



Internet Governance: Origins, Current Issues, and Future Possibilities

By Roy Balleste



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Internet Governance: Origins, Current Issues, and Future Possibilities deals with Internet governance and includes computer history, Internet beginnings, institutions and stakeholders, proposed models of governance, and human rights. The concept of Internet governance covers an exceptionally complex and rapidly changing field of norms and rules. Its origins and conflicts engage many disciplines and give rise to technical standards with contributions from a wide range of stakeholders. At the same time, the Internet has increasingly become the dominant reality for all the information processing industries. The ultimate goal of the book is to establish a foundation for identifying a new model of governance for the Internet. In doing so, the book honors the efforts of previous scholars who have considered and proposed other models for the governance of the Internet.

Among its aims, the book is intended as an introduction for the novice to the subject of internet governance. The first two chapters offer a historical foundation of the institutions and the debate. The next two chapters discuss the evolution of that debate over the last twenty years. The final two discuss the present and future ramifications of the debate and include the author's attempts to sketch a practical plan for a new concept of Internet governance.

This book provides an introductory, multidisciplinary account of the forces at work in the evolving concept of internet governance for scholars in the information studies fields, including computer, information and library science. It should also be useful for scholars in the fields of international law, international relations, diplomacy studies and political science.



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Roy Balleste is Law Library Director and Professor of Law at St. Thomas University, in Miami Gardens, Florida. He completed his doctorate degree (J.S.D.) in Intercultural Human Rights (analyzing internet governance, including its history, actors, institutions and human rights considerations). Professor Balleste has concentrated his scholarship in the areas of internet governance, human rights and the relationship between information, technology, and people. He teaches internet governance at St. Thomas University School of Law. In November 2007, he participated in the Second UN Internet Governance Forum in Rio de Janeiro. He also participated in the Fifth UN Internet Governance Forum in Vilnius, Lithuania, September 2010. Before attending the meeting in Vilnius, he submitted a comment supporting the continuation of the IGF beyond its original five-year mandate. Professor Balleste is a member of the Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet) where he served as secretary of the Steering Committee from December 2010 to December 2012. Balleste is a member of ICANN's Noncommercial Users Stakeholder Group (NCSG) and the Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC) of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO). He is a member of the NCUC's Executive Committee as the Representative for North America. His primary focus is on GNSO issues that deal with the protection of the user.

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