

Are We Heading Toward a Splinternet? The Future of Internet Governance

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About me



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What is Internet Fragmentation?

*Division or splintering of the **unified, open, global Internet** into smaller, isolated networks subject to different rules, regulations, and technical standards.*

Internet Society



How did we get here?



Internet Shutdowns

Kashmir: India top court orders review of longest internet shutdown

10 January 2020

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- Access blocking
- Throttling (slowing broadband)
- Complete cut-off



Source: BBC

Firewalls

WIRED

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ZEYI YANG SECURITY SEP 8, 2025 11:00 PM

Massive Leak Shows How a Chinese Company Is Exporting the Great Firewall to the World

Geedge Networks, a company with ties to the founder of China's mass censorship infrastructure, is selling its censorship and surveillance systems to at least four other countries in Asia and Africa.



Activar Windows
Vea la configuración para activar Windows.

Source: Wired

Geedge Networks sold censorship and surveillance systems abroad (including Myanmar, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Ethiopia)

Data Localization



Russia tightens Internet controls

Sarah Steffen 09/02/2015

A new law which makes it mandatory for companies to store personal data on Russian citizens on local servers has sparked fears, as critics say it gives the government easy access to sensitive data.



Source: Deutsche Welle




“Digital sovereignty”
strategy and
development of the
sovereign internet
(Runet).



Why ICANN Matters




2010 RU/CN proposals at the
ITU-> attempts to expand state
influence over Internet identifiers

-  Keeps the Internet interoperable
-  Defends multistakeholder governance
-  Prioritizes technical stability over political interests (RU–UKR)

What this means for us

 Stay informed and act in our own fields

 Fragmentation is already real

 Every policy decision & technical standard is a chance to make a difference

Thank you!

Questions & Feedback

