

Yahoo! Business & Human Rights Summit



On Tuesday, May 4, 2010, Yahoo! hosted its second annual Business & Human Rights Summit. The Summit featured experts from the business, academic, journalist, human rights and advocacy communities – each with a unique perspective but united in a common desire to address the complex threats to free expression and user privacy. For the agenda, click [here](#). See [here](#) for video highlights of the

Summit, and [here](#) for photos of the Summit. And to view the full video of the event, click [BHRP Summit Reel](#).

Michael Callahan Opens the Summit

Yahoo! Executive Vice President and General Counsel Michael Callahan opened the Summit, addressing Yahoo!'s commitment to human rights and to working together with the GNI and other stakeholders to support free expression and user privacy on the Internet.

Technology and Human Rights

The first panel was a discussion about Governments, Technology and Human Rights, in which panelists including Sarah Labowitz of the U.S. State Department and Christine Bader, Advisor to the UN Special Representative for Business & Human Rights, and Kum Hong Siew, former member of parliament, Singapore (and Yahoo! employee) discussed various approaches to addressing free expression and privacy rights in the Internet, Technology and Communications (ICT) sector. You can read Christine Bader's blog post on the event [here](#).

Technological Solutions to Free Expression

The second panel, entitled Technological Solutions to Free Expression and Privacy Issues, addressed innovative solutions targeted at evading government restrictions on free expression and privacy. Panelists included Evgeny Morozov, Yahoo!'s 2010 Georgetown Fellow and contributing editor to Foreign Policy, David Gorodysky, CEO and founder of AnchorFree, Kathleen Reen of Internews and Alan Huang of UltraFree Internet. You can read more about our Georgetown Fellow Evgeny [here](#).

Social Media and Social Change

The third panel featured a discussion about the intersection between social media and social change, in which journalists, bloggers, social entrepreneurs and film-makers held a discussion about the role of media and technology as a platform for free expression and social change, and shared innovative methods of amplifying voices from around the world. Panelists included

Abbas Gassem, Founder and Editor, Inside Somalia (and Yahoo! employee); Sameer Padania, Hub Manager, Witness.org; Nadia Trinidad, Yahoo!'s 2010 Stanford Fellow and senior correspondent, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Company, the Philippines, Elia Serra, co-founder and director of Maneno, and Omid Memarian, UC Berkeley Rotary Peace Fellow and Iranian journalist and blogger.

Unconventional Threats to Online Privacy and Free Expression

The fourth and final panel discussion addressed Unconventional Threats to Online Privacy and Free Expression, during which panelists discussed how account deactivation and terms of service violations can have unintended chilling effects on privacy and free expression. Panelists for that discussion included Dr. Mehdi Yahyanejad, founder and editor of Balatarin.com; Scott Rubin, Head of Planning, Public Policy and Communications, Google EMEA; Ebele Okobi-Harris, Director of Yahoo!'s Business & Human Rights Program, Kim Pham of AccessNow, and Danny O'Brien, International Outreach Coordinator at the Committee to Protect Journalists.



Flickr Gallery

The Summit closed with a reception and a Flickr gallery show, which featured photographs and stories from Flickr community members around the world. The gallery showcased photographs from photojournalists documenting the aftermath of the Iranian elections, life in Iraq, and social justice initiatives using technology or media to create change. You can view our Flickr gallery [here](#).