

**Statement by Derechos Digitales before the  
Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of  
information and communications technologies (OEWG 2021-2025),  
Fifth Substantive Session (24-28 July, 2023)**

*26 July, 2023– J. Carlos Lara Gálvez*

*check against delivery*

Mr Chair, distinguished delegates,

**Derechos Digitales** appreciates the opportunity to participate in this meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group. Derechos Digitales is a Latin American civil society organisation active in research and information sharing on threats in cyberspace and their impacts on human rights. We have participated in joint contributions with other stakeholders<sup>12</sup> and wish to provide additional comments to the draft report.

We appreciate the proposal to create a repository of threats to the security of information and communication technologies. We urge cooperation with non-governmental actors for the creation of and contribution to the repository.

In the same sense, we support the creation of instances for information exchange and incident response exercises, at a global, regional and national level. We emphasise that organisations like ours are trusted intermediaries receiving information on incidents suffered by people who are common targets of malware and cyberattacks, such as human rights defenders and journalists; also, in the interaction with experts who do not participate in instances organised by States. That experience is useful for the formation of an effective repository.

We support the operationalisation of the Points of Contact Directory in Section E. As we have already expressed before this Working Group, we support the expansion of such a directory to include interaction with response teams and key non-governmental stakeholders. In our case, related efforts include managing a trusted network of people outside of governments with the ability to detect and respond to digital security incidents, advancing in the creation of an observatory of digital threats in Latin America.

---

<sup>1</sup> Submission to fifth substantive session on capacity-building and stakeholder engagement: [https://docs-library.unoda.org/Open-Ended\\_Working\\_Group\\_on\\_Information\\_and\\_Communication\\_Technologies\\_-\\_2021/Joint\\_Stakeholder\\_Letter\\_on\\_Capacity\\_Building\\_in\\_the\\_OEWG's\\_Second\\_APR.pdf](https://docs-library.unoda.org/Open-Ended_Working_Group_on_Information_and_Communication_Technologies_-_2021/Joint_Stakeholder_Letter_on_Capacity_Building_in_the_OEWG's_Second_APR.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Joint civil society input to the revised zero draft of the second annual progress report: [https://docs-library.unoda.org/Open-Ended\\_Working\\_Group\\_on\\_Information\\_and\\_Communication\\_Technologies\\_-\\_2021/Joint\\_civil\\_society\\_input\\_to\\_OEWG\\_on\\_ICTs\\_draft\\_Annual\\_Progress\\_Report.pdf](https://docs-library.unoda.org/Open-Ended_Working_Group_on_Information_and_Communication_Technologies_-_2021/Joint_civil_society_input_to_OEWG_on_ICTs_draft_Annual_Progress_Report.pdf)

Finally, given the role of non-governmental actors in the interpretation of international law as it relates to cyberspace, including standards in regional systems, we urge inclusion of these actors including civil society in a focused and ongoing discussion on international law. We also urge the establishment of inclusive processes for the development and implementation of cybernorms, with sensitivity to regional and local contexts.

We remain committed to continue contributing to this process. Thank you, Chair.