



International Foundation for Digital Rights: Towards a Fair and Secure Cyberspace

FtissiFouzia*

¹Lecturer Class A in the Faculty of Law and Political Science, Department of Law and Laboratory of Environmental Legal Studies at the University of 8 May 1945, Guelma, Algeria. ftissi.fouzia@univ-guelma.dz

ABSTRACT: In light of the rapid technological advancements and digital transformation occurring worldwide, digital rights have become an integral part of fundamental human rights. These rights include the entitlements that individuals have in cyberspace, such as the right to privacy, freedom of expression, access to information and the right to digital security. As our reliance on technology increases across all areas of life, there is a growing need for an international framework to protect individuals and communities in the digital realm. This paper explores the concept of digital rights, the challenges they face, and international efforts to establish, promote and protect them.

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Introduction

Human rights have evolved in a multidimensional way, encompassing various aspects of human life. This evolution is evident through successive generations of rights emerging in response to the demands of the times and the evolving needs of individuals. As historical and social circumstances change, new concepts of human rights emerge, revealing previously unrecognised rights. Thus, the trajectory of rights development continues to adapt to contemporary global challenges and transformations, ensuring the protection of human dignity at all times and in all places.

In the current era of digital revolution, technology has become an integral part of our daily lives. Electronic spaces now serve as the stage for all forms of human interaction, including social communication, e-commerce, remote education and digital work. The world has transformed into an interconnected electronic village where information flows at an unprecedented speed. This significant transformation has given rise to digital rights, marking a new phase in the evolution of the concept of human rights. There is an urgent need to establish an international framework that protects these rights for individuals and groups, ensuring a fair and secure cyberspace for all.

Digital rights, also referred to as human rights in the digital age, comprise a set of principles designed to protect privacy, freedom of expression, equitable access to information, and to safeguard against discrimination and exploitation in the digital realm. In light of the new challenges posed by rapid technological advancement, such as privacy violations, cyber hacking, and the exploitation of personal data, these rights are no longer a luxury or an option; they have become a necessity.

Thus, the International Foundation for Digital Rights is a crucial step towards creating a fairer and more transparent digital world. Without a binding international legal framework in place, individual rights are increasingly violated, particularly under the dominance of major technology companies that control data flow and dominate digital platforms. Therefore, establishing principles and international laws to govern cyberspace has become an inevitable necessity in order to strike a balance between technological advancement and the protection of fundamental human rights. In this context, the following issue can be raised:

How can the international community establish a comprehensive and effective legal framework that protects and promotes digital rights, and ensures the realisation of a fair and secure cyberspace, despite the challenges posed by rapid technological development and cultural and political differences between countries?

This issue prompts profound discussions on how to balance technological advancement with the protection of fundamental rights and how to build effective international cooperation to address common challenges. To address this issue, we adopted a descriptive methodology and content analysis, as required by the study. We adopted the following structure:

1. The concept of digital rights
2. International efforts to establish digital rights.
3. Challenges to the international foundation of digital rights
4. Promoting digital rights internationally

1. The concept of digital rights:

A thorough understanding of a concept is essential for its precise discussion, and this is well-established. This is an important step that clarifies the intended meaning of the term and distinguishes it from similar terms. In order to understand the concept of digital rights, it is necessary to define them, as well as outline their types and characteristics, both of which will be examined in this study.

1.1 Definition of digital rights:

The modernity of the topic and the rapid development of digital communication technologies mean that there is no comprehensive and definitive reference definition. This means that any proposed definition may not fully encompass the content and scope of these rights. Nevertheless, this topic has received significant attention in discussions among many researchers, organisations, institutions and research centres. Some define digital rights as ‘the right of every individual to access, use, create and publish digital content, and to use computers and other devices, software and communication networks without restrictions’¹.

