

**SciencesPo**

PARIS SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Technology & Global Affairs  
**INNOVATION HUB**

# **INAUGURAL REPORT**

## **2024 in Review**



## 2024 in Review: A Transformative Year for PSIA's Tech & Global Affairs Innovation Hub

### Accelerating Inclusive and Responsible Tech Governance

Launched in January 2024, the [Technology and Global Affairs Innovation Hub](#) was created to tackle one of the defining challenges of our time: how to govern the transformative power of technology in a way that serves global cooperation, democracy, and human well-being.

Under the leadership of Dean Arancha Gonzalez and Constance de Leusse, the Hub has rapidly become a catalyst to engage decision-makers, industry leaders, academics, and civil society in shaping the future of tech governance.

The Hub aims to help current leaders to better understand the arising dilemmas on technology and global affairs, and provide an additional platform to the [Master in Technology and Global Affairs](#) in training future leaders. It operates with a focus on interdisciplinary collaboration and impact, involving stakeholders from both the public and private sectors. The Hub works also closely with SciencesPo's Open Institute for Digital Transformations.

### A Strategic Mission with Real Impact

At its core, the Hub aims to:

1. **Drive collaboration** by convening experts, policymakers, and practitioners to explore solutions to global challenges.
2. **Cultivate knowledge** by building resources and producing cutting-edge pedagogical content.
3. **Accelerate innovation** by piloting technical projects and governance frameworks that advance international goals.

In its inaugural year, the Hub transcended being a simple convening space. It established itself as a **thought leader, a platform for meaningful collaboration, and an accelerator for innovation**, paving the way for a future where technology serves the collective good.

### Key Achievements of 2024

#### Driving collaboration

20+

Events organized by  
or featuring the Hub

The Hub organized or co-hosted **21 events across continents**, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, academics, and civil society to address pressing issues in technology governance.

2024 has been a transformative year with a historically high number of elections around the world. Consequently, technology has been a key issue for democracies, and at the heart of the Hub's agenda. 2024 has also been a year of acceleration for the deployment of breakthrough technologies like AI, another topic we have unpacked with and for the benefit of global practitioners.

#### Notable Highlights:

- **AI and Information Governance (February 2024):** In partnership with the Forum on Information and Democracy, the Hub organized an event to dissect the transformative role of AI in shaping information ecosystems, offering insights from leaders like Gabriela Ramos (UNESCO) and Christophe Deloire (Reporters Without Borders).
- **Scaling Collaborative Technology for Multilateralism (May 2024):** Partnering with RadicalXChange and Bertelsmann Stiftung, the Hub showcased innovative approaches to digital democracy with notable speakers like Audrey Tang (Taiwan's Digital Minister) and Arancha González (Dean, PSIA).
- **Paris Peace Forum X AI Action Summit side event (November 2024):** As a lead contributor to the Paris Peace Forum and the AI Action Summit, the Hub hosted over 200 attendees and 25 expert speakers, reinforcing its position as a global nexus for dialogue and innovation.



Speakers of the Scaling Collaborative Technology for Multilateralism event (May 2024). From left to right: **Audrey Tang**, Cyber Ambassador & 1st Digital Minister of Taiwan, **Constance de Leusse**, Senior Advisor to the Hub, **Arancha González**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain and dean of PSIA, **Marie-Doha Besancenot**, Assistant Secretary General for Public Diplomacy, **Glen Weyl**, Co-founder of RadicalxChange and Research Lead of the Microsoft Research Special Project the Plural Technology Collaboratory, **Martin Hullin**, Director, Digitization and the Common Good, Bertelsmann Stiftung, **Sergei Guriev**, then SciencesPo Provost.

### Cultivating knowledge

Because technology is now deeply embedded in global affairs, practitioners seek materials that can help them understand technical issues while putting them in perspective of how they influence geo-political orders. This is the Hub's focus area, i.e. how innovation is driving the evolution of relations between states and other global actors including civil society and the business community.

