



PanAm byDesign
In Visionary Speaker Series



New Media & Human Rights Workshop

Objectives

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade invited the Molnar Program in Culture and Technology at the University of Toronto to host a one day workshop on the impact of new media on human rights. Key questions included: how are the practices of human right organizations changing in the wake of the Internet? What problems and possibilities do new media pose for citizens and for human rights activists? Is there a distinctive Canadian approach to the use of new media and human rights? What policies, practices, visions, and ideas should the Canadian government adopt?

The Molnar Program responded by organizing a face to face brainstorm involving a diverse group of experts and non-experts. To make best use of the limited hours, the program further decided to combine two innovative approaches. Professor David de Kretzschmar, director of the Program, adapted his Connected Intelligence methods and Dr. Lisa Jeffrey, director of the Molnar Program Research Network and E-Lab, incorporated the workshop into her byDesign Visionary Speaker series and Electronic Commons digital democracy network.

Special thanks are due to Steve Lee, National director, and Alison McCaig, Communications officer, Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development, Jenna Clarke, Assistant Producer - editorial, Dylan Reid, assistant producer - web PanAm byDesign, Colleen Ryan, new media production assistant, Paul Boiv, Real News Network and OISE doctoral candidate, Gary Schwartz, new media specialist, and Patrick Burton, founder and program coordinator, iComm.

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