

Internet Intermediaries' Obligations to Human Rights

Internet intermediaries, are powerful private actors in cyberspace – in many fashions their power exceeds the power of nation states. Therefore, they have vast influence on the definitions of human rights in cyberspace, and on the scope of protection of those rights. This raises complex legal questions, still remained to be answered: are the intermediaries obligated to the protection of human rights in cyberspace and, if so - to what extent? This is not a theoretical question, but a very practical one.

Can social media platform decide to block an account of a political party? Are intermediaries obligated to follow a procedure prior to the removal of content? Is a dating app obligated to delete accounts that are used for impersonation of others? These are a few examples the Clinic on Digital Rights and Human Rights in Cyberspace encountered, through which I will demonstrate the complexities of human rights law in cyberspace.