

Activity Report 2024-25

This is a list of all activities undertaken by the ISOC-CH Board and membership from **June 2024 to February 2025**.

Activities

Board Meetings

2024-07-25, 2024-10-16, 2024-11-20, 2025-01-09, 2025-02-11

Board Activities

Panayotis Antoniadis and Berna Alp participated on all online meetings for the NGI0 Commons Fund project, and also the in person plenary meeting, and related FOSDEM sessions in Brussels (February 1-2, 2025): <https://nlnet.nl/events/20250201/FOSDEM/index.html>. A short summary article, including the new open call for funding is available at: <https://www.isoc.ch/ngi0-commons-fund-update-and-6th-call-for-funding/>

ISOC-CH co-organized with kiwix.org Richard Stallman's talk at Ecole 42 Lausanne, which was a big success and a full house: <https://www.isoc.ch/events/the-cost-of-freedom-with-dr-richard-stallman/>

An article was edited to support ISOC-CH's engagement with the campaign on the UN convention on cybercrime: <https://www.isoc.ch/un-convention-on-cybercrime-staying-out-of-the-table-and-fighting-for-human-rights-privacy-and-safety/>

Marianthe Stavridou is working on an independent Expert Paper Review named : "*The impact of Artificial Intelligence on our Societies*" funded by the European Commission's Directorate General *Research and Innovation*. The paper will inform the future HORIZON Research funding and further policy on the matter. Expected results: End of March 2025
Furthermore, Marianthe evaluated (January 2025) eleven Marie Curie Research Projects and participated in the evaluation of seven Horizon Research projects (June 2024)

Members of the ISOC-CH engaged with ISOC global through regular Advisory meetings with Nick Hyrka and the ISOC European Regional calls, in one of which the NGI0 programme was introduced.

Project Activities

The engagement of ISOC-CH with the NGIO Commons Fund started, and a first hybrid information event was organized at L200:

<https://www.isoc.ch/events/meet-the-ngio-commons-fund/>. A 2nd hybrid event is taking place on February 20th, one week before the GV.

Hernani Marques was hired with a 30% contract to develop a specialized tech dossier on AI and free software targeted for educators of school teachers with a specific case study in Switzerland as an example.

ISOC-CH Committee Activities

The Public Policy Aspects Committee (PPAC) is the most active Committee, following closely the developments in the Swiss scene and facilitating the engagement of ISOC-CH in various initiatives like the E-ID referendum, <https://e-id-gesetz-nein.ch/>, and the UN Convention on cybercrime campaign,

<https://www.supsi.ch/comprendere-i-comportamenti-oppositivi-o-provocatori-di-bambini-e-adolescenti-quali-possibili-strategie-comunicative-e-tecniche-utili-per-gestire-la-relazione-educativa>

Engagement with the Global Encryption Coalition

- **ISOC CH** co-signed a [joint letter](#) <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/global-encryption-coalition-joint-statement-on-the-dangers-of-the-may-2024-council-of-the-eu-compromise-proposal-on-eu-csam?source=direct_link> addressed to the Ministers of the Council of the EU calling on them to reject all scanning proposals that are inconsistent with the principles of end-to-end encryption.

Ongoing discussions include the following topics:

- **E2EE & AI Assistants** - A new paper analyzes AI assistants' compatibility of with end-to-end encryption (E2EE) Read here: <<https://eprint.iacr.org/2024/2086.pdf>>. Key takeaways: AI should **not** be trained on E2EE content; processing should be local; for true **end-to-end privacy and integrity**, AI must not bypass encryption, and consent should be **opt-in, off by default**.
- **UK Government's Secret Order to Apple:** Reports indicate that the UK has secretly ordered Apple to provide **blanket access** to encrypted cloud backups globally, an unprecedented move against user privacy ([Washington Post](#)

<<https://www.washingtonpost.com/>>, [BBC](#)
<<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c20g288yldko>>).

To protect user privacy, Apple may withdraw encrypted storage in the UK rather than undermining security worldwide.

Partnerships

Internet Governance Forum:

<http://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/>

Swiss Internet Governance Forum : <http://swiss-igf.ch>

L200 <http://langstrasse200.ch>

Global Encryption Coalition <https://www.globalencryption.org/>

Stop Think Connect <https://www.stopthinkconnect.ch/>

NGI0 <https://nlnet.net/ngi0/>

Outreach

The new web site has become active <https://isoc.ch>.

Mastodon

ISOC-CH's Mastodon account is hosted at fosstodon, and has 50 followers

<https://fosstodon.org/@ISOCswitzerland>

Facebook

Facebook Group has 187 members (6 new members)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/isocch>

LinkedIn Page

183 followers (20 new followers)

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/2568528/>

X

1045 followers (0 new followers)

<https://x.com/ISOCswitzerland>