The Arab Center for Social Media Development defines digital rights as an extension of human rights in the real world. These rights are recognised, protected and promoted under laws and international treaties, and the same human rights applicable in the real world also apply in the virtual space². Digital rights are also defined as ‘the rights that enable individuals to access digital media such as computers and communication networks, and to use, create and publish them’. This concept is particularly linked to the protection and realisation of existing rights, such as the right to privacy and freedom of expression, in the context of digital technologies³.

Therefore, digital rights are the rights exercised by individuals in the digital space through various digital media, enjoying the same protections as the rights individuals possess outside of the internet.

2. Types of digital rights:

Digital rights encompass a range of rights aimed at protecting individuals in cyberspace. Their designation relates to the scope in which they are exercised. These rights are primarily associated with electronic communication and social media. They include the right to privacy, freedom of opinion and expression, access to information, digital security, protection from discrimination and digital violence, digital knowledge, development and the benefits of scientific advancement, among others.

2.1 The Right to Privacy:

The right to privacy is widely regarded as one of the most fundamental human rights in modern societies due

¹- WisamNi'mat Ibrahim Al-Saadi, Digital Rights and International Protection Mechanisms in the Framework of International Human Rights Law, Fourth International Conference on Legal Issues, ILIC, 2019, pp. 353-354.

²- Bayram Jamal Ghazal, Digital Human Rights, Baghdad Center for Legal and Economic Development, November 24, 2021, available at: [Digital Human Rights](<https://bclcd.org/%d8%ad%d9%82%d9%88%d9%82->) (Accessed April 26, 2025, at 16:00).

³-HadjerOunaf and SoumyaHirach, Digital Rights in Algeria: A Study of Concepts and Protection Mechanisms, Political Horizons Journal, Vol. 07, No. 01, 2023, p. 252.

to its close association with individual freedom and its role in safeguarding dignity and humanity. This right emerged before the digital revolution.

The expert committee on human rights established by the Council of Europe has indicated that there is no universally agreed definition of the right to privacy in legislation, the judiciary or jurisprudence at either the international or domestic level, despite various studies on the right to privacy¹. One of the most well-known definitions of the right to privacy is that provided by the American Law Institute. It defines privacy in terms of infringement, stating that 'anyone who seriously and unjustly violates another person's right not to have their affairs and circumstances known to others, and whose image is subject to public scrutiny, is liable to the aggrieved party'². Others define it as 'the ability to maintain personal space and protect it from the intrusion of institutions and individuals'³.

This right is enshrined in Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that everyone has the right to protection against arbitrary interference with their privacy, family, home and correspondence. This right is also stipulated in Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which provides legal protection against such interference⁴.

However, with the widespread development of digital technology, many challenges to this right have emerged, particularly the concept of information privacy, which was highlighted as distinct from other aspects of privacy in the late 1960s and early 1970s⁵.

The legal scholar Alan Westin defined the right to digital privacy as information privacy, describing it as the right of individuals to determine when, how, and to what extent information about them is shared with others. This is a newly emergent form of privacy directly related to information, given that a significant amount of sensitive and personal information about individuals has become accessible through information systems — especially the internet — making it difficult to trace, retrieve or render forgettable⁶. The right to information privacy means 'the right of every person not to have their data, files, and online activity exposed, along with legal protection against tracking or intrusion in this context'. In other words, it involves protecting individuals' personal data and preventing unauthorised access to it.

2.2 Freedom of expression: Freedom of expression:

The right to freedom of expression has a broad scope due to its connection with information and opinions, which are difficult to limit. As it is not an absolute right, it is subject to various restrictions and regulations, similar to many other human rights. It encompasses many different areas and subjects. Such restrictions must be specified by law and deemed necessary in order to respect the rights or reputations of others or to protect national security, public order, public health or morals. Every individual has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, including the right to hold opinions without interference, to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers, using all forms of expression and media, or any method through which opinions can be conveyed, published and circulated⁸.

In this context, it is crucial to guarantee individuals' right to express their opinions online without fear of

¹- NasredinMarouk, The Right to Privacy, Islamic Sciences College Journal (Al-Sirat), Year 04, No. 07, June 2003, p. 107.

