



Permanent Mission of Italy  
UN - New York

**First Committee of the 74<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly**  
**Other disarmament measures and international security**  
**statement by H.E. Ambassador Gianfranco Incarnato,**  
**Permanent Representative of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament**

*New York, 29 October 2019*

Mister Chair,

Italy aligns itself with the statement of the European Union. I would like to add some remarks in my national capacity.

Mister Chair,

Cyberspace and the Internet are one of the greatest human achievements of all times: they have already reshaped our lives by offering unprecedented opportunities of societal well-being, economic growth, sustainable development and prosperity that can thrive only in a global, open, free, equal, stable and secure cyberspace.

Italy is therefore committed to support the efforts of the international community towards a cyberspace based on the respect of international law and where security, rule of law, fundamental freedoms and human rights fully apply and are all intertwined. This vision is guiding us through our national policy and diplomatic action in this field.

In fact, we are continuously stepping up our commitment in cyber domestic policy and diplomacy, both bilaterally and multilaterally. Participation to international fora and compliance to norms of responsible States' behavior in cyberspace is an essential part of the Italian Cybersecurity Action Plan of 2017, which is currently being revised to adapt it to new situations and challenges.

Mister Chair,

We value the work accomplished by the Groups of Governmental Experts and would like to recall that General Assembly resolution 70/237 confirms the conclusions of the GGE in its 2013 and 2015 reports and calls upon Member States to be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2015 report.

We share the positive assessment about the first substantial session of the OEWG and look forward to continue to engage constructively. Complementarity between the work and results of the Open Ended Working Group and the GGE is essential and we will continue to be committed to the implementation of the UNGGE's reports as endorsed by the UNGA while calling on all States to work together to this end in a spirit of consensus and mutual respect.

Universality is a value added for the Open Ended Working Group as it will maximize the impact of its complementarity with the UNGGEs; in this regard we also appreciate the GGE consultations with Member States and regional organizations. These efforts will help to reach out, raise awareness, and exchange views and perspectives on the progress of that work with the entire membership and other stakeholders to build a stronger consensus on accomplished results.

Mister Chair,

On the merits of ICTs in the context of international security, others before me have pointed out that malicious cyber activities and incidents are on the rise and a reason for serious concern. Such activities could have a destabilizing effect on international peace and security. International cooperation and multilateralism continue to be the tool to achieve our common goal of a global, open, free, equal, stable and secure cyberspace: at the same time, a truly universal cyber security framework cannot but be based on existing international law, international humanitarian law, international human rights law as well as UN GGEs agreed norms of responsible State behavior. As others have already pointed out, we should devote more attention to effective implementation of existing rules, rather than engaging in lengthy negotiations that would create uncertainty on applicable legal framework.

Confidence Building Measures are of paramount importance in an ever changing cyber environment and the relatively new territory it represents. CBMs have the potential to enhance security and stability in the cyber domain. They can contribute to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of ICTs by promoting further transparency and cooperation among our States.

Thank you, Mister Chair.