International Institute of Communications

North America Digital Communications and Media Forum, Washington D.C. 2026

Date: 8th - 9th December 2026

Location: Washington DC, USA

Agenda: Tuesday 8 December 2026

08:45-09:15: Registration & networking

09:15-09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:30-10:15: Keynote conversation: the telecom roadmap

- 6G and AI readiness
- WRC-27 priorities
- Combatting fraud and scams
- Supply chain security

Speakers
Dr. Giulia McHenry, Senior Vice President – Public Policy, AT&T Services, Inc
Will Johnson, Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel, Federal Regulatory & International Public Policy, Verizon Communications; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

10:15-11:00: Fireside chat: US Government updates on national and international priorities

- BEAD rollout
- WRC-27 prep and international spectrum harmonization
- 6G and AI leadership
- Supply chain security
- Technology and education

Arielle Roth, Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
In conversation with
Ambassador David Gross, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP, USA; Advisory Council, International Institute of Communications

11:00-11:30: Networking break

11:30-12:30: Examining the promise of the Call to Action for 6G Leadership and Security: international multistakeholderism put to the test

- Implications for tech sovereignty, spectrum harmonization, standards and trust

Speakers:
Jeffrey Marks, Vice President, Government & Policy Advocacy, Ericsson
Becky Tangren, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, North America, Nokia

12:30-13:00: Session to be confirmed

13:00-14:00: Networking lunch

14:00-15:00: International updates – sharing regulatory initiatives from the Americas and beyond

Speakers:
Kate Davies, Group Director for Strategy and Research, Ofcom UK

15:00-15:30: Spotlight session: Enforce – Regulate – Educate: Approaches to spam & scams

From enforcement and regulation to education and awareness, this session will showcase the work the CRTC is doing to address spam and scams, including preventative efforts that help citizens stay informed and better protect themselves.
Steven Harroun, Vice-President, Compliance and Enforcement, Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC)

15:30-16:00: Networking break

16:00-17:15: Inside the global scam economy: confronting fraud across borders

Organized scam centres and transnational fraud networks are a growing global threat, exploiting communications and financial systems to target victims around the world. This panel will examine the rise of international scam operations, the challenges of disrupting these criminal networks, and the role of governments, regulators, and industry in combating fraud. Panellists will explore opportunities for international cooperation, stronger accountability, and coordinated approaches to scam prevention that better protect consumers.
Speakers:
Japhet Quitzon, Associate Fellow, Southeast Asia Program, Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS)

17:15: Close of day one

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Agenda: Wednesday 9 December 2026

08:30-09:15: Registration & networking

09:15-09:30: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:30-10:00: Fireside chat

Anna M. Gomez, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
In conversation with
Ambassador David Gross, Partner, Wiley Rein LLP, USA; Advisory Council, International Institute of Communications

10:00-11:15: State, federal and international readout: online safety and the protection of minors

• As children move between gaming, social media, curated content, messaging and AI services, how should regulators and platforms ensure that child-safety safeguards remain effective, while avoiding disproportionate restrictions?
• Comparing standards and enforcement practices for content moderation, age classification and fact-checking
• How do we strengthen protections for children without unnecessarily restricting legitimate expression, access to information or privacy?
• How do we verify age without creating a new risk in the process?
• Closing the gap between parents' and children's views of awareness · how do we keep safeguards effective as AI and VPN use evolve?
• How are legal, technological and societal responses converging globally to safeguard young and vulnerable users online?
• Is a global baseline for online safety realistic?

Speakers:
Stephen Balkam, Founder & CEO, Family Online Safety Institute
Mauricio Vera Sánchez, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)

11:15-11:45: Networking break

11:45-12:00: Spotlight session: Trust at machine speed - what election officials are learning about AI and modern communications

Election officials must now deliver trusted information in an environment where falsehoods can outrun any response. Drawing on his experience in election administration and work with the nation's largest jurisdictions, Zach Manifold will explore how AI can help small teams translate materials and serve voters more efficiently, while also fuelling deepfakes, impersonation, and misleading content. He will share practical lessons on fragmented media, declining trust, and communicating credibly under pressure.
Zach Manifold, Deputy Executive Director, Partnership for Large Election Jurisdictions (PLEJ)

12:00-13:00: AI implementation, governance and accountability

• What principles might ensure the vibrant adoption of AI while staying flexible enough to make adjustments as true risks and rewards of AI deployment become clear?
• As AI moves from providing recommendations to increasingly taking autonomous actions, how should our approach to governance and accountability change?
• AI, election integrity and dis/misinformation; what is the role of regulation in supporting pluralism and addressing disinformation?
• Must there be a binary choice between regulating and not regulating? Considering a spectrum of responses depending on the nature of the risk, ranging from monitoring and voluntary standards to industry codes of practice, targeted regulatory obligations, and outright prohibitions
• How do policy makers decide when a risk is clear enough to justify intervention – without either moving too early or waiting too long?
• As AI becomes more embedded in critical infrastructure, how do you see the role of sector regulators changing? Are existing regulatory frameworks largely sufficient or are there areas where we'll need something new?
• How can partnerships and collaborations help address those challenges?

Speakers:
Kate Davies, Group Director for Strategy and Research, Ofcom UK

13:00-14:00: Networking lunch

Agenda: IIC USA Chapter meeting – all DCM Forum attendees welcome

14:00: Welcome
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

14:00-15:45: FCC's implementation of Covered List restrictions
Moderated discussion examining:

• the benefits and drawbacks of the FCC's approach to meeting its stated Covered List objectives
• the Covered List rules from the standpoint of U.S. companies and foreign manufacturers
• the reaction of foreign jurisdictions to the U.S. approach and how other jurisdictions are addressing the same national security issues

15:45: Closing remarks
Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications