

## Moderator



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

Chafic Chaya is External Relations Officer for the RIPE NCC, as well as Regional Communications Manager for the Middle East region. With over 15 years experience in communications, PR, business development, marketing, branding, and operation management related to Internet and Telecom activities, a primary aspect of Chafic's role is to build relations with governments, media and other stakeholders. Chafic is a member of the Order of Engineers in Lebanon and member of the working group for the creation of Lebanese Internet Center – LINC. He is also an ex-member of the Arab IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group (2011-2013) and chaired the Communication Group for the Arab Regional Working Party (ARWP) for the private sector at the International Telecommunication Union (2006-2010).

Awarded a Doctoral degree in Business Administration from Staffordshire University in UK on "Internet Governance", having previously obtained his Masters in Business Administration and Engineering Diploma in Telecom.

## Speakers



**Ms. Gergana Petrova** | External Relations Officer, RIPE NCC, the Netherlands

Gergana Petrova is an External Relations Officer at the RIPE NCC. As part of the External Relations team, she helps lead the RIPE NCC's engagement with a broad range of stakeholders, including the RIPE NCC membership, the RIPE community, government, law enforcement and other Internet stakeholders. Gergana also coordinates the RIPE Academic Cooperation Initiative (RACI) – an initiative that connects researchers and academics with the RIPE community.

Previously, Gergana worked as Conference Coordinator at the RIPE NCC, organising the biannual RIPE Meeting. The RIPE Meeting is the main event during which members of the RIPE community meet to discuss current technical and policy issues, share experiences and best practices and develop a network of peers. Gergana also organised the regional ENOG and SEE meetings and helped build the local communities there.

Originally from Bulgaria, Gergana studied in Germany before relocating to the Netherlands. Gergana has a Masters in Business Research.



**Mr. William Johnson** | Instructional designer, RIPE NCC, the Netherlands

William Johnson is an Instructional Designer in the Learning and Development department at the RIPE NCC in Amsterdam, Netherlands where he develops interactive e-Learning courses for the RIPE NCC Academy. He graduated from Western Governors University with a master's degree in Learning and Technology. Before RIPE NCC he worked for 10 years at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute as a Research Associate and in his free time as a Freelance Designer and Consultant