

## Moderator



**Ms. Manal Ismail** | Chief Expert Internet Policies, National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA), Egypt

Manal Ismail is the Director of the International Technical Coordination Department at the National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Egypt and the ICANN GAC Chair. Manal served as the Vice Chair of GAC in 2009. She also serves as the Vice Chair of the ICANN Accountability and Transparency Review Team. In 2017, Ismail became the GAC liaison to the ICANN Board.

She is also a member of the Egyptian working group on Internet Governance and the Internet Society Chapter of Egypt.

Before she joined NTRA, she worked at the Ministry of Egypt in the Telecom Strategic and Technical Planning Department. She started her career as a Network Engineer working at the Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center. Ms. Manal is considered as one of the pioneers of the Internet in Egypt for her work with the Internet access and DNS operation. She actively participates in the global Internet community. Ms. Ismail has participated in several internet tasks like setting up an Arabic domain names test bed, launching a regional resolution server in Egypt and most recently has also been involved in launching Egypt's new Arabic ccTLD. She has also worked in establishing the AfriNIC Mirror Center for Technical Operation

## Speakers



**Mr. Belal Al-Hafnawi** | Commissioner, Board Member at Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC-Jordan), Jordan

His excellency Eng. Belal Al-Hafnawi is An ICT Executive experienced in Management, leadership, regulatory and Strategy. Currently working a Commissioner/ Full time Board Member in Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC) Having (19)+ years of intensive experience in technology, telecommunications, information technology and digital transformation. He worked with several international mobile network vendors and service providers (Huawei, Motorola, Nokia and Samsung Electronics and STC).

He has wide work experience in various telecommunications fields, which included management, technical and consulting experience, managing complex programs/projects and operation management. He holds bachelor and Master's degree in Telecommunications from university of Jordan, And has completed an executive track in Management and Leadership of technology from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)/United States focused on Artificial Intelligence and internet of things business implications and platform strategies. He is a technical writer, author and speaker



**Mr. Chawki Chihi** | director general, Ministry of Communication Technologies, Tunis

A computer engineer since 2002, Chaouki Chihi graduated from the National School of Computer Sciences. Chaouki CHIHI began his professional career as a developer engineer within the Ministry of Vocational Training and Employment and has accumulated more than 15 years of experience in the design and development of applications and management of information systems projects before joining, in 2019, a management team of the "Economic Inclusion of Young People" MOUBADIROUN "" project as director of component 3 "Support for Implementation". Since July 2021, Chaouki CHIHI has been appointed as Director of the GovTech Project for "Digital Transformation of User-Oriented Public Services" and at the same time in charge of the General Direction of Communication Technologies within the Ministry of Communication Technologies.



**Mr. Mohamad Hegazy** | Senior Consultant for Public Policy & Regulatory Affairs, Moharram and Partners for Strategic communications and Government Affairs and Senior Regulatory Consultant in Digital Economy and Technology Division, Federation of Egyptian Chambers of Commerce.

A senior legal counsel with substantial legal and management experience for more than 20 years with a focus on; Intellectual Property, communications and information technology market regulations and development, organization governance, public policy analysis/reform, advocacy, business and legal advisory. Experience in; Management, developing legal capacity building programs, preparing and drafting legislative and regulations framework for intellectual property, cybercrimes, privacy and data protection, e-signature, digital evidences, telecom and media laws and regulations. Fully knowledgeable in Middle East and GCC countries with familiarity with the work atmospheres in international organization. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Strong analytical capabilities and judgment. Ability to work proactively, independently and reliably under tight time frames in a fast-paced environment. Ability to work effectively and collaboratively cross-functionally, think practically and solution-oriented. Willingness to tackle matters outside area of expertise.



**Mr. Chafic Chaya** | Regional Communications Manager, RIPE NCC, UA

With over 22 years of experience in Internet and Telecom industry, Chafic Chaya joined RIPE NCC in 2014 as Regional Communications Manager for the Middle East region, supporting different stakeholders with capacity development and expertise related to Internet infrastructure and governance.

Dr. Chaya serves as the primary liaison to members, governments, external stakeholders, and media to ensure productive engagement, capacity development, and ongoing dialogue.

He manages public policies and governments affairs for the organization in the Middle East. He supports governments, regulators, and policymakers in capacity building and developing appropriate policy positions on Internet connectivity and access issues.

He leads the development and implementation of RIPE NCC academic initiatives in the Middle East region, bridging the gap between market needs and graduates.

Dr. Chaya is a member of the order of Engineer in Beirut, a member at the Arab Task Force for Arab IGF2021, a member at the Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board at the American University in Dubai (AUD), a member at the Global Internet Governance Academic Network (GigaNet), ex-member at Arab Multistakeholder Group for Arab IGF (2011-2013), ex-chairman for the Communication Group for the Arab Regional Working Party (ARWP) for the private sector at TDAG / ITU-D (2006-2010).

Awarded a Doctoral Degree in "Internet Governance" from Staffordshire University in the UK; having previously obtained a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Lebanon and Telecommunications Engineering from France.



**Mr. Charbel Chbeir** | Attorney and Consultant in Cybersecurity, Beirut Bar Association, Lebanon

Lawyer, member of the Beirut Bar Association (BBA), former Member of the Special Committee at the Beirut Parliament studying the e-Transaction Law (issued) and the potential amendments thereto, representing the BBA, current ISOC Governance committee MEMBER (Lebanese chapter), IGF (LMAG) Member (Lebanese chapter), current Member of the AI (artificial intelligence) committee at the BBA.

Former Representative of the BBA before the Presidency of the Council of Minister with respect to the E-Commercial Registry Project "One-Stop Shop"

Expert on ICT and cyber-criminality issues, and Managing Partner at @ttorneys Law Firm.