

# Youth Declaration of Digital Identity - A Necessary Challenge of the International Community for Guaranteeing the Newly Emerging Human Rights of Youth

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## Abstract:

The rapid advancement of digital technologies has brought about a profound transformation in society, impacting cultural, social, and economic landscapes worldwide. In light of these developments, there is an imperative need to reevaluate and supplement existing human rights to address the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the digital age, particularly in safeguarding the rights of the youth, who constitute the largest demographic of beneficiaries in this evolving world. This paper presents the "Youth Declaration of Digital Identity," a comprehensive proposal advocating for the recognition of digital identity as a fundamental human right, emphasizing the importance of unrestricted access to the Internet, protection of digital data, establishment of international legal safeguards, and the provision of digital rights to communication and education. This declaration calls upon the international community to actively respond to the evolving landscape of digital technologies and secure the rights of the youth as a crucial aspect of ensuring the preservation of humanity in the face of potential dehumanization.

## 1. Introduction

The 21st century is marked by unprecedented advancements in digital technologies, revolutionizing the way people interact, learn, and conduct economic activities. As the digital landscape shapes the course of our future, it is essential to acknowledge that the youth hold a significant stake in this transformation. This paper seeks to present a holistic framework encapsulated in the "Youth Declaration of Digital Identity" that addresses the emerging digital human rights challenges faced by the youth and highlights the measures required for their protection and empowerment.

## 2. The Digital Identity Paradigm

The concept of digital identity encompasses the virtual representation of individuals in the digital realm. It is a composite of personal data, behaviors, and interactions that contribute to an individual's online persona. In recognition of the pervasive influence of digital identity on every facet of modern life, this declaration emphasizes the necessity of defining and protecting digital identity as an inalienable human right.

## 3. The Imperative of Unrestricted Internet Access

Access to the Internet has become a linchpin for societal progress, knowledge dissemination, and individual empowerment. However, young people in certain regions face restrictions that hinder their intellectual development and limit their potential contributions to the global community. This paper argues that the international community must collaborate to establish legal frameworks guaranteeing free and unrestricted access to the Internet, akin to fundamental human rights such as the right to life and health.

#### 4. Safeguarding Digital Data

The proliferation of digital data raises concerns about privacy, security, and unauthorized use. Young people, as avid users of digital platforms, are particularly vulnerable to data breaches and exploitation. This declaration advocates for the establishment of a duty to inform young individuals about the procedures implemented to secure their digital identities. Informed consent will empower the youth to actively participate in protecting their digital rights and privacy.

#### 5. The Role of International Legal Safeguards

To ensure the protection of digital rights, this declaration proposes the establishment of a National Court of Digital Protection within each nation's judicial system. Additionally, an International Court of Digital Protection operating under the auspices of the United Nations would serve as a global watchdog, safeguarding against infringements on digital rights on a global scale. These legal safeguards will reinforce the rights of the youth and uphold digital sovereignty on an international level.

#### 6. Digital Rights to Communication and Education

Recognizing the critical role of communication and education in the development of the youth, this declaration calls for the recognition of digital rights to communication and education as fundamental human rights. Digital communication platforms should be accessible to young people, ensuring their voices are heard, and promoting democratic participation. Moreover, equal access to online education will empower the youth to expand their knowledge base, transcending national borders and fostering a more inclusive global society.

#### 7. Conclusion

The "Youth Declaration of Digital Identity" underscores the urgency and significance of addressing the emerging human rights challenges posed by the digital era. By recognizing digital identity as a fundamental human right and advocating for unrestricted Internet access, safeguarding of digital data, establishment of international legal safeguards, and the provision of digital rights to communication and education, the international community can collectively pave the way for a more equitable, inclusive, and humane digital future. In the pursuit of safeguarding the rights of the youth, we are reinforcing the essence of our shared humanity, safeguarding against dehumanization, and fostering a world that cherishes the value and potential of its future generations