

# **SAVE THE DATE - IGF 2017 – Geneva**

## **Zero-Day Event:**

### **Towards a global citizens' debate on the digital future:**

**Involving “day-to-day” citizens from all over the planet to discuss the future of internet**

**Sunday 17 December 2017 – 12h00 – 13h30**

**ROOM 18**

## **Programme**

The event will be divided in 3 moments:

1. Short presentation of the idea and concept and of partners that are already on board
2. Interactive discussion on the content of the debate. Which questions are critical to ask to citizens? What do stakeholders want to know from the citizens of the world? What are the topics to come and the topics for which the informed view of the citizens of the world will make a difference?
3. Discussion on the partnership and the coalition that will launch and implement the debate: Statements from interested stakeholders, discussion on the timeline and organisation.

## **Why launching a Global Citizens' Debate on the future of Internet?**

The global discussion on the Internet and Digitalization of Society has reached a certain inertia after a decade of decision-shaping forums and events (WSIS, IGFs, NetMundial, ...). New issues are emerging that modify the rules and potentially change the routines: Digital literacy, Fake news, propaganda, algorithm regulation, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Online Harassment, ...

In all these debates, there seems to be a paradoxical situation: While it is very difficult to reach out to the public at large, citizens are becoming more and more aware and concerned over massive surveillance, big data exploitation, privacy infringements, robotisation of jobs, ...

Citizens are willing but never put in a position to understand and manage what is happening to their data, to contribute to the vision for the future and to provide their feedback to stakeholders. It is therefore timely and urgent to reach out to ordinary citizens in order to scale-up their voices and perspectives in relation to the global discussions on the future of the Internet.

This is why we want to launch a global debate on the future of Internet that will gather thousands of citizens around the planet. The results of these debates will be smart, unique and highly qualitative.

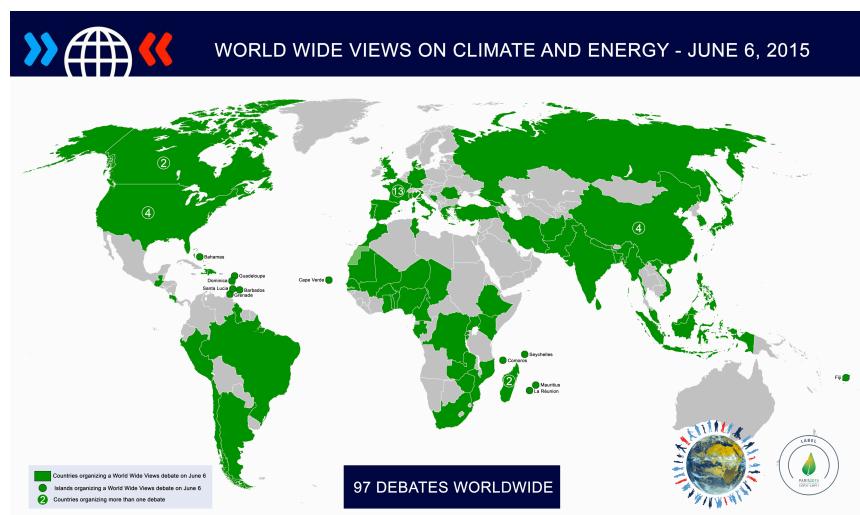
## Background on the method: It's not a global poll, it's a deliberation between citizens worldwide

Global deliberations are a tool reflecting the new paradigm of a diverse, inclusive, informed, interested and empowered human global society. Based on collective intelligence protocols, supported by political and sociological sciences, they are the best tool for the expression of the citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century on complex issues. Their fundamental principle is to combine a strong Information input with massive face-to-face and online Deliberation.

A global deliberation engages thousands of ordinary citizens (included illiterate persons) in groups representing the diversity of their country/region who deliberate on the topics at stake, before giving their contribution (answers, questions, visions, collective storytelling) to the global negotiating community and stakeholders. We plan to engage 15.000+ citizens in 150 countries in the f2f events and 100.000+ in the online debate.

The debates will articulate the needs and visions of ordinary citizens. They will provide new and smart insights which will help to shape the decision-making process on the Future of Internet and Digitalization of Society. More specifically, the debates will produce:

- Fact-based and informed opinion of the citizens of the world which will be valid over a long period of time (min 2 to 4 years)
- Aggregated quantitative and qualitative data at global, national and regional levels
- Communication and dissemination contents (information material, interviews of participants, results report, social-media contents, etc.)
- Capacity building for more than 150 organisations worldwide and thousands of citizens“Mirror-debates” (debate Toolbox available in 50+ languages)
- Strong media presence thanks to critical mass of events and partners involved
- Campaign of awareness raising on the topics of the future of the internet, potentially reaching millions of citizens



## Organisers

The event is organised by Missions Publiques and Savoir devenir.

### *Missions Publiques*

is a high impact social entrepreneur based in France whose mission is to bring the voice of ordinary citizens into international and global discussions and negotiations on societal challenges, through the organization of Citizens' Debates. Missions Publiques has successfully implemented global citizen debates:

1. In 2016, in preparation of the Ministerial Conference of the European Space Agency: European Citizens' Debate on Space for Europe: 1600 participants in the 22 member states of ESA: <https://youtu.be/4x5rn91V4YY>
2. In 2015, in preparation of the Paris Climate Summit: World Wide Views on Climate and Energy: 10.000 participants in 76 countries, in cooperation with UNFCCC Secretary: <http://climateandenergy.wwviews.org/>

### *Savoir devenir*

The non-profit association "Savoir \* Devenir", is aimed at all publics - citizens, educators, institutional and industrial actors - in a citizen and participative approach to re-enchant the internet.

Savoir\*Devenir aims to support the digital transition through actions in favour of:

- Media and Information Literacy (MIL increased by the digital)
- Digital literacy (read, write and create on all media)
- Internet governance (decoding digital technology to influence future decisions)

It is backed by the UNESCO "Savoir\*Devenir" Chair located at the Sorbonne Nouvelle University and relies on a network of international partners.

*"We were very delighted to co-initiate this debate and citizen consultation and bring the voice of the ordinary woman and man into the climate negotiations."*

Christiana Figueres, Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC, about World Wide Views on Climate and Energy.

*"This is a great success, this is how Europe should work [...] It is a dream that becomes true."*

Jan Wörner, Director General of the European Space Agency about the citizens debate on space for Europe 2016.