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Hello World, and Marhaba from the Middle East!

Thank you for reading our very first Middle East member newsletter. We have lots of updates, so we are sure there is something here for everyone. As you know, the Middle East bureau focuses its work on community empowerment, internet infrastructure and technical aspects as well as policy discussions that are relevant to the region.

Currently, the Middle East has more than 4000 individual members with chapters in Bahrain, Lebanon, Palestine, UAE, Yemen, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan and Tunisia.

Would you like to join your local Chapter?
Contact the leaders of the chapter.

Would you like to start a Chapter in your country?
Read this guide

Contact Middle East regional Bureau:
middleeastbureau@isoc.org

www.internetsociety.org

Follow us in our social media channels:
@ISOC_MiddleEast
What we’re interested in

A partnership to tackle growing risks in a connected world

The explosion of connected devices in our daily lives is exposing privacy and security, establish Kathryn Brown and Amanda Long by announcing joint work to improve the IoT ecosystem. Learn more details.

Palestine Chapter, a success story

Our recent chapter is conducting a campaign to raise awareness about the dangers of electronic blackmail and cyber harassment in Palestine. The project has already reached more than 2250 schoolgirls in 25 Palestinian schools in phase I of the project.

Know more on what motivated the Palestine Chapter to start this project.

UAE is the most digital friendly in the Middle East

 Ranked 24th worldwide and the best performer in the region, the UAE offers an impressive trade infrastructure coupled with a supportive business environment.

Read more here.

• Khaleej Times

Digital Transformation spending to pass $1 trillion Dollars in 2018

The largest categories of spending will be applications, connectivity services, and IT services as manufacturers build out their digital platforms to compete in the digital economy.

Read more here.

• ITP.net
June 4th webinar with Dr. Konstantinos Komaitis on policy development process at the Internet Society

The Internet Society was originally founded on two pillars: development and technology. For over 25 years, the Internet Society has devoted itself to building the Internet in different parts of the world and has contributed to the promotion of Internet technical standards. In light of this experience and expertise, the Internet Society made a clear strategic decision to focus its work on two broad thematic areas that would allow it to continue performing its historical role while accepting today’s realities and looking into the future. Read more here.

In Arabic

فوائد جديدة لحماية الخصوصية على الإنترنت

نظرًا إلى زيادة الاعتماد على وسائل التواصل الاجتماعي والتطبيقات المتاحة على الهاتف، أصبحت الخصوصية مسألة في غاية الأهمية. وخلال الأيام القليلة الماضية، أقر الاتحاد الأوروبي قانونًا جديداً في هذا الشأن. لقد كان الساسة والمشروعين في الفترة قلقة منذ التسريحة الأولى التي وقعت قبل سنوات.

إضافة إلى الالتحاق، الذي راع صحته ملايين المستخدمين، وذالك أصبحت شركات عناية مثل “غوغل” و”فيس بوك” تحت طائلة القانون الجديد الذي لا يرحم. الخطأ بعد الآن غير مسموح بهنعم على الشريك المخصص في حماية بيانات مستخدمها أن تدفع غرامات ضخمة.

لقراءة المزيد اضغط هنا

صحيفة الإمارات اليوم

11 مليار دولار إتفاق السعودية على تكنولوجيا المعلومات

عام بعد عام تغير توجهات فروع تكنولوجيا المعلومات التي خرجت عن نطاق الأجهزة والبرمجيات والتحديث الإلكترونية. وكانت تلك هذه التغيرات تأتي بدون طيف في مستوى الإنفاق، لكن يبدو أن الاعتماد على تكنولوجيا الإنترنت الذي يتألف من أنابيب الإنترنت الآمنة والتحكم الاصطناعي والروبوت الذي تمثل الجمل الجديد من التحول الرقمي قد أثر بشكل كبير على نمو الإنفاق على تقني المعلومات في المملكة، حيث إن المتوقع أن يصل حجم الإنفاق على تكنولوجيا المعلومات في العام الجاري إلى 11 مليار دولار.

لقراءة المزيد اضغط هنا

- جريدة الاقتصادية
Meet the Middle East Bureau team

Meet the Regional Team: Salam Yamout

Salam Yamout is the Middle East Regional Director headquartered in Lebanon. Salam is also a co-founder of several ICT related NGOs (Beirut IX, Lebanese Internet Center, Women in IT, and the Lebanon Chapter of the Internet Society). She also serves on the board of various organizations including RIPE NCC (the Internet Registry for Europe, the Middle East, and parts of Central Asia); MIT Enterprise Forum for the Pan Arab Region, and the Lebanese League of Women in Business.

“In my role with Internet Society, I am dedicated to working collaboratively with communities, organizations, governments and individuals to ensure the Internet is future ready for generations in the region.”

- Salam Yamout

Today’s realities and looking into the future. Read more here.
Regional Events and Activities

The Internet Society Middle East Bureau, in collaboration with local partners, organized a “Blockchain Technologies & Internet Governance: Secrets & How To’s” events in Amman, Beirut, & Dubai.

The program entailed a morning session in the form of an interactive exercise in which participants learn about the mining process (proof-of-work) in a crypto-currency simulation. Also, the session covered some of the exciting yet primarily misunderstood aspects of blockchain technology such as smart contracts and decentralized apps (DApps).

The afternoon session, however, was in the form of a discussion about blockchain technologies use cases and implications for the internet and society at large. The event ensures active participation of attendees and provides a thorough introduction to blockchain technology to attendees with various levels of experience.

This interactive learning experience had participants start thinking about how this rapidly growing technology may impact day-to-day online activities from social media networking to e-health and from online payments to e-banking.

Amman: https://www.internetsociety.org/events/blockchain-technologies-internet-governance/amman

Beirut: https://www.internetsociety.org/events/blockchain-technologies-internet-governance/beirut

Dubai: https://www.internetsociety.org/events/blockchain-technologies-internet-governance/dubai