### **IKT-Sicherheitskonferenz 2023**

Linz/Österreich, am 03.10.-04.10.2023

Raum: KONGRESSSAAL

Vortragdatum/-zeit: 03.10.2023, 14:25-14:50 Uhr



# Cybersecurity and humanitarian neutrality (Cybersicherheit und humanitäre Neutralität)

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# Agenda:



- 1. ICRC's role, mandate & working modalities
- 2. Why and how ICRC is part of the CyberSpace



- 3. Neutrality?
- 4. How to creat neutrality and ensure acceptance?
- 5. Not without community work
- 6. What are the biggest challenges?
- 7. Targets



# ICRC's role, mandate & working modalities



#### ICRC's mandate and role

To protect and assist people (in armed conflicts & other situations of violence); To promote and work for the faithful application of international humanitarian law; and

To serve as a neutral intermediary between parties to armed conflicts.

#### **Fundamental humanitarian principles**

Neutrality, Impartiality, Independence, Humanity

#### Confidentially

Information we gather and protect With special mandate to protect information we have (IHL)





# Why and how ICRC is part of the CyberSpace?



The ICRC embraces digital transformation in a responsible manner, making the most of the opportunities provided by digital technologies, to make its work more effective and efficient for people in need.

#### The ICRC's digital infrastructure and footprint is:

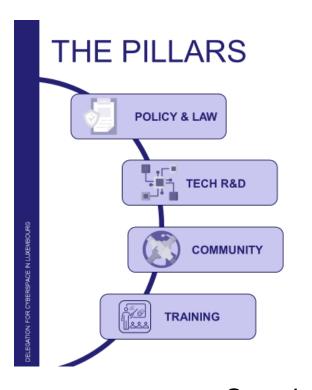
- NIIHA
- not a vehicle for surveillance: affected communities, parties
- not a vehicle for commercial exploitation
- > approach to partnerships that is mindful of the above
- put affected communities at the center, uphold their dignity, agency, and ensure accountability as to the processing of their data
- is secure, lean, affordable, and resilient. It is fit for the operations of an organization that is active in humanitarian emergencies.



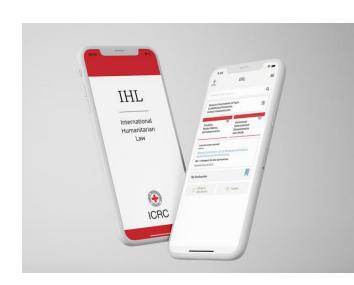
# **Neutrality?**



The ICRC is not seeking neutrality in cyberspace due to the digital sovereignty but due to the acceptance.



These components are intrinsically interdependent.





So, what's wrong in current situation?

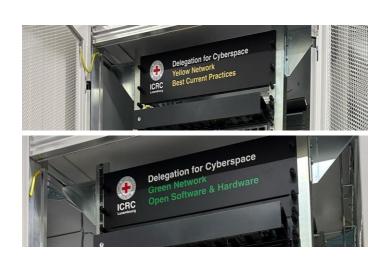
# How to create neutrality and ensure acceptance?



## **Activities under implementation**

#### **R&D** test environment:

- Digitally independent Data Center.
- ICRC's own domain [.int] and registry, AS number, and IPV4 and IPV6 addresses.
- > ISP type of peering solutions which works globally
- Post-Quantum crypto
- Key management, CA, etc.



**MoU with CERN** to mutualize efforts on Free and Open-Source Software.

Development of the first prototype of **ICRC mobile-phone operating systems**.

Researching on specific FOSS solutions e.g.: secure video communication, browser...



# **Not without Community work**



#### **Current activities**



Creating community to engage FOSS, and White Hat Hacking

Explore avenues to involve, leverage, and mobilize the expertise, willingness, and skills with:

- the tech "Free" communities
- National Societies
- Tech Sector Companies

Explore possibilities of mutualization with states and entities in "digital sovereignty" quest.



# What are the biggest challenges?



## **World has been changing**

- Shift from vertical to horizontal high-tech countries?
- > Self-sufficiency?
- Shift in global cyber security strategies?
- Fourth industrial revolution?
- Digital cap?
- Sanctions, restrictions, etc.?
- Transparency and simplicity?
- People? 15 years ago?



**BACK TO THE BASIC?** 



# **Targets**



<u>Technically:</u> Not Ferrari but Land Cruiser -phones, data center, crypto, communications services, etc.







<u>Politically:</u> Attention to International Humanitarian law also in cyberspace.



**Operationally:** acceptance to help impacted people, every corner of the world without limitations.







# Thank you for your attention.

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