

## **GNI Fundraising Policy and Procedure**



Protecting and Advancing  
Freedom of Expression and  
Privacy in Information and  
Communications Technologies

### **Introduction**

Effective fundraising is necessary to enable the Global Network Initiative (GNI) to achieve its mission and goal, to protect and advance free expression and privacy in information and communications technologies. This policy applies to all GNI's fundraising activities. GNI will list all funding sources on its website.

### **Policy**

GNI may accept support from diverse sources, including member companies and organizations, private foundations, and governments.

GNI prefers unrestricted support for implementing our mission and core activities. We may also accept designated support and specific project support if their purpose is consistent with our strategic objectives and mission.

Any source of support will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to ensure that soliciting or accepting such support is consistent with the strategy and mission of GNI and does not:

- Creates a perception of bias or actual bias that would undermine GNI's reputation or credibility;
- Compromise the effectiveness of GNI's work; or
- Presents any other risk to the reputation and mission of the organization.

Situations in which GNI may avoid funding include, but are not limited to:

- Support from a government that has a poor record in regards to free expression and privacy online;
- Support from a non-member company whose business activities negatively impact free expression and privacy online or acts in a manner that is otherwise inconsistent with GNI's principles
- Support from a private foundation or other private donor that may compromise GNI's reputation, even if the issues we identify are unrelated to freedom of expression and privacy online.

### **Procedure**

In order to ensure adherence to this policy, each potential source of support will be reviewed by the Executive Director and the Executive and Management committee (a sub-committee of the Board of Directors) on a timely basis and will periodically report to the Board of Directors about its activities and decisions. The committee may seek the approval of the full Board for specific funding proposals where necessary.

This group may also propose revisions to the policy for board approval and further refine and articulate the criteria for accepting or rejecting support, when appropriate.

This policy does not apply to membership dues of companies since company's membership must be approved by the Board and would thus be deemed to be consistent with the mission of GNI.

This policy is not retroactive, however GNI reserves the right to return or reject funds at any time.