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First I'll respond by telling you why I don't like the word "cyberspace", which, in my opinion, doesn't encompass the reality. The Internet is something very scaleable that no one designed. In fact, it operates through addition, and through addition by capillarity. It also operates in a very decentralised manner, which accounts for some of the Internet's resilience. If it's a space, then it's a space that is constantly in motion. Comparisons made relating to Internet governance – it tends to be compared to space or maritime governance – often seem to me, from this perspective, somewhat far-fetched since the Internet is such a unique world. Let me also add that when people use the word "cyberspace", they're very often thinking "cyberdefence".

When we speak of cyberspace governance, we sometimes end up reducing Internet governance to cybersecurity, which, it seems to me, is very reductive and doesn't do justice to the wide range of things we do on the Internet, the Internet that comes right into your home. The Internet that has a very strong cultural aspect specific to each State, to each use, and this leads me to the conclusion that we need Internet governance. If we really want to explore Internet governance, we have to specifically determine which issues we need to work on at international level.

I believe there are five issues. The first is cultural and includes the right to forget, privacy protection, personal data and cultural diversity. The second is economic and I'm referring to the need to keep the ecosystem open to both small and big players. That's where the Internet's strength lies – where its extremely innovative nature is. Someone, in a garage, can invent something, log on to the Internet and if the idea is good, sell it to the entire world.

From an economic perspective, there is, of course, the matter of tax jurisdiction between States because VAT is paid to incorporate a company, which causes enormous problems of tax leakage. So the second issue is economic in nature. The third issue is clearly technology, but more progress has been made on the Internet in this area because technical governance is partly managed by certain entities, even though they are probably a little too focused on the United States. They need to be more multilateral.

Then there's cyberdefence, which organisations like NATO are overseeing to some extent, but are they really in the best position to do so? Lastly, the final issue, or perhaps the most important, is the respect for principles and basic freedoms, such as freedom of expression, which is clearly a matter for the UN. France has launched an initiative with the Netherlands concerning that issue. There are now forums where discussions are taking place but there aren't really any forums where it [freedom of expression] is guaranteed.