

2019
Annual Report
DIPLO.US

US



Letter from the President of the Board, Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné

As an experienced professional who understands first-hand the complexity of digital policy and Internet governance, I welcome the establishment of Diplo US. It is such an opportune move, and even more so now, in a world gripped by a pandemic that is making us realize how important it is to have the right knowledge and the right technology. The work of an organization like Diplo US is essential to help various stakeholders to get involved in and understand the process of using tools and knowledge to serve people. I am honored to serve as the chairwoman of this organization's Board. I expect to see its footprint on digital policy discourse grow quickly in the US, as it has done globally.



Letter from the Executive Director, Dr Tereza Horejsova

The year 2019 was and will remain special for Diplo US. This has been the first proper full year of operation for the organization, one in which we accomplished so much. We obtained our 501(c)3 status, we chose the location for our office at a central location in Washington, DC, and we initiated a number of activities and engagements with local partners. This successful year would not have been possible without the support and assistance of our partner organization, DiploFoundation, which provided us with initial funding.

We look forward to strengthening our work in the US, building more partnerships, and further contributing to raising the capacity of various stakeholders to navigate the complex field of digital policy.

1. Mission statement

Diplo US is a non-profit organization working to increase the capacity of individuals and institutions to follow and engage in digital policy and diplomacy. It aims to improve global governance and international policy development. Diplo US supports a wide range of stakeholders to build their capacity in order to engage effectively in US and international policy processes, negotiations, and diplomacy.

Diplo US seeks to

- strengthen stakeholders, especially from small and developing states to allow them to affect their future and development;
- increase accountability and inclusivity in the sphere of digital policy, whether in the USA or globally;
- enhance the legitimacy of international policy-making; and
- advance global governance and international policy development.

Diplo US's niche is to explore the impact of digitalization and emerging technologies on core diplomatic functions, such as

- digital policy issues on the US and international diplomatic agenda (from cybersecurity and digital commerce to big data and blockchain technologies);
- trends and tools in diplomatic training, from visual elements such as infographics and illustrations to massive open online courses (MOOCs), webinars, and blended learning;
- artificial intelligence (AI), automation, robotics, and their potential impact on the core social and ethical pillars of humanity; and
- trends and practical insights into the use of technologies in our daily lives.

To accomplish these goals, Diplo US

- provides capacity development programs in areas of digital policy and multilateral diplomacy;
- trains officials from small and developing countries;
- provides specialized academic programs for professional diplomats in both traditional and contemporary diplomacy topics;
- develops and uses tools for e-participation in global governance, including remote participation in international meetings and social media for global negotiations; and
- undertakes and publishes policy research activities on issues related to digital policy and diplomacy to support and enhance the organization's impact.

2. Projects

As the year 2019 was the first full year of operations for Diplo US, we focused on establishing financial viability. The following projects were initiated and completed in cooperation with DiploFoundation:

Science and diplomacy: How countries interact with the unique Boston ecosystem

This policy [research study](#), conducted in partnership with the AAAS Center for Science Diplomacy and swissnex Boston, provides an overview of the existing interactions of governments with the Boston ecosystem. These interactions usually take place through science attachés at consulates and/or innovation centers. It assesses the current models of interaction and serves as inspiration for countries that are looking to develop their science and technology diplomacy. It also describes the level of efficiency or potential gaps of coordination mechanisms, taking into account work done by

officials in policy hubs, such as the San Francisco Bay Area and Washington, DC. The results of the study inform governments currently involved in science diplomacy activities about the training gaps that may exist among officials and diplomats posted in Boston.



Webinars on cybersecurity

This series of webinars, sponsored by Microsoft, ran from October to November 2019. The series, focusing on risks for international peace and security stemming from cyberspace, was moderated by Mr. Vladimir Radunović and hosted a number of distinguished international discussants. Four webinars took place:

- [22 October 2019: Cyber-armament: A heavy impact on peace, economic development, and human rights](#)
- [7 November 2019: Applicability of international law to cyberspace: Do we know the rules of the road?](#)
- [15 November 2019: Traceability and attribution of cyber-attacks: Who did it?](#)
- [21 November 2019: Norms and confidence-building measures \(CBMs\): Are we there yet?](#)

Cyber-diplomacy web discussions

Traceability and attribution of cyber-attacks

Duncan B. Hollis,
Laurel H. Carnell Professor of Law at Temple University School of Law
Serge Droz,
Chair of FIRST, and Senior Advisor at ICT4Peace

Host and moderator
Vladimir Radunović,
Cybersecurity and E-diplomacy Programmes Director, DiploFoundation

DIPLO **Microsoft**

Chat (Everyone)

Antony Namanga: Hello there everyone

Andrijana Gavrilovic: Now speaking Mr Duncan B. Hollis, Laurel H. Carnell Professor of Law at Temple University School of Law

Vladimir: Link to Duncan's paper on accusations: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3347958

Antony Namanga: What about when it is the government that is accused? <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-48423854>

Souhila Amazouz 2: Are cyber defense measures related to the ability of one state to identify the origin of cyber-attack and hold another state responsible for it?

Enrico: Are mediation and traditional tools for conflict resolutions useful to resolve tension stemming from malicious use of cyber? If so, what are the new complexities?

Antony Namanga: When you say NOT CLEAR, you are giving pride of place to the Dark and Deep Web. Am i right to say this?

Vladimir: Antony can you elaborate more?

