Global Advocacy

Protecting the Wikimedia model, people, and values

FY2023

What we do

There are laws and policies around the world that are a direct threat to Wikimedia projects and volunteers.

The Global Advocacy team helps the Foundation and affiliates defend against these threats by advocating for laws, public policies, and government actions that protect and support the Wikimedia movement.

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Global Advocacy Framework

Protect the Model

To protect the community-governed model, we take actions on policies related to **access to knowledge and free expression.**

Protect the People

To protect the people in our community, we advocate **for privacy rights** and **against mass surveillance.**

Protect the Values

To protect the values of our movement, we lead by example by prioritizing **human rights** and countering **disinformation**.

Key issues

There are **5 issues** that are most urgent and important if we are to protect Wikimedia's model, people, and values

- Copyright
- Liability Protections
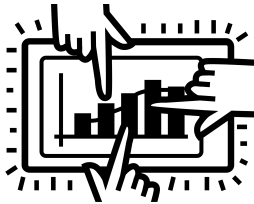- Surveillance
- Human Rights
- Disinformation

How we do it

We work across the movement to educate policymakers so they understand the Wikimedia model;
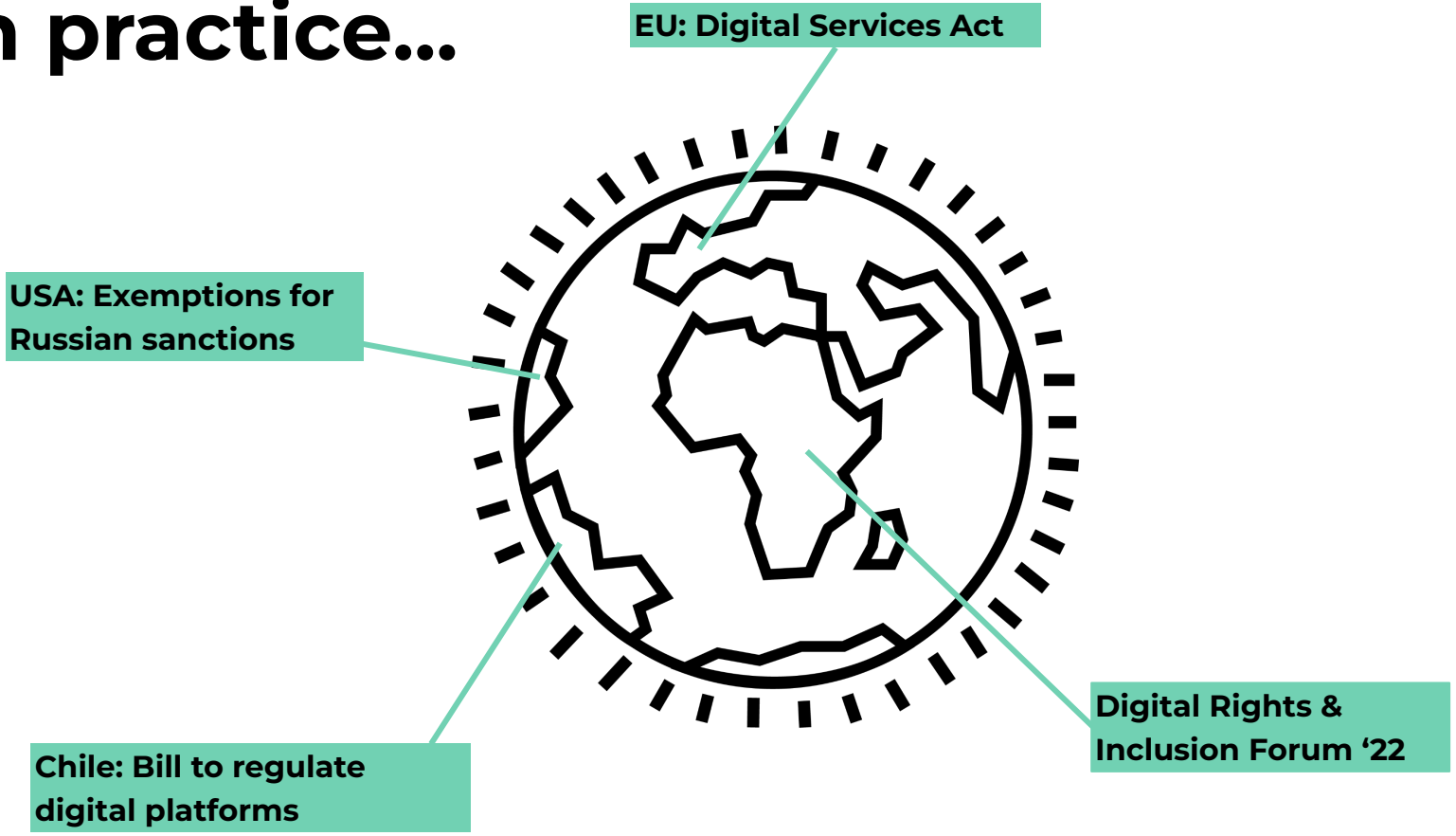
We work with allies in civil society and the media to promote a positive agenda for internet policy making grounded in access, freedom of expression, privacy, and platform governance based on human rights and counter-disinformation;

We work with industry partners to advance open standards and frameworks that enable and support the widespread sharing of free knowledge.

In practice...

EU: Digital Services Act

USA: Exemptions for Russian sanctions

Chile: Bill to regulate digital platforms

Digital Rights & Inclusion Forum '22

In practice...