²- FadhilaAkli, The Right to Information and the Right to Privacy, Al-Sirat Journal, Year 13, No. 22, January 2011, p. 198.

³- Amina Salam, The Impact of the Privacy Protection Fund Initiative on Information Privacy Rights, Judicial Efforts Journal, Research Lab on the Impact of Judicial Efforts on Legislation, Mohammed Khider University of Biskra, Vol. 17, No. 01, March 2025, p. 112.

⁴- This right is also stated in Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights, Article 11 of the American Convention on Human Rights, Article 4 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and Article 20 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

⁵- Aicha Ben QaraMostafa, The Right to Information Privacy Amid Technological Challenges and Protection Reality, Legal and Political Research Journal, No. 06, June 2016, pp. 273-274.

⁶- MoufidaMbarekia, Criminal Protection of the Right to Digital Privacy in Algerian Law, Sharia and Economics Journal, Vol. 07, No. 13, June 2018, p. 461.

⁷- Amina Salam, Previous Reference, p. 114.

⁸- Mohammed YoucefAlwan and Mohammed Khalil Al-Mousa, International Human Rights Law: Protected Rights, Vol. 2, Dar Al-Thaqafa for Publishing and Distribution, Amman, 2007, pp. 276-279.

censorship or retribution. Indeed, the internet has become the primary means through which individuals can exercise their right to freedom of opinion and expression as guaranteed by Article 19 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states: 'Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference, and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.'

This is also included in Article 19 of the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states: 'Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference.' 2. Everyone has the right to freedom of expression. This right includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, whether orally, in writing or in print, through art or any other medium of their choice. 3. The exercise of the rights set out in paragraph 2 of this Article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. Accordingly, it may be subject to restrictions provided by law that are necessary:

(a) for respect of the rights or reputations of others;

(b) for protection of national security, public order (ordre public), public health, or morals.^{1'}

2.3 The Right to Digital Security: The Right to Digital Security:

Also known as the right to electronic security, this right encompasses the protection of systems, networks and software against digital attacks that aim to access, alter or destroy sensitive information. Such attacks may seek to steal money from users or disrupt normal business operations. This right has gained significant importance in recent years due to the growing number of hostile activities in cyberspace. These include hacking incidents targeting state institutions and intelligence agencies, as well as content alteration operations carried out by commercial entities for the benefit of specific parties. Such actions disregard the ethical principles established by international documents, particularly the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights².

Therefore, the right to digital security involves providing individuals with a safe environment in which to use technology without fear of exposure to breaches or threats.

3. Characteristics of digital rights:

The most distinguishing characteristics of these rights are:

- Legal rights: Rights are classified as either natural, which are inherent to human beings and relate to human nature, or legal, which are recognised by law and subject to regulation and protection.

- Recently established rights: These represent the latest categories and generations of human rights, with the modern information and technology revolution serving as evidence of their connection to this development.

Universal Rights: Their universality stems from the global nature of the World Wide Web and their widespread necessity for humanity.

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- Fundamental Human Rights: They are not recreational or secondary rights, as recognised by the Human Rights Council.

- Supporting Other Human Rights: They play a crucial role in understanding and recognising all types and generations of rights, and are currently taking a leading role in the promotion of human rights. They are an effective tool for monitoring, documenting and exchanging data on international compliance with these rights³. rights³.

¹- This right is also stated in Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, Article 13 of the American Convention on Human Rights, Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and Article 31 of the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

²- Abdelkader Mehdaoui, Corporate Responsibility for Violating Digital Rights: The Case of Palestinian Digital Rights since October 7, 2023, Research Journal on Contracts and Business Law, Vol. 09, Special Issue 02, 2024, p. 90.

³- Wissam Ni'mat Ibrahim Al-Saadi, Previous Reference, pp. 354-355.

