IGF Kyoto – Japan... more than food!

NL IGF 12 September 2023

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Background and What's Driving Japan?

It's not expensive

"Galápagos-thinking"

Technocrats – academics not civil society

Pro-tech government – "Government as a Startup"

Non-binding "guidelines" more than regulations

Jun Murai - "Internet Samurai"

Beware of cute things...



Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)

Heavily promoted by Japan in international forums, G20, G7, etc.

What is it?

- In the global data economy we need to coordinate international data transfer rules.
- Concept promoting the free flow of data while ensuring trust in privacy, security, and intellectual property rights.
 Aims to ensure the cross-border flow of data to solve business and social issues.
 - And that's basically it (or my understanding of it!)



Artificial Intelligence

- Pro-Al
- High-level political attention
- Promoting both development and adoption
- Legally non-binding "guidelines" more than regulations
- May ask for training data disclosure?
- G7 Hiroshima Al Process
- Town Hall #105 Resilient and Responsible Al



Metaverse / Virtual Reality

VR equipment required for Metaverse and the diverse cultures within it

Look out for robots and cute (too cute...) virtual characters



Important things... convenience stores

- Trains run on time. Signage in English (and Korean and Chinese)
- Lunch can be really cheap and good
- There's a lot to see in Kyoto
- Try a day trip to Nara (or half day)
- Check your data roaming, you will need Google Maps. (Pocket WiFi)
- Karusuma subway line is great
- Try to find an all Tofu restaurant (be careful it might not be all vegetarian)
- Vegan, oh dear (they always add a bit of meat or bonito flakes, and stock usually meat or fish)
 - Buddhist food Shojin Ryori
- Sake's overrated. Sapporo Black Label beer
- Host reception on Sunday, Music Night Monday. Look out for the APC party (Wednesday?)
- PM expected on Monday morning (security tight but OK)



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