

addressing privacy and international crime issues.

Some suggested that there is a need to get the public more engaged. Broad social endorsement and input are needed in order to build new norms. The government should play a key role in mobilising Canadians and alerting them to the possible privacy threats they face. Others said that a dominant government role is unlikely due to limited resources. Moreover, there is not much the government can do if the public does not show interest. So far, there has not been a ground-swell of interest concerning privacy issues. Nonetheless, a campaign on the line of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, could be effective. New technology and the power of networking could be used to get consultations underway.

A survey of privacy laws across different countries demonstrates the importance of public engagement in global level negotiations rather well. The survey showed a dismal record when it came to governments upholding privacy laws (for instance, the survey indicated that the Swedish government was wiretapping leftists for decades), leading some to conclude that "the debate includes no honest brokers."

A point was made that since the issues affect the lives of nearly everybody, it is difficult to determine who to consult, how, and with what objectives in mind.

2.4. The Role of Trust

The participants largely agreed that in order to find the right balance between deterrence to threats and freedoms/rights, trust is essential. Some suggested that to develop trust, inequalities in wealth and power have to be addressed and an open, inclusive discussion launched. Building an agreement at home and gaining trust of young people is essential not only to questions related to privacy, but also to the fabric of Canadian society.

Distrust is related to a lack of legitimacy of public institutions as well as the corporate sector. In the latter instance, the rise of internet has allowed the private sector to surreptitiously collect and use information without the knowledge of the public.

Some participants suggested that the motto "trust no one" is perhaps the most adequate under the current circumstance. Others said that while finding trust may be difficult, it is "out there." Building trust requires due process and a transparent justice system. Today, there is no due process in the private sector, where personal data is treated as an exchange commodity.

2.5 Modes of Regulating Privacy

A metaphor was made comparing the West with ancient Greece before it disintegrated due to the lack of social, cultural, and legal cooperation among city states. Just like the West today, ancient Greece was linked primarily by trade and commerce. While economic interdependence deepens, there is a lack of standardisation of policy on trans-boundary issues, such as sexual exploitation