Secondly: International efforts to establish digital rights

Digital rights have become an integral part of contemporary daily life and are indispensable to all societies. The internet disseminates values, knowledge and culture, and facilitates the exchange of ideas and various activities. It is an effective tool for communication between individuals and groups, and for expressing opinions. This makes digital rights a necessity that requires the international community to make intensive efforts to support and address various related aspects. Numerous initiatives have contributed to creating an environment in which digital rights are recognised as human rights and enjoyed by all. Notable efforts include:

- the 1966 International Covenants on Human Rights: in this regard, reference can be made to Article 19(2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states: 'Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of one's choice.' Additionally, Article 17 of the same covenant pertains to the right to privacy, while Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights asserts that '1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognise the right of everyone: (a) to take part in cultural life; (b) to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications; (c) to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he or she is the author...'

The Internet Bill of Rights, proposed by the Advanced Communications Society at a conference held in Prague, Czech Republic, in 2001, emphasises several issues and rights, including the right to internet access for all, freedom of expression, access to knowledge and collaborative education, copyright, privacy, surveillance, encryption and internet governance¹.

- The World Summit on the Information Society in 2003: Sponsored by the United Nations, this summit involved many governments, civil society representatives, and businesses, and marked the birth of digital rights. During the event, the 'Declaration of Principles on the Information Society' was adopted, which aligns with and reinforces the 1993 Vienna Declaration, stating that human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent. The summit also reaffirmed the right to freedom of opinion and expression². A second World Summit was held in Tunis from 16–18 November 2005.

Resolution of the Human Rights Council on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the Internet and Their Enjoyment in 2012: The Human Rights Council adopted this resolution on July 5, 2012, emphasizing that the exercise of human rights online is of great concern. The resolution reaffirmed that the same rights enjoyed by individuals offline must be protected online, particularly freedom of expression. It acknowledged the universal and open nature of the internet and called on all states to promote and facilitate access to it³.

United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the Right to Privacy in the Digital Age (2013): On 18 December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 68/167 concerning the right to privacy in the digital age. The resolution reaffirmed that individuals' rights offline should also be protected online. It stated that any process involving the surveillance or interception of communications is unlawful and incompatible with the right to privacy online. Furthermore, it emphasised that surveillance of communications should occur within a legal framework that aligns with human rights⁴.

- The African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms (2014): This declaration, issued by African civil

¹- Jamal Al-Din Ben Amir, Digital Rights Between Usage Controls and Democratic Practice Requirements, Legal and Political Studies Journal, Vol. 08, No. 01, January 2022, p. 64.

²- United Nations and International Telecommunication Union, Declaration of Principles: Building the Information Society: A Global Challenge in the New Millennium, World Summit on the Information Society, Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005, Document: WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-A, Geneva, December 12, 2003, p. 1, available at: [WSIS Document](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/md/03/wsis/doc/S03-WSIS-DOC-0004!!PDF-A.pdf) (Accessed April 23, 2025, at 09:00).

³- Human Rights Council, Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the Internet, Twentieth Session, United Nations General Assembly, Document No. A/HRC/RES/20/8, July 16, 2012, pp. 1-2.

⁴- General Assembly, The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age, Sixty-Eighth Session, Resolution 68/167 dated December 18, 2013, United Nations, Document No. A/RES/68/167, January 12, 2014, p. 3, available at: [UN Document](https://docs.un.org/ar/A/RES/68/167) (Accessed April 23, 2025, at 10:00).

society, aims to strengthen the internet rights movement by outlining the principles required to uphold human and people's rights online. The declaration seeks to foster an internet environment that best meets the needs of the African community and its economic development goals¹.

- The High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation was established in 2018: The Secretary-General formed this panel to propose ways to enhance cooperation on digital issues among governments, the private sector, civil society, international organisations, academic institutions, technical communities and other relevant stakeholders. Consisting of 20 members, the panel presented its final report, titled *The Age of Digital Interconnection*, in June 2019. Its recommendations included establishing an inclusive digital economy and society for all, developing human and institutional capacities, protecting human rights and dignity, enhancing trust, security and stability in the digital realm, and promoting global digital cooperation².