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### Policy briefs published or in the works

The Hub produced **high-impact policy briefs and global reports**, solidifying its reputation as a thought leader at the intersection of technology and global governance. Key publications included:

- **Digital, trade and innovation challenges and opportunities:** Our first policy [brief](#) published with Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs and Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs
- **Advancing AI Governance:** A [report](#) summarizing global consultations on inclusive AI governance, co-authored with institutions like Make, CNNUM, and The Future Society.
- **Under 35 and Under Siege:** A policy [brief](#) based on youth consultations in France, Germany, Moldova, and Romania, offering guidelines for coordinated but locally-adapted strategies to bolster resilience against disinformation.
- **Five AIMS, Lessons from Internet Governance for Artificial Intelligence Management Strategies :** Ahead of the AI Action Summit, this policy [brief](#) updates Wendy Hall and Kieron O'Hara's renowned "Four Internet" models to bring clarity and help decision makers better navigate the current debate on AI governance.
- Upcoming releases on **quantum technologies, environmental impacts of AI, space governance, and digital identity governance** promise to deepen the Hub's influence in 2025.

Presentation of the Under 35 and Under Siege policy brief during the event Empowering Youth: Innovative Solutions to Combat Disinformation in Democracies (Nov. 2023) with: **Dr. Dominik Hierlemann**, Senior Advisor, Democracy and Social Cohesion, Bertelsmann Stiftung  
**Florent Parmentier**, General Secretary, CEVIPOF  
**Sabrina Spieleder**, Head of the Information Environment Assessment Team, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO



### Accelerating innovation through capacity building

Finally, the Hub's mission is to bring key stakeholders together. Policy and industry leaders cannot benefit from the exchange of ideas with academia unless they have opportunities to work together. The Hub's ambition is to bring in a neutral space, key actors from the tech, business and policy field. The conversations are even richer when they are an opportunity to learn through pedagogical activities.

Through its **accelerator activities**, the Hub empowered both current and future leaders in global tech governance:

- **Student Engagement:** The Hub connected PSIA students to real-world challenges, from hosting them at high-profile events to organizing a **learning expedition to Brussels**, where students met with policymakers and industry leaders shaping AI governance.



PSIA Students at Microsoft Brussels' office (Oct 2024)



PSIA Students at the European Commission (Oct. 2024)

- **Professional Training:** Collaborating with Sciences Po Executive Education, the Hub hosted African Union leaders for a week-long seminar on space governance, strengthening international collaboration on this emerging issue.



African Space Council President Dr. **Tidiane Ouattara** and SciencesPo Director **Luis Vassy**, with the space governance training programme's partners (Nov 2024)

### Vision for 2025: Scaling Ambition

Looking ahead, the Hub is poised to amplify its impact:

- **AI Action Summit 2025:** February's Summit will showcase the Hub's contributions to AI governance and global cooperation. The Hub's team has been accredited and will be present to amplify the impact of its work.
- **Expanded Student Initiatives:** From launching a master's thesis prize to piloting new interdisciplinary engagement programs, the Hub will continue to empower the next generation of leaders through innovative and impactful projects.
- **Emerging Focus Areas:** New priorities, such as space governance, how tech transforms small island nations and coastal areas, environmental transparency, etc. The Hub will expand its scope while maintaining its commitment to inclusive, ethical and multi-stakeholder technology development and policy-making.

### A Collaborative Endeavor

The Hub's success in 2024 was made possible by the unwavering support of its **partners and contributors**. This collective effort highlights the power of collaboration in addressing the most complex global challenges.



PSIA dean Arancha Gonzalez Laya meeting Teresa Hutson, Microsoft's Corporate Vice President for Technology and Fundamental Rights, on the sidelines of the Paris Peace Forum (November 2024).

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the team - **Constance de Leusse, Pierre Noro, Inga Chelyadina, Sophia La Marca, and Thibaut Jaulin** - for their dedication and vision in making the Hub's first year an undeniable success.

As we look to the future, the PSIA Tech & Global Affairs Innovation Hub remains steadfast in its mission to shape a world where technology and governance advance hand in hand. Let's build on this momentum together in 2025 and beyond.

