



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Third Committee

GA Third/I/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: The right to privacy in the digital age

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Third Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee,

1 *Bearing in mind* that resolution 68/167 of 18 December 2013 outlines the right to privacy as a human right
2 along with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

3 *Recognizing* every Member State's absolute right to national sovereignty,

4 *Believing that* hacking into any infrastructure, data composite, or system operated, owned or primarily used
5 by a Member State constitutes as a violation of national sovereignty,

6 *Deeply concerned* about past malicious state and non-state violations of Member States' data security via
7 hacking and other forms of data collection, subsequently infringing upon national sovereignty,

8 *Concerned* that there is an increase in hacks into civilian infrastructure,

9 *Acknowledging* that data breaches and hacking does not always come from state actors, but can also come
10 from non-state organizations,

11 *Affirming* the right of each Member State to keep its own national secrets private,

12 *Reminds* Member States that many civilians rely on civilian infrastructure provided by the government for
13 daily life and that hacking into civilian infrastructure would violate their right to privacy,

14 *Deeply concerned* with the data that social media companies possess of civilians of other Member States,

15 *Stressing* the potential national security issues associated with data collection by companies abroad,

16 *Commending* the efforts of the Commission on Human Rights (now the Human Rights Council) to articulate
17 more definite international standards of privacy in Article 17 of its General Comment No. 16,

18 *Recognizing* that these standards did not anticipate the advances in information and communication technolo-
19 gies which have taken place in the last several decades, and the transformative effect these technological developments
20 have had on the world,

21 1. *Discourages* Member States from hacking into government data of other Member States and using
22 hacking as a form of data collection;

23 2. *Deplores* the action of hacking into civilian infrastructures of other Member States:

24 (a) According to The Office of The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, civilians
25 are persons who are not members of the armed forces; Subsequently, civilian infrastructure refers to databases,
26 equipment, and other systems that primarily benefits civilians;

27 3. *Strongly recommends* the creation of a United Nations General Assembly committee dedicated to the
28 prevention of civilian infrastructure hacking following these guidelines:

29 (a) Regional United Nations-led sub-committees will be created to oversee Member States within
30 each region;

31 (b) Each Member State in the region can send up to one representative to the sub-committee;

32 (c) The regional-subcommittees will send a report to the United Nations committee on a yearly
33 basis on the situation within the region;

34 4. *Recommends* multinational technology companies refrain from collecting their users' personal data and
35 encourages Member States to restrict the ability of these companies to mine the data of foreign citizens:

36 (a) Recommending Member States recognize the right of their citizens to information and the use
37 of these applications, and we strive to protect their information at the same time;

38 5. *Recognizes* the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights, includes the following rights of data subjects, such as:

39 (a) The expectation that data is not processed without the consent of the subject;

40 (b) The right to access personal data and information on how it is being processed, and;

41 (c) The right of erasure;

42 6. *Recommends* that the General Assembly Sixth Committee define exceptions to the above rights for
43 member states for legitimate urgent matters of national security, such as counterterrorism and the prevention of
44 cybercrime:

45 (a) *Recommends* the use of de-identification if personal data must be processed for purposes relating
46 to national security;

47 7. *Further urges* the Human Rights Council to issue another General Comment with updated guidance for
48 protecting privacy in a digital world:

49 (a) Recommends this guidance;

50 (i) Be based upon the findings of the Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy;

51 (ii) Addresses privacy concerns in the private and public sectors;

52 8. *Stresses* the importance of an informed global community in order to ensure the protection of individual
53 rights:

54 (a) Keeping this in mind, encourages Member States to develop and implement accessible education
55 for citizens regarding personal safety and online security;

56 9. *Further recommends* that Member States create privacy act laws that uphold protections against human
57 rights violations in digital privacy;

58 10. *Recommends* the creation of a council, made up of Member States, elected to represent their region, to;

59 11. *Acknowledges* that many Member States do not have the need for advanced security measures, but
60 encourage them to begin drafting preemptive measures;

61 12. *Encourages* Member States to implement a system that protects citizens while also maintaining national
62 security;

63 13. *Recommends* that Member States respect the unlawful interference of their citizens' privacy, home,
64 family or correspondence, and we call upon Member States to enforce the right to the protection of the law against
65 such interference;

66 14. *Recommends* the creation of a council, made up of Member States, elected to represent their region, to:

67 (a) Compile voluntarily-given data from Member States;

68 (b) Advise Member States on issues of digital privacy and cybersecurity.

Passed, Yes: 35 / No: 5 / Abstain: 5