European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade in 2023: Adopted by the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission on January 23, 2023, this declaration commits to several obligations outlined in Chapter Three, titled "Freedom of Choice," under the subtitle "A Fair Digital Environment." These obligations include ensuring a secure and safe digital environment based on fair competition that protects fundamental rights³.

- international Agreements for Personal Data Protection:

Many countries are striving to establish international agreements that protect individuals' personal data, such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in the European Union, which has become a model for many countries.

- United Nations Initiatives:

The United Nations is also working to promote digital rights through initiatives like the "UN Action Plan for Digital Human Rights," which aims to ensure the protection of individuals' rights in cyberspace.

- Principles of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU):

The ITU, as a specialized agency of the United Nations, works to promote international cooperation in the field of technology and communications and calls for the protection of digital rights as part of its efforts to build an inclusive information society.

- Civil Society Organizations:

Non-governmental organizations play a significant role in advocating for digital rights through awareness campaigns, lobbying governments, and providing legal support to victims.

Third: Challenges to the International Establishment of Digital Rights:

There are several challenges facing the international establishment of digital rights. The most significant of these are:

1. The discrepancy between technological advancement and legal frameworks:

Technological advancements are evolving at an astonishing pace, while legal frameworks often fail to keep up with these developments in many countries. Legal standards may be absent or inadequate for addressing the modern environment, creating a legislative gap that enables violations of digital rights⁴. This raises the question of how countries can keep pace with rapid technological advancements through legislation that protects digital rights without stifling innovation.

¹- African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms, available at: [African Declaration](<https://africaninternetrights.org/ar>) (Accessed April 26, 2025, at 16:15).

²- General Assembly, *A Roadmap for Digital Cooperation: Implementing the Recommendations of the High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation*, Seventy-Fourth Session, United Nations, Document No. A/74/821, May 29, 2020, p. 3.

³- General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy*, Anna Brian Noguera, on the Right to Privacy, Seventy-Ninth Session, United Nations, Document No. A/79/173, June 17, 2024, p. 5.

⁴- Human Rights Council, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression*, Frank La Rue, Twenty-Third Session, United Nations General Assembly, Document No. A/HRC/23/40, April 17, 2013, p. 17.

2. Cultural and Political Differences Between Countries:

Concepts such as privacy, freedom of expression and access to information vary between countries, as do national policies. This makes it difficult to reach a unified international framework. Against this backdrop, the World Summit on the Information Society emphasises the importance of respecting cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions, while promoting these concepts and encouraging dialogue between cultures and civilisations. Affirming and strengthening different cultural identities can enrich the information society¹.

3. Dominance of major technology companies:

The control that a few giant companies have over cyberspace raises questions about states' ability to regulate these platforms and protect users' rights. Mechanisms must be explored to ensure the regulation of these companies' operations, achieving a balance between their interests and users' rights. Many entities, particularly organisations, have therefore called for greater transparency in how companies handle digital rights. UNESCO has adopted high-level explanatory principles regarding the transparency of internet platforms².

4. Cybersecurity threats:

The world has recently witnessed an increase in cyber threats, such as hacking and privacy violations, including data breaches and extortion. These pose a significant risk to digital security. Addressing these challenges requires international cooperation. Against this backdrop, it is crucial to explore ways to bolster international collaboration in combating cyber threats and safeguarding personal data.

For example, malware attacks can cause lasting damage to the computer systems that are necessary for carrying out key economic and societal functions. The cost of this damage is estimated to be in the billions of dollars. Global data breaches cost countries and companies trillions of dollars. During the pandemic, the International Criminal Police Organization reported a surge in ransomware attacks worldwide, while the World Health Organization was subjected to numerous cyberattacks³.

