Competing Interests: Understanding the Implications of the Emergent International ICT Governance Network

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Outline

- ## Introduction
  - ### Information and communication technologies
    - Background, benefits, and challenges > Regulation

- ## Research Agenda
  - ### International ICT Governance Network
    - Goals
    - Data & Methodology
    - Research Questions
  - ### Competing Interests

- ## Implications and Next Steps

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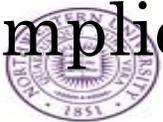
Information and Communication Technologies

- Background
  - Technological Convergence
  - Internationalization
  - Liberalization
  - Privatization

- Benefits
  - Interconnectivity
  - Information Society

- Challenges
  - Regulation
    - Public
    - Private
    - Domestic
    - Transnational

Research Agenda

- International ICT Governance
  - International law: Investment treaties
  - Transnational private regulation: Technological standards
- Network Governance
  - Multi-stakeholder
- Goals:
  - To describe the emergent international ICT governance network
  - To explore overlaps between public and private ICT governance forms
  - To uncover potential conflicts between the varying interests involved in the network

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# International ICT Governance Network

Research Questions

- Research Question 1: Who are the central actors in networks of standard setting organizations and networks of international treaty bodies?

  - 1a. Is there overlap between the membership of these two insular forms of ICT regulation?

- Research Question 2: How do international ICT standards interact/coexist with international investment treaties?

- Research Question 3: What are the implications of the interaction between international ICT standards and international treaty obligations?

Analytical Methods

- Social Network Analysis

- Comparative Statutory Analysis
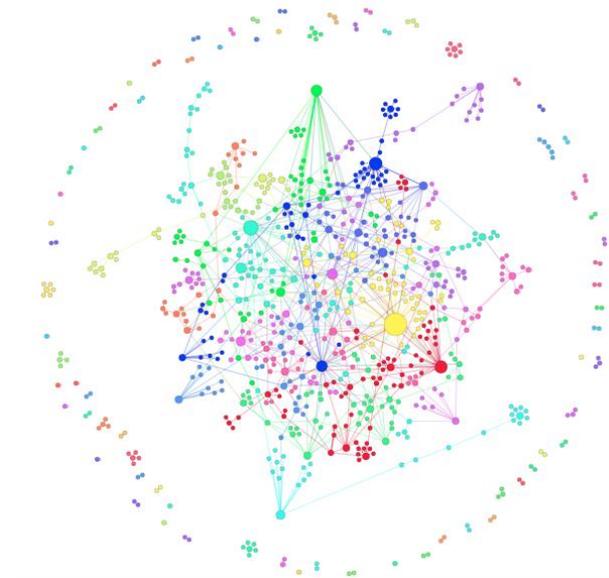
Competing Interests

- National Security
- Intellectual Property
- Economic Development

Intellectual Merit

- This research identifies, describes, and examines the emergent international ICT governance network.
  - As such, it explores a critical and emerging interaction between traditional laws and regulatory tools (treaties) and modern, multi-stakeholder governance forms.
- This research explores SSOs as a form of transnational private regulation and identifies its key governance functions and challenges in the ICT space.
- It provides insight into the changing and contentious intellectual property protection regime for ICTs and digital assets throughout the international community
- In contrast to existing ICT for development (ICT4D) research that focuses on specific technologies, this research discusses over-arching regulatory measures (technological standards) that structure the use of technologies throughout the international community, providing an alternative look at the macro level structures that influence ICT use and dispersion for development, and highlights the bureaucratic challenges that often inhibit or threaten development initiatives.
- It explores the potential security conflicts among the various stakeholders and examines how countries negotiate their national security with changing, and often more limited, regulatory power.
- Finally, this research contributes to a growing body of methodological research that utilizes social network analysis to study law and regulation, providing a concrete example of a regulatory network that should be studied collectively, rather than solely exploring its constituent parts.

Thank You!

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS...