



# Global Encryption Day

**The Internet is currently under threat – in some countries, governments are finding new and unique ways to undermine the use of strong encryption. Others are simply not using it to its full potential as a best practice for security online.**



Encryption is not about secrecy, or even privacy: it's ultimately about safety. Data encryption goes back millennia – the ancient Egyptians, Mesopotamians, Spartans and Romans all used some form of coded message concealment to ensure their security. As access to smartphones and computing spreads, soon encryption, once the preserve of an inner circle, will be available to all. Encryption means we can access essential confidential services such as healthcare from anywhere in the world. Encryption allows us to share our private and intimate family moments. Whistleblowers can hold power to account without fear and campaigners for change can communicate with confidence.

The facts are on our side. Encryption keeps everyone safe – from ensuring our medical records are private, protecting us from criminals, and allowing journalists to hold power to account. But we will all need to work together to defend end-to-end encryption. As part of our focus on encryption, we're supporting the Global Encryption Coalition to plan a moment where everyone can come together and celebrate all the benefits strong encryption brings to our lives: [Global Encryption Day](#).



**But to do it, we'll need expertise from around the world to make the day a success. We will:**

- ❑ **Build a global movement of partners that can strengthen each other's efforts to promote the use of strong encryption and prevent dangerous attempts by governments and law enforcement agencies to undermine it.**
- ❑ **Promote the value and encourage users to 'make the switch' and adopt end-to-end encrypted services.**
- ❑ **Shift public opinion in favor of encryption and end-to-end encrypted services.**
- ❑ **Recruit strategic members (organizations and businesses) to join the Global Encryption Coalition.**
- ❑ **Build a critical mass of encryption supporters in target countries and convert them into advocates that can help beat back threats to encryption.**
- ❑ **Encourage businesses to make a commitment or implement end-to-end encryption on Global Encryption Day.**

To advocate for an Internet we believe in, and to strengthen our standing in Internet decision-making around the world, we need to empower people - attracting, engaging and strengthening our whole community.

From developing papers and videos, to holding events and leading national advocacy campaigns, Internet Society members are standing up for encryption at national, regional and international levels.

This series of four tutorials is made for your networks, to support your work in the lead up to Global Encryption Day and beyond. By providing practical tools, tips and techniques on how you can advocate for encryption on the ground - and how together we can grow a voice that is too powerful to ignore.

Whether you are an experienced campaigner or new to activism, these resources are here to support you.

We recognize that advocacy in some regions can involve threats to safety and risk of harm. Your safety is paramount and we encourage you to refrain from ever putting yourself or others in danger.