5. Inequality in Access to Technology:

The digital divide between developed and developing countries raises questions about how to ensure equitable access to technology and cyberspace for all. This necessitates identifying strategies to ensure fair access, particularly for developing countries. Inequality in access to technology between nations and communities prevents some individuals from enjoying their digital rights⁴.

6. Protecting Individual Rights Amidst Big Data Collection:

As artificial intelligence becomes more prevalent and companies and governments collect and analyse personal data, the issue of protecting individuals' privacy and preventing the exploitation of their data arises. Experience has shown that individual privacy is under constant threat, which can have extremely harmful effects on the enjoyment of other human rights. It is therefore crucial to comply with international human rights law, which stipulates that any intervention or restriction must be based on law and be necessary to achieve a legitimate and proportionate aim without undermining the essence of the right to privacy⁵.

¹- United Nations and International Telecommunication Union, Document: WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-A, Previous Reference, p. 8.

²- Andrew Podvats, Let the Sun Shine: Transparency and Accountability in the Digital Age, in this series: Global Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development, Document: CI-2021/WTR/5, UNESCO, 2021, for more details see: [UNESCO Document](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000377231_ar) (Accessed April 17, 2025, at 15:00).

³- General Assembly, A Roadmap for Digital Cooperation: Implementing the Recommendations of the High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, Document No. A/74/821, Previous Reference, p. 17.

⁴- See: Human Rights Council, Report of the Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression, Frank La Rue, Seventeenth Session, United Nations General Assembly, Document No. A/HRC/17/27, May 16, 2011, pp. 21-25.

⁵- Refer to: Human Rights Council, Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, The Right to Privacy in the Digital Age, Fifty-First Session, United Nations General Assembly, Document No. A/HRC/51/17, August

It should be noted that data protection measures have struggled to keep pace with advancements in hacking and espionage techniques. In 2019 alone, over 7,000 data breaches were recorded, resulting in the exposure of over 15 billion records. This highlights the need for the effective protection of personal data in accordance with internationally agreed standards¹.

Fourth: Ways to Enhance Digital Rights Internationally

Digital rights can be enhanced by:

1. Strengthening international cooperation:

The international establishment of digital rights not only protects individuals, but also promotes international cooperation in addressing cross-border cyber threats, such as cybercrime and digital terrorism. This approach also helps to build trust among nations and communities, thereby enhancing global stability and supporting the achievement of sustainable development goals. To this end, a comprehensive international dialogue involving all relevant parties — governments, international organisations, civil society and the private sector — is needed to establish a solid foundation for global digital rights. This dialogue must consider cultural and social diversity to ensure that no group or community is excluded from the opportunities offered by the digital world. Therefore, countries must collaborate to establish an international legal framework that safeguards digital rights and tackles cross-border challenges.

2. Developing national legislation:

Each country should develop national legislation to protect digital rights in accordance with international standards, particularly with regard to government surveillance. Some governments impose strict internet censorship, restricting freedom of expression and limiting access to information and infringing the right to privacy. Therefore, national legislation is required to regulate these practices in line with human rights standards².

3. Enhancing digital awareness:

Digital awareness refers to individuals' ability to use digital devices effectively and access information digitally. UNESCO (2013) defined digital literacy as possessing the skills and knowledge to search for, retrieve, evaluate, apply and share electronic information³. Therefore, all stakeholders, including governments and civil society organisations, should raise public awareness of the use of new technologies through campaigns that inform individuals of their digital rights and how to protect themselves in cyberspace, and empower them to use various electronic means.

4. Supporting research and development:

In order to create a safe and equitable digital space, it is crucial to promote scientific research in digital security and develop new technologies for data protection and privacy. Although science, technology and innovation can hinder the promotion and protection of human rights, they can also facilitate it by ensuring that all scientific research is conducted responsibly and ethically, thereby protecting and promoting all human rights. Furthermore, a human rights perspective should be integrated into the processes of setting standards for new and emerging technologies⁴.