Philippines: SIM Card Registration Act

Indonesia: Strategic response to MR5 and push for Data Protection and Privacy Law through G20

Australia: Basic Online Safety Expectations

Who we are

Policy Engagement	Policy Development & Advisory	Strategic & Operations	Strategic Initiatives
Jan Gerlach **Director, Public Policy**	Allison Davenport **Manager, Policy Research & Analysis**	Kat Gatewood **Senior Manager, Operations**	Rebecca MacKinnon **VP, Global Advocacy**
Function Promotes policy environment that supports our mission and vision.	**Function** Develops positions and advises the team.	**Function** Drives strategy planning of the team.	**Function** Executes specific strategic initiatives.
Team 3 Policy Specialists; 1 Movement Advocacy Manager	**Team** Research & Policy Fellows	**Team:** Senior Editor	**Team** 2 specialists: Ant-disinformation lead, Human Rights Advocacy Manager

Get involved

1. Disinformation Mapping

2. Advocacy Mapping

3. Anti-surveillance Campaign

4. Human Rights Impact Assessment

Additional options

5. Submit a conference session with us

6. Contact us with your ideas!

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Stay in touch!

- <u>Meta-Wiki</u> to learn more how to work with us &

  upcoming events

- <u>Mailing list</u> for updates from our team

- <u>Diff</u> blog posts for current activities

- Twitter (@Wikimediapolicy)

- Email us (globaladvocacy@wikimedia.org)

CC 0, Jasmina El Bouamraoui and Karabo Poppy, via Commons

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Appendix

Copyright	**Why it matters**: Overly aggressive enforcement of copyright laws blocks people from speaking freely. Laws and policies must balance protecting the incentive to create with preserving free speech in order for Wikimedia projects to thrive.
Liability Protections	**Why it matters**: There are laws and policies that would hold Wikimedia liable for third-party content like Wikipedia articles and photographs. If Wikimedia was held liable every time a user contributed something inaccurate or upsetting, we wouldn't be able to maintain and grow the world's largest free encyclopedia.
Surveillance	**Why it matters:** Mass surveillance robs people on our projects of privacy, safety, and freedom - especially people in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. We must change the deeply invasive surveillance programs around the world to make sure our people are protected.
Human Rights	**Why it matters**: There are volunteers working on Wikimedia projects who are exposed to human rights risks because of their work. Knowledge equity is not possible if this is the case. We must make sure we do everything we can to protect, respect, and advance human rights on our projects.
Disinformation	**Why it matters:** Disinformation is a danger to democratic processes and human rights around the world, but the wrong response to disinformation can threaten freedom of expression. We must tackle disinformation on our projects and make sure disinformation policies around the world protect freedom of expression.

Disinformation Mapping

We're mapping the work being done to fight disinformation so that we can share our findings back with the community.

We're on track to share a full map of counter-disinformation tools and resources in the Spring of 2023.
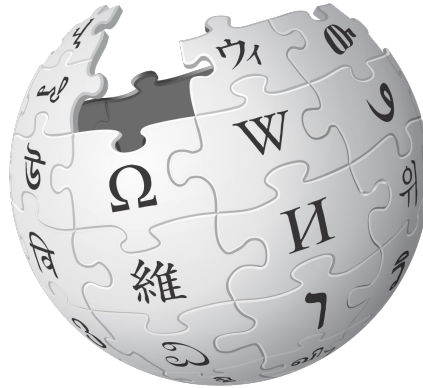
How to help:

Do you have concerns about disinformation you want to share? Do you know of work already being done to fight disinformation? Are there people or organizations you think we should talk to? We want to hear from you!

Email globaladvocacy@wikimedia.org

Copyright Advocacy Mapping

We're mapping the work that's been done to advocate for copyright reform.

This information will be used to create a resource of previous campaign material, as well as a series of conversation hours, so that Wikimedians around the world can learn from each other about how to advocate for free knowledge.
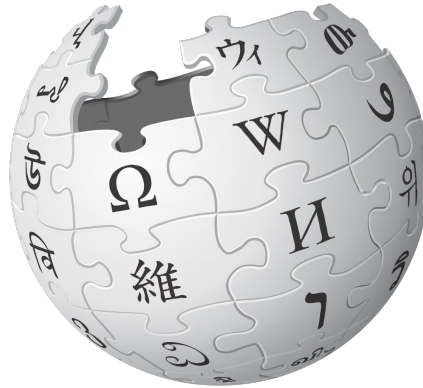
Anti-Surveillance Campaign

In 2015 the Wikimedia Foundation sued the United States government's National Security Agency for its mass surveillance. Now, we've petitioned the Supreme Court to review the challenge.

Effective policy change relies on raising the voices of those most affected. We need to bring grassroots energy to this campaign to raise awareness about how surveillance impacts free knowledge projects.

Human Rights Impact Assessments

How to help:

Review the key recommendations made in the HRIA and let us know what you think! Are there ideas there that would support you and your community? Are there any ideas that you don't think would work? Tell us what you think!

Email rgaines@wikimedia.org

The Foundation's first human rights impact assessment (HRIA) was published in July 2022. The report evaluates human rights risks that may be related to Wikimedia projects, platforms, or activities.

These findings are meant to start a conversation about these challenges and solutions within our movement. This is a long-term effort, not a quick fix. Let us know your thoughts

Contact us
globaladvocacy@wikimedia.org