PROGRAMME

OPEN TALKS
Lima, Peru

Global event | 27 September
Access to Information: Leaving No One Behind!

#AccessToInfoDay
#RightToKnow
Welcome to
Open Talks
Lima, Peru

To mark the global celebration of the International Day for Universal Access to Information 2019 (IDUAI), UNESCO and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Peru and its international, regional and national partners organize the Open Talks in Lima. The Open Talks adopt a dynamic conference format inspired by TEDxTalks. Through inspiring storytelling and short but powerful speeches, global public and community leaders, journalists, NGOs, policymakers and digital pioneers will share their initiatives that have contributed or could contribute to inclusive infrastructures, access to information laws and policies that abide to international standards, grass-roots media initiatives and ICT initiatives that promote local multilingual content.

The Open Talks in Lima will discuss how to foster open societies, open access to information and sustainable development following the three topics below:

- Access to information as an enabler for protecting other rights: leaving no one behind;
- Access to Information and new approaches for emerging technologies.
- Access to information: a highway of transparency and openness.
UNESCO marks 28 September as the “International Day for Universal Access to Information”, following the adoption of a resolution (38 C/70) in 2016 declaring 28 September of every year as International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI).

The IDUAI has particular relevance with Agenda 2030 with specific reference to SDG 2 on investment in rural infrastructure and technology development, SDG 11 on positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas and SDG 16 on initiatives to adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.

Infrastructure and technology development are essential elements in building knowledge societies as inequalities of access to information sources, contents and infrastructures cast doubt on the information society's global character and, consequently, hamper the growth of knowledge societies. UNESCO promotes, through the Global Broadband Commission, for accelerating broadband rollout worldwide and examine applications that could see broadband networks improve the delivery of several social services, including education, environmental management and safety.

However, despite the growth in Internet penetration in the world, the distribution of access between developed and developing countries, between urban and rural communities and even between different age groups and genders is still inequitable. These problems reveal the necessity for new approaches to Knowledge Societies as promoted through UNESCO’s Knowledge Societies Policy Handbook. Generating and updating public policies for Knowledge Societies is a never-ending task, which runs together with the evolution of the Internet and other emerging technologies.

The adoption of freedom of and/or access to information laws has been noted as a global trend during the last decade with more than 120 countries (including some independent jurisdictions) having legal frameworks in 2019. Nevertheless, according to UNESCO’s World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development 2017/2018 Global Report, there is much to be done globally to improve awareness of such laws and their especially their implementation.
08:00 - 09:00
Registration - venue: Hotel Sol de Oro, 305 San Martín st., Miraflores
Welcome coffee and refreshments

09:00 – 10.00
Official Opening:
Vicente Zeballos, Minister of Justice and Human Rights of the Republic of Peru
Moez Chakchouk, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO
Martín Vizcarra, President of the Republic of Peru

10.00 - 10.30
Presenter:
Adelaida Trujillo, Director for Latin America, Communication Initiative Network (Colombia)
Ludwwin Espitia, YouTuber

Keynote Speakers:
Maria Baron, Steering Committee Member, Open Government Partnership; Global Executive Director, Fundación Directorio Legislativo
Elizabeth Denham (video message), Chair, Working Group of the International Conference of Information Commissioners and UK Information Commissioner.

10:30 - 12:00
OPEN TALK - Panel 1: Access to information as an enabler for protecting other rights: leaving no one behind

- María Rosa Mena Mena, President of the First Court, Transparency Tribunal of Peru
  Maria Rosa is a lawyer graduated from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. She holds a Master in Criminal Sciences from the Private University of San Martin de Porres and specialized in public management administration at ESAN. She is former Senior Management Advisor and Director of the Office of Legal Counsel of the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations. She also served as Alternate Judge in the Superior Court of Justice of Lima.

- Caroline Gibu, Executive Director, Ciudadanos al Día (Peru)
  Theme: Why do we need special bodies to implement right to information laws? Caroline Gibu is a founding member and Executive Director of the civic association Ciudadanos al Día, a Peruvian private non-profit and non-partisan organization, created in 2002 to boost civic engagement, improve public management, and be a source of reliable information on topics of citizen interest.

- Alejandra Guillen, Mexican journalist (Mexico)
  Theme: Creating a global community of collaboration around freedom of information systems. Alejandra Guillen is a prominent journalist. Her work has focused on the research and application of the right to information and data journalism, and explores the connection between journalism, academia and civil society.

- Saad Filali Meknassi, Senior Consultant, The World Bank Group (Tunisia)
  Theme: Countries in transition - legislating RTI for Tunisia and MENA. Saad has more than 12 years of experience working for multiple international organizations and NGOs with a focus on democratic governance, Rule of Law, strategic social accountability, Right to Information and sustainability across MENA and Africa, in developing and fragile countries.

