Global Internet Governance — A Historical and Cultural View

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Developing transcultural/national perspectives in the community of research and education
Reading the Mohammed Cartoons Controversy
Newspapers at the center of attention

What happened: On 30 September 2005, a Danish newspaper *Jyllands-Posten* published 12 cartoons picturing the image of the Prophet Mohammed.

Question: How do you evaluate the following STATEMENTS?

- “Freedom of expression as a universal value should not be compromised.”
- “The media needs to respect religious beliefs.”
- “It is a collision between freedom fundamentalists and religious fundamentalists.”
- “Newspapers should be prohibited from publishing the cartoons but Google should be given the freedom to present them to the users when searched.”
Reading the Mohammed Cartoons Controversy
Newspapers at the center of attention

- TWO BOOKS were written by researchers from 14 countries (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, France, the UK, Germany, Canada, United States, Israel, Russia, Egypt, Pakistan, China) and published in 2007 and 2008.
Short film uploaded to YouTube

Innocence of Muslims, 2012

New media at the center of attention

What happened: The 14-minute video clip was initially uploaded to YouTube in July 2012. Question: How do you evaluate the following STATEMENTS?

- “Freedom of expression as a universal value should not be compromised.”
- “The media needs to respect religious beliefs.”
- “It is a collision between freedom fundamentalists and religious fundamentalists.”
- “YouTube should be prohibited from hosting the short film.”
- It is a consequence of American foreign policy.
- It is a conspiracy mediated by Al-Qaeda.
- It is about the lack of ways for Muslim communities to express themselves.
- It is about treating others the way you would like to be treated.
- Is it a clash of civilizations? Or is it an IMAGINED clash of civilizations?
ANOTHER TWO BOOKS were written by researchers from 19 countries (Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Norway, Pakistan, Russia, South Africa, Sweden and United States) reporting how global media covered climate change summits (From Bali to Copenhagen) and were published in 2010 and 2012.

Media in BRICS/Emerging Countries (37 researchers from 8 countries, with Internet governance as one of the important focuses) http://www.uta.fi/cmt/tutkimus/BRICS/members.html


Edward Snowden project in the application process
Perspectives on Global Internet Governance
Cultivated in International Communication and New Media Education Projects

- 2011, 2012, and 2013 projects in international communication and new media at the Communication University of China with 147 master degree students from 43 countries, mostly from developing countries in ASEAN (Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos etc), South Asian countries (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh), and African contexts (Tanzania etc), but with 3 from the United States, 2 from Canada, and a few from Europe.
While making field trips to China Radio International
and, more importantly, to Chinese villages,
we are talking, in a no less serious way, about global Internet governance from a transcultural and transnational perspective.
NWICO, WSIS, WCIT…
UNESCO, ITU, ICANN…
STATE, MARKET, GRASSROOTS…

- Is national sovereignty an outdated concept in global Internet governance? *(History matters!)*
- What are the different dimensions of intellectual property in a digital age? *(Innovation matters!)*
- What are values of the different models of global Internet governance? *(state leadership? public leadership? private leadership? People’s voice matters!)*
- If we are able to think less about or even put aside some narrow political/commercial interests, but more about peaceful co-existence, what is it all about in the recent controversy of cyber security in the global arena? *(Trust matters!)*
Positive scenarios cultivated from research and education community

OTHER EXISTING EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

THANK YOU!

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