5. Supporting international organisations:

Support and empower all active international organisations that promote digital rights, including the United Nations, the International Telecommunication Union and regional alliances.

4, 2022, pp. 13-18.

¹- General Assembly, A Roadmap for Digital Cooperation: Implementing the Recommendations of the High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, Document No. A/74/821, Previous Reference, p. 13.

²- Human Rights Council, Document No. A/HRC/23/40, Previous Reference, pp. 3, 6, 27.

³- Said Gharbi and Kamel Masoudi, The Impact of Acquiring Levels of Digital Awareness on Developing Digital Content Management Software Skills Among University Professors: An Applied Study, Legal and Humanities Research Journal, Vol. 17, No. 02, 2024, p. 25.

⁴- General Assembly, Charter for the Future, Seventy-Ninth Session, United Nations, Document No. A/79/L.2, September 20, 2024, p. 25.

Conclusion:

The international establishment of digital rights is a necessary step to ensure the protection of individuals in today's digital landscape. In light of the significant challenges these rights face, the international community must collaborate to enhance and protect them. Through international cooperation, the development of legislation and the promotion of digital literacy, we can create a fair and secure online environment where everyone can enjoy their digital rights without fear of violations. Digital rights are not merely an extension of human rights; they are essential to ensuring justice and equality in the digital age.

Therefore, establishing digital rights internationally is not just a legal or political step, but also an ethical and humanitarian commitment to current and future generations. It is a call to create a digital space that reflects the values of justice and equality, respects human dignity and freedom, and provides a safe environment for creativity and innovation. Only through this can we ensure that technology is a tool for liberation and progress rather than oppression and exploitation. The study has reached the following set of findings and recommendations:

1. Findings:

There is no universally agreed definition of digital rights due to the novelty of the topic and rapid technological advancements.

Digital rights are an extension of fundamental human rights in the real world, such as privacy, freedom of expression and access to information. However, they face challenges in the digital environment due to restrictive laws or the misuse of data.

Digital rights encompass several types of rights, including the right to privacy, freedom of expression and opinion, and digital security.

The lack of a clear and effective international legal framework to protect digital rights makes it difficult to address various challenges and violations of these rights across borders. This threatens digital security and other digital rights despite international efforts in this area.

The international establishment of digital rights faces various challenges, including discrepancies between technological advancement and national legislation, political and cultural differences between countries, the dominance of major technology companies in cyberspace, cybersecurity threats, the digital divide, and protecting individual rights in the context of big data collection.

The international community can establish a comprehensive and effective legal framework to protect and enhance digital rights. This would ensure a safe and equitable electronic space amidst increasing challenges, and could be achieved through joint international cooperation, the development of legislation, the promotion of digital awareness, support for research and development, and the empowerment of international organisations to further efforts in this field.

2. Recommendations:

Adopt a global charter for digital rights, similar to the International Bill of Human Rights. This charter should oblige states, companies and individuals to respect international standards for the protection of digital rights. The aim is to enhance international understanding of digital rights protection, in line with technological and informational developments.

Strengthen legal frameworks by creating and developing digital laws based on human rights standards. Ensure the participation of civil society in their formulation and review laws related to cybercrimes to prevent their misuse.

Enhance international cooperation and collaboration between governments, the private sector and civil society to provide necessary protection for digital rights and address cybersecurity threats without infringing rights and freedoms.

Provide necessary support to all stakeholders, at both international and national levels, in monitoring violations and building capacity, particularly given the challenges posed by the digital environment.

Protect privacy and data by:

- imposing strict standards on the collection and storage of biometric data;
- ensuring transparency of access for users in constrained environments;
- encouraging the use of encryption tools;
- establishing international mechanisms to monitor the impact of algorithms on fundamental rights;
- requiring digital platforms to adopt transparent policies that respect users' rights.

Raise awareness among users of their digital rights and responsibilities through media campaigns, training courses and education on the correct use of electronic devices and the internet.

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