Statement regarding the use of the Zoom platform for the cyber 9/12 Competition in Geneva

Updated 20 July 2020

The Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP) and the Atlantic Council (AC) are aware of a number of concerns raised regarding the use of the Zoom platform. The GCSP and the AC take the privacy and security of competition participants - judges, competitors, observers, speakers and staff - very seriously.

We have therefore put in place a number of procedures to maximise the security and privacy of competition participants and staff while using the Zoom platform.

- Only GCSP/AC staff will host sessions including competition rounds;
- All competition sessions will be password-protected. Participants will receive a link and password for their session directly from the session host;
- Plenary sessions will be conducted using the Zoom Webinar feature, with only the Host and designated Panellists able to speak or share screens. Questions from the audience will be moderated by Competition Staff;
- We will make use of “waiting rooms” for participants until the host gives approval to join;
- Please provide us with the correct email addresses you will use to participate. Only registered email addresses will be invited to join a session;
- Sessions will be locked once everyone has joined;
- With the exception of panel discussions, screen-sharing will be restricted;
- Participants will not be permitted or able to record sessions. Certain competition sessions, such as plenaries and speaker presentations may be recorded with speaker permission and in compliance with GDPR guidelines and made available at a later date;
- We recommend that participants join competition sessions using a laptop or desktop computer rather than a mobile device.

Additionally, Zoom now offers several other tools to protect meetings, some of which we will deploy including the ability to expel a participant or all participants not abiding by competition standards.