

**Telebriefing**  
**PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ONLINE ENVIRONMENT:**  
**WHY SHOULD IT MATTER TO YOU?**

**Tuesday, June 10, 2014**

How has the internet and mobile technology changed the landscape for human rights and social change funders? Speakers pulled this question out of its "techie" corner and explored strategies for grantmakers to support civil society amid the challenges and opportunities of information and communications technology.

This telebriefing aimed to take this topic out of its specialist corner and bring it to center field to help us all understand what it means to support technology for human rights.

**Participants:**

- Examined how information and communications technology has changed the landscape for all human rights and social change funders over the past 20 years
- Explored how it will continue to change the entire field of human rights and social change funders over the next 20 years
- Gained a greater understanding of the threats and opportunities of this technology
- Discussed how to support civil society to make the best use of this technology and to avoid the worst pitfalls

**Speakers:**

- [Anasuya Sengupta](#), Senior Director of Grantmaking, Wikimedia Foundation
- [Vera Franz](#), Senior Programme Manager of the Information Programme, Open Society Foundations
- **Jo Andrews**, Director, Ariadne - European Funders for Social Change and Human Rights (Moderator)

Listen to the [recording](#) of the briefing. Contact [Keith Armstrong](#), IHRFG Program Assistant, for the password.

- Internet Society, [History of the Internet](#)
- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), [Geneva Principles](#)
- WSIS, [Tunis agenda](#)
- UN Special Rapporteur of Freedom of Opinion and Expression Frank LaRue:
- [2011 Report](#)
- [2013 Report](#)
- [The Necessary and Proportionate Principles for Communications Surveillance](#) (based on HR principles):
- [Outcomes of the RightsCon conference](#) organized by Access, March 2014, San Francisco
- Article: [Want to Predict the Future of Surveillance? Ask Poor Communities](#), by Virginia Eubanks
- Article: [The Anxieties of Big Data](#), by Kate Crawford
- Book: [It's Complicated: The Social Lives of Networked Teens](#), by Danah Boyd "A passionate, scholarly, and vividly described account of the reality of young peoples' use of networked technologies in America today. Painstakingly researched through interviews and close study for more than a decade, boyd's book is the most important analysis of networked culture I've yet to read."—Cory Doctorow,
- [Review of Glenn Greenwald's book](#) on Edward Snowden, *No Place to Hide*

- Amy Goodman [interview with Glenn Greenwald](#), *Democracy Now!*

**Jo Andrews** quoted Paul Mason, British journalist and author of the book, *Why Its Kicking Off Everywhere*. Here's a link to a summary of a [recent lecture](#).

Resources for [Human Rights Defenders](#) on IHRFG's website, compiled by IHRFG's Working Group on Human Rights Defenders