Hello everybody. Thanks for being here on a Sunday morning when it’s so beautiful outside, but the topic we’re going to discuss today is undoubtedly one of the most interesting at the World Policy Conference: governing the Internet. What is cyberspace governance? What is cyberspace? We’re going to talk about it with our guests, including Steven Erlanger of the New York Times. It’s a new world. It’s a virtual world. There are no borders. There are now some two billion Internet users worldwide. But in five years, in 2015, nearly three billion people across the world will have access to the Internet. That’s about half the world population. What’s interesting today is that we’re witnessing an explosion in Internet use throughout the world, but especially in developing countries. For example, between 2005 and 2009, the number of users in Africa rose from 16 million to 70 million and in Arab countries from 26 million to 64 million. In other words, this explosion will continue, and at the same time, when we’re talking about Internet governance, few people know what it actually means.

Here to talk with us about this subject are:


-Craig Mundie, who is representing Microsoft, where he oversees strategy and research. He also serves on President Obama’s Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

-François Barrault, Chairman of FDB Partners who is also the former President and CEO of Lucent International and former CEO of BT Global Services.

And, of course, Steven Erlanger.

So, since this is a new topic, you know, someone once said, "The problem with Internet, or cyberspace, governance – it's not about the Internet, it's about governance". It's true that today, a lot of questions are being asked because it’s an entirely new world. Before getting into the challenges posed by global cyberspace governance, I suggest that we hear our panellists’ perspective on cyberspace. What is cyberspace? Let’s first hear what Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet has to say. What does it mean?