

# Statement from GDJ Forum: The Johannesburg Communiqué for a Just Digital Future

February 2025

## **Now is the time to take action for digital justice.**

**The Global Digital Justice Forum**, a coalition of civil society organizations from the Global Majority, decries the tightening stranglehold of political and corporate authoritarianism on the internet. The unchecked power of the Broligarchy—a handful of Silicon Valley firms operating in sync with current US government leadership—signals a broader global threat to the international rules-based system, human rights, peace, sustainable development, and ecological justice.

Digital spaces, once the exemplar of human expression and creativity, have become tools of surveillance, oppression, and violence. Silicon Valley Big Tech has blatantly pursued profits over people, emboldened by self-serving US trade and foreign policies. The weaponization of data and AI has already seen widespread job precarity, misinformation, war crimes, the climate catastrophe and more. The current regime marks a new low in which the line between political and economic power is completely blurred. Companies like Meta, X, and Google have shed even the pretense of caring about democracy, peace, or human rights. Meanwhile, 2.5 billion people remain excluded from the real benefits of digital access, deepening global inequalities.

We refuse to accept a digital order dictated by corporate greed and state control. Instead, we demand a digital future that belongs to the people—one where digital infrastructures are not commodities, but the commons that individuals and communities nurture to determine their own technological destinies.

United in our commitment to global digital justice and rights, we claim this as a moment of opportunity. We call for:

- **International solidarity for a new global digital constitutionalism**—a digital order that is democratic, participatory, humane, and cognizant of ecological justice.
- **Principled action from governments and international organizations** to formulate and enforce policies and laws that curb the monopolistic and extractive powers of corporations, protect individual and collective freedoms, and guarantee the rights of nature.
- **Civic action worldwide to organize, speak out, and defend** the values of democracy, equity, human rights, and justice.

We must build a future where technology is harnessed to empower people and protect the planet.

**[Sign now](#) to show your support!** Let's reclaim the internet as a space for justice, democracy, and collective empowerment.