



# Maintaining a Global Communication Network

By Thomas Heimann

GRIN Verlag GmbH. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 76 pages. Dimensions: 11.7in. x 8.3in. x 0.2in. Bachelor Thesis from the year 2008 in the subject Communications - Multimedia, Internet, New Technologies, grade: 1. 3, Bielefeld University, course: Politikwissenschaft, language: English, abstract: The question at heart of this paper is how society manages to maintain what has become its most important communication network, the Internet. The coordinative mechanisms necessary to achieve this are regarded as governance mechanisms. Since governance is understood as a property of social systems and Internet infrastructure relates to a technological system, two systemenvironment relations need to be observed: technology as the environment of society and society as the environment of technology. This circular systemenvironment relationship complicates the notion of governance, because governance (the establishment of social coordination) shapes and limits Internet architecture (the basic design principles of the Internet platform) and Internet architecture shapes and limits governance. Thus, before governance mechanisms regarding Internet infrastructure can be addressed, some preliminary considerations have to be made regarding the interaction between society and technology in general. This topic has been the subject of many academic publications covering disciplines such as sociology, political science, economics and network engineering; but the solutions proposed...



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