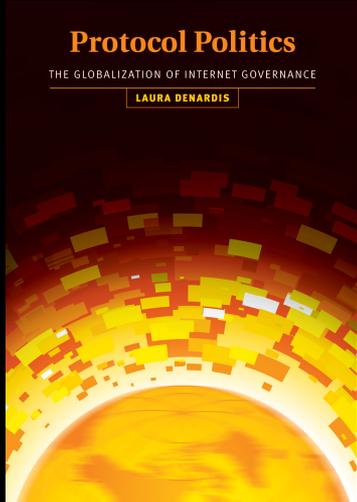
IETF 96, Berlin
July 20, 2016

Emerging Issues in Protocols and Human Rights

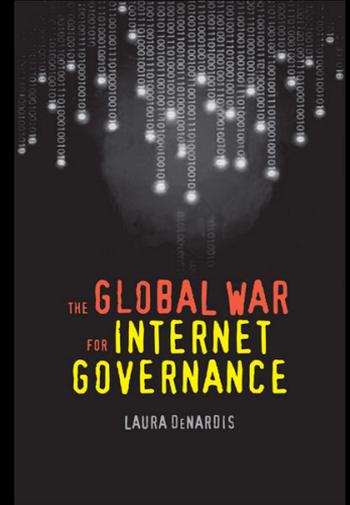
Dr. Laura DeNardis, Professor, American University in Washington, DC



“Protocols are Politics by Other Means”



- Accessibility standards for the disabled
- Peer-to-peer file sharing protocols
- Standards for anonymizing technologies
- Encryption protocols and key length
- Standards-embedded patents & the right to innovate
- Proprietary standards in emerging technologies
- Interoperability and access to knowledge



ISOC “Internet Invariants” – Enduring Technical Principles

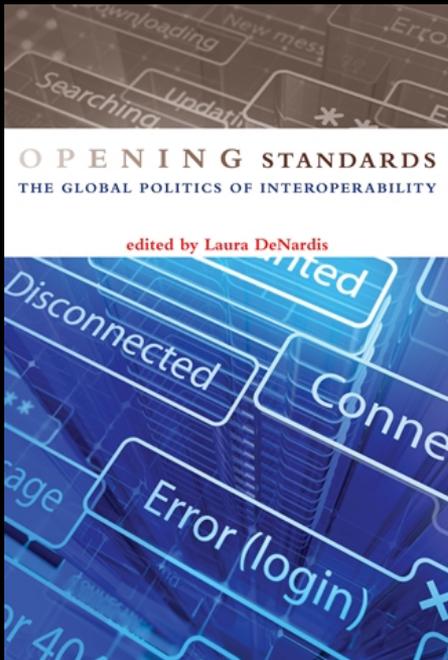


- Global Reach
- General Purpose
- Permissionless Innovation
- Accessibility
- Interoperability
- Mutual Agreement



“A network that does not have these characteristics is a lesser thing than the Internet as it has been experienced to date.” -- Leslie Daigle

Standards Setting and the Public Interest



What are the procedural characteristics necessary for public accountability?

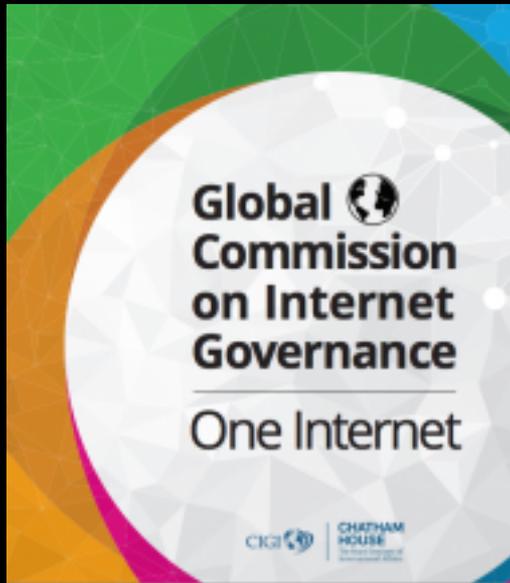
Open in
Development

Open in
Implementation

Open
in Use

The IETF has a high degree of procedural openness but not all standards-setting organizations do.

Protocols are only one component. Many other contextual factors shape human rights implications of Internet infrastructure.



- Market Forces
- National Laws and Policies
- International Agreements
- Private Industry Policies
- Culture and Language
- Implementation Approaches
- Technology Adoption Policies
- User Choices

THE TURN TO INFRASTRUCTURE IN INTERNET GOVERNANCE

EDITED BY FRANCESCA MUSTIANI, DERRICK L. COGBURN,
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INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
AND GLOBAL
GOVERNANCE



Governments are increasingly co-opting systems of Internet infrastructure and governance for purposes completely outside of their original technical and policy functions.

- Data localization laws
- Encryption backdoors
- Access and interconnection blocking
- Local DNS redirection for censorship
- Search engine rankings and intellectual property rights enforcement

To what extent does this turn to infrastructure potentially extend to Internet protocols and how could this affect human rights?



Thank You

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