PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

COMMITTEE ON JURIDICAL AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

OEA/Ser.G CP/CAJP/SA.773/24 rev. 1 4 March 2024 Original: Spanish

Summary of the CAJP Course on Digital Diplomacy, held on February 15, 2024 1/

This CAJP course was held in the Rubén Darío Room, with Ambassador Sebastián Kraljevich, Permanent Representative of Chile and Chair of the CAJP, presiding along with Counselor Mabel García, Alternate Representative of the Dominican Republic and Vice Chair of the CAJP. The Course commenced at 10:03 a.m.

The statutory quorum was established with the presence of representatives of Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Haiti, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The audio recording of the course is available at the following link: https://scm.oas.org/audios/2024/CP_CAJP-3769-02-15-2024.mp3.

The event was webcast live, and the video recording is available from the following link: 2024 FEB 15 Course CAJP-DEPM on Digital Diplomacy (youtube.com).

Background

In preparation for this Course, at the request of this Chair the Department for Effective Public Management prepared a concept paper with an accompanying draft agenda, distributed as document CP/CAJP-3767/23, and delivered to this Committee at its regular meeting on December 7, 2023.

The Agenda was approved later on by the CAJP at its regular meeting held on January 25, 2024 and distributed as document CP/CAJP-3769/23.

The following background documents were also distributed in preparation for the Course:

CP/CAJP/INF.1096/24: Information Bulletin

<u>CP/CAJP/INF.1097/24:</u> Glossary and Resources

^{1.} Summaries of CAJP meetings are available in the four languages and are classified by year, on the following website: >>> Summaries of Meetings

Course proceedings

COURSE ON DIGITAL DIPLOMACY: THE ROLE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY.

<u>Date:</u> February 15, 2024 <u>Time:</u> 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Rubén Darío Room, OAS General Secretariat Building

1889 F St. NW

10:00 – 10:15 Inauguration

- Remarks by the Chair of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs, Ambassador Sebastián Kraljevich, Permanent Representative of Chile to the OAS (link)
- Remarks by María Fernanda Trigo, Director of the Department for Effective Public Management, OAS Secretariat for Hemispheric Affairs (link)

10:15 – 11:45 Introduction to Digital Diplomacy

10:15 – 10:55 Manuel Muñiz, International Provost and Dean, School of Political Science, Economics and Global Affairs, *Universidad IE*. (Video of the presentation)

- Terms, concepts, and tools
- Impact of emerging technologies on Diplomacy

Question and answer session

Questions for discussion:

- Do foreign ministries have a policy on the use of technology?
- Do foreign ministries have foreign service training guidelines or manuals on multilateral or bilateral negotiations for the governance and digital transformation agenda or emerging technologies?

10:55 - 11:35 Nele Leosk, Ambassador-at-Large for Digital Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Estonia (text of the presentation)

Question and answer session

Questions for discussion:

- Can other countries make use of technology that Estonia uses for eGovernment?
- What enabling conditions have allowed for successful digital transformation?

11:35 – 11:45 Mentimeter

List the technologies most commonly used by your country's foreign ministry.

- What challenges do foreign ministries face in their use of emerging technologies?
- What foreign ministry procedures and services should be digitally accessible to citizens?
- What challenges does the advancement of eGovernment face in your country?

11:45 – 12:45 How do emerging technologies impact democracy?

- Alexandra Reeve Givens, President and CEO, Center for Democracy & Technology (text of the presentation)
- Sidney Leclercq, Senior Program Officer, Democratic and Inclusive Governance, International Development Research Centre, IDRC (text of the presentation)
- Elaine Ford, Founding Director, Digital Democracy (text of the presentation)
- Alberto Fernández Gibaja, Program Leader, Democracy and Digitization, International IDEA (text of the presentation)

Question and answer session

Questions for discussion:

- How do emerging technologies threaten democracy in your country?
- What areas of digital transformation warrant further development in your country?
- How do you see the role of girls and women in promoting technology for strengthening democratic values?

12:45 - 1:00 p.m. Conclusions

- Presentation of mentimeter results and input, by Mike Mora, Specialist of the Department for Effective Public Management (text of the presentation)
- Closing thoughts, by María Fernanda Trigo, Director of the Department for Effective Public Management (text of the presentation).

At the end of the Course, the CAJP took note of the presentations given by the presenters, as well as of the questions raised by permanent mission delegates, ministries of foreign affairs, and public servants in general, as well as by other Course participants.

There being no further matters to consider, the Course was adjourned the 1:01 p.m.