

Web conference in Brazil calls for multistakeholder approach

April 25 2014, by Natalia Ramos



Demonstrators hold portraits of Edward Snowden at a protest during the opening ceremony of the "NETmundial [\[7\]](#) Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance", on April 23, 2014 in Sao Paulo, Brazil

"It may have when I was running the program 40 years ago, yes. But not anymore," the pioneering computer scientist said during a break in the two-day gathering.

Cerf said the United States does still play a dominant role in the domain name system but that is one "they have said they are prepared to eliminate," he said.

Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff called the meeting, following the furor sparked by allegations of US spying revealed in documents leaked by former intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

Rousseff's own communications were targeted by the National Security Agency, prompting the Brazilian leader to call on the United Nations last year to oversee a new global legal system to govern the Internet.

Respect human rights

The final statement said "mass and arbitrary surveillance undermines trust in the Internet and trust in the Internet governance ecosystem."

It added: "collection and processing of personal data by state and non-state actors should be conducted in accordance with international [human rights](#) law."

Before the final statement was issued, White House Cybersecurity Coordinator Michael Daniel said Washington was throwing its support behind the proposals for a revamped system.

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