Antony Namanga: The dark web is the hidden place if one wants anonymity. Be it a state or individual

Attendees (27)

- Hosts (3)
 - Arvin Kamberi
 - Diplo Foundation II
 - DiploTech
- Presenters (3)
 - Duncan
 - Serge Droz
 - Vladimir

Training on digital policy and Internet governance for New York-based diplomats

The course aimed to help participants understand and follow the digital policy aspects of many UN discussions and negotiations. This dynamic, blended learning course combined online learning with weekly face-to-face meetings and ran from 25 March to 15 May 2019. The course was designed to benefit diplomats who follow Internet governance and other Internet-related policy fields (e.g. telecommunications, human rights, cybersecurity, trade). While improving their knowledge of digital policy, participants gained the practical skills and knowledge required to follow current IG processes such as the global IG architecture, privacy and data protection, and cybersecurity. The course discussions were anchored in the current developments at the UN, namely digital policy-related discussions within the UNGA Second Committee including the future of work, ICT for development, the sustainable development goals and technological progress, the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence and robotics, big data, and gender inclusion and equality. A total of 28 participants from 24 countries took part in the course; the one-hour learning sessions were held at the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN in New York. The completion rate was 100 percent. The course was coordinated by Dr. Tereza Horejsova and Ms. Virginia Paque with numerous lecturers, including Dr. Jovan Kurbalija, Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné, Ms. Pavlina Ittelson and Mr. Vladimir Radunovic.



Diplo US undertook an extensive review and update of the online course on Internet governance for the Internet Society, a global cause-driven organization governed by a diverse Board of Trustees dedicated to ensuring that the Internet stays open and transparent.

3. Events

In 2019, Diplo US held and participated in the following events:

- **16 February 2019:** [Embedding science and technology in international relations, education, and diplomatic training](#), Washington, DC, Dr. Katharina Höne
- **19 February 2019:** [Artificial Intelligence and Diplomacy](#), Washington, DC, Dr. Katharina Höne and Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **22 February 2019:** Dr. Tereza Horejsova participated as a mentor at cybersecurity training and simulation organized by the Organization of American States
- **2 April 2019:** [Business Policy Roundtable](#), Washington, DC, Mr Vladimir Radunović
- **14 and 15 May 2019** [STI Forum](#), New York City, New York, Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **25 June 2019** [A global innovation hub: science, tech and diplomacy in Boston, Boston, Massachusetts](#), Ms. Pavlina Ittelson and Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **27 June 2019** [How Countries interact with global innovation hubs: a look at Boston](#), Washington, DC, Ms. Pavlina Ittelson and Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **31 October 2019:** [North American School on Internet Governance](#), Montréal, Canada, Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **22 November 2019:** Presentation to Czech Parliamentarians, Washington, DC, Dr. Tereza Horejsova
- **11 December 2019** [IGF 2019 Debrief Roundtable](#), Washington DC, Ms. Pavlina Ittelson and Dr. Tereza Horejsova

4. Major contributions

The major financial contributions for the year 2019 were as follows:

DiploFoundation: USD 100,248.00

Microsoft: USD 15,010.00

Internet Society: USD 40,000.00

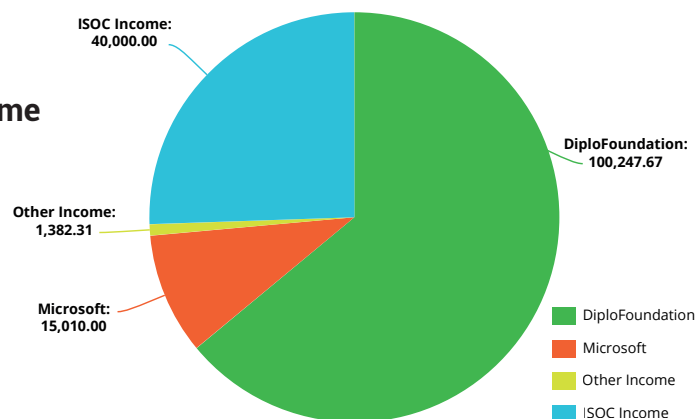
Special thanks go to the Members of the Board: Ms. Anne-Rachel Inné, President of Board; Mr. Dustin Loup, Treasurer and Vice-President; and Mr. Vladimir Radunovic, Secretary for their engagement, guidance, and support in building up Diplo US.

We would also like to thank our partners for their commitment and support:

DiploFoundation, American Association for the Advancement of Science, swissnex Boston, New America, and IGF USA.

5. Financials

Sources of income



Diplo US - 2019

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2019

<u>N/C</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
1212	Wells Fargo Account US	33,831.91	
	Diplo Foundation		32,681.91
	Pre-paid Rent	850.00	
	Prepaid Insurance		
	Reserves		1,545.00
		34,681.91	34,226.91
		455.00	

Profit & Loss Account period ending December 2019

<u>N/C</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
4000	Diplo Foundation		100,247.67
4001	Microsoft Income		15,010.00
4099	Other Income		1,382.31
4151	ISOC Income		40,000.00
5001	Administration Services Fees	2,797.64	
5002	BANK CHARGES	224.19	
5009	INSURANCE	2,203.00	
5020	RENT	10,200.00	
6210	ACCOMMODATION & P.DIEM	486.00	
7000	Salaries & Taxes Paid	140,274.15	
		156,184.98	156,639.98
			455.00

Expenses