Q&A Session with the audience
OPEN TALK - Panel 2: Access to Information and new approaches for emerging technologies

- Katitza Rodríguez, International Rights Director, Electronic Frontiers Foundation
  Theme: The centrality of an open internet for an overall transparency policy.
  Katitza Rodríguez is EFF’s International Rights Director. She concentrates on comparative policy of international privacy issues, with special emphasis on law enforcement, government surveillance, and cross-border data flows. Her work in EFF’s International Program also focuses on cyber-security at the intersection of human rights. Katitza also manages EFF's growing Latin American programs. She was an advisor to the UN Internet Governance Forum (2009-2010). In 2018, CNET named Katitza one of 20 most influential latinos in technology in the United States. In 2014, she was also named one of “The heroes in the fight to save the Internet”.

- Issa Mahasneh, Jordan Open Source Association (Jordan)
  Theme: Multi-stakeholder standards and protocols that facilitate the growth and security of the Internet.
  Issa Mahasneh is a leader of the Jordan Open Source Association and of Mozilla Jordan, which is a non-profit organization that works for the promotion of Open Source Software and Hardware, Open Content and Free Culture, and digital rights.

- Berta Tilmantaite, Co-founder, Nanook (Lithuania)
  Theme: Innovating access to stories about marginalised and disadvantaged.
  Berta Tilmantaite is a Co-Founder of Nanook, a journalists’ collective aiming to “reinvent journalism” by telling a story in a novel way and listening to the voices of those who are on the other side of the digital divide, including indigenous people, people with disabilities and women.

- José de Jesús Ramírez Sánchez, Executive Secretary, National Institute for Transparency, (Mexico)
  Theme: How information commissioners are preparing their bodies for the impacts of emerging technologies in access to information.
  José de Jesús Ramírez Sánchez is the Executive Secretary of Mexico’s main body for ensuring the people’s right to access to government information as well as personal data protection. Previously, he held the position of Technical Secretary of Mexico’s City Institute for access to information (Infodf) for 8 years, contributing to its consolidation. He has participated in evaluations of government social programmes and has extensive experience working for the public and private sectors.

Q&A Session with the audience

Coffee break
OPEN TALK - Panel 3: Access to information: a highway of transparency and openness

- Delia Ferreira, Chair of the Board of Transparency International
  **Theme: Fighting corruption through access to information.**
  Delia Ferreira Rubio is the Chair of Transparency International. She is Member of the Steering Committee of OGP - Open Government Partnership. She served as Chief Advisor for several Representatives and Senators at the Argentinian National Congress from 1990 to 2005, advising the Constitutional Committee of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

- Eduardo Luna Cervantes, Director of Access to Information and Data Protection, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (Peru)
  **Theme: The contribution of access to information policies in the recent Peruvian fight against mega corruption.**
  Eduardo Javier Luna Cervantes is currently the General Director of the National Transparency and Access to Public Information and Protection of Personal Data Authorities of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. He has been a civil servant in the Ombudsman’s Office, where he headed the Public Ethics and Prevention of Corruption Program. He has also served as a Member of the Police Disciplinary Court of the Ministry of the Interior.

Gloria de la Fuente González, Consejera del Consejo para la Transparencia de Chile (Chile)
  **Theme: Challenges for Information Commissioners in the fight against corruption.**
  Gloria de la Fuente González is currently President at Chile 21 Foundation and political analyst on radio and television. She has worked closely on transparency issues working as a consultant for the CPLT and RTA (Transparency Network and Access to Public Information). She has also served as project director in Chile Transparente, Chilean chapter of Transparency International and has been Director at Proacceso Foundation. Between 2006 and 2010 she worked in the Office of the Secretary-General of the Presidency.

- Mónica Almeida, Investigative journalist for the Panama Papers story (Ecuador)
  Mónica Almeida is the Quito Bureau Chief of El Universo newspaper. She has also worked as a reporter and editor for Agence France Presse in Paris. As a fellow at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University in 2009, she specialized in investigative journalism and regularly takes part in the Latin American Conference of Investigative Journalism organized by IPYS. She is a member of Connectas Hub, a digital platform for transnational investigative journalism in Latin America. She has become a defender of investigative journalism and journalism standards at a time when press freedom is under attack in Ecuador.

Q&A Session with the audience

Summary and closing remarks:

- Denis Chabrol, Board Member, Global Forum for Media Development
- Marius Lukosiunas, Programme Specialist, UNESCO
- Vicente Zeballos, Minister of Justice and Human Rights of the Republic of Peru
- Susana Silva Hasembank, Secretary for Public Integrity, Peru

Moderated by Guilherme Canela, Advisor for Communication and Information, UNESCO Montevideo Office
Multi-Donor Programme on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Journalists

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Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos

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