IT Revolution and Diplomacy
Challenges, Opportunities and Risks

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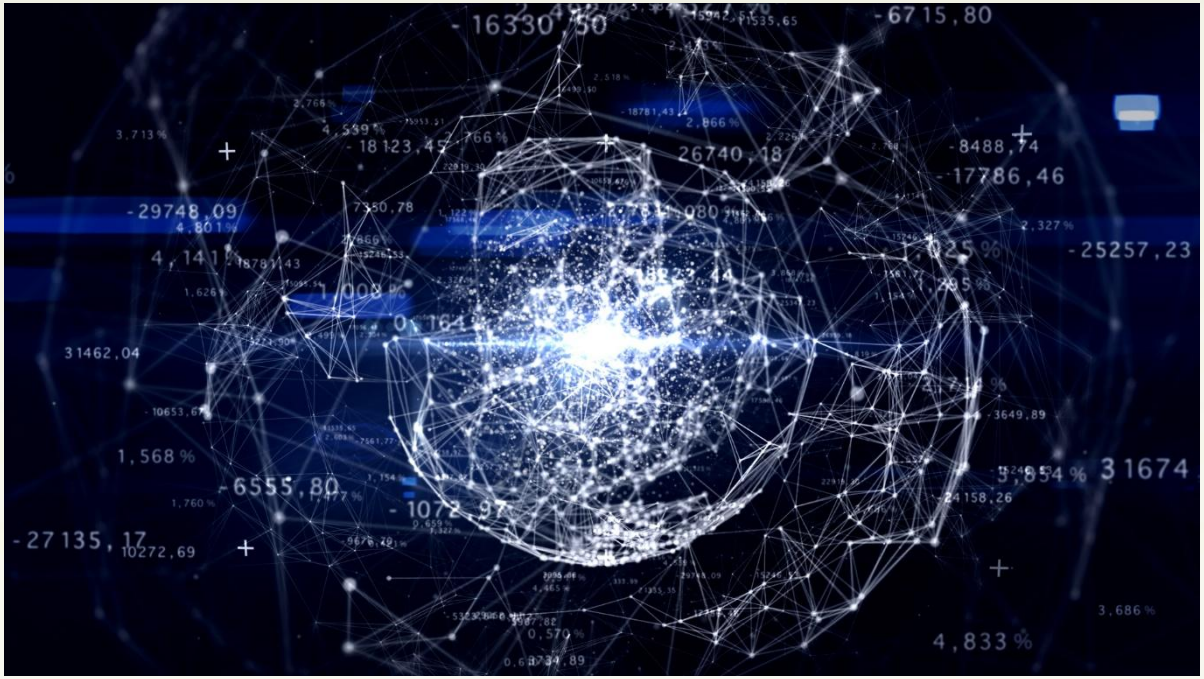
- **Introduction**
- **Rise of New Players**
- **Rise of New Skills**
- **Risks and Opportunities**
- **Conclusion**



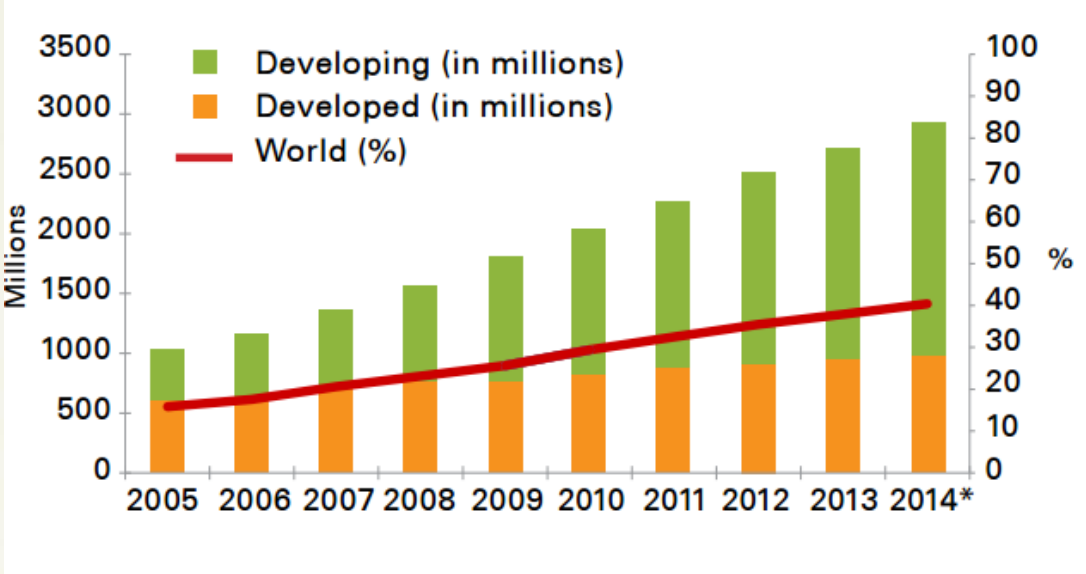
“What was the most significant thing happened in early 21th century?”

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

`use of systems for **storing**, **retrieving** and **sending** information`



Some Facts



By end 2014,

- **3 billion** Internet users globally
- In developing countries from **974 million** in 2009 to **1.9 billion** in 2014.

- **Worldwide, there are over 1.39 billion monthly active Facebook users which is a 13 percent increase year over year.** (Source: Facebook as of 1/28/15)

- **In Europe, over 223 million people are on Facebook.** (Source: Search Engine Journal)

- **Photo uploads total 300 million per day.** (Source: Gizmodo)

- **Every 60 seconds on Facebook:**
  - **510 comments are posted,**
  - **93,000 statuses are updated, and**
  - **136,000 photos are uploaded.** (Source: The Social Skinny)

- **500 million Tweets are sent per day**
  (Source: Twitter)

- **Twitter has 650 million registered users** (Source: Twitter)

Case Study



Sohaib Athar
@ReallyVirtual

Helicopter hovering above Abbottabad at 1AM (is a rare event).

Çeviriyi görüntüle

RETWEET 3.663 FAVORİ 3.182



22:58 - 01 May 2011

"I kid my good friend, Henry Kissinger. Can you imagine, **in a world of Twitter**, *being able to sneak out of Pakistan and fly to China and do secret negotiations? It's just an entirely different 24/7 public environment that you are living in."*

Hillary Clinton

"What was true for diplomacy under the reign of Louis XIV of France is as true today… But what has changed is that ***theatre of diplomacy*** *has expanded because of the* ***multiplicity of stakeholders***, ***the growth of the media*** *and the* ***rapid communication of information***, *privately and publicly."*

L. Hudson, The Enabling State: Collaborating for Success

Rise of new players

Diplomacy:

`the **profession**, **activity**, or **skill** of managing international **relations**, typically by a **country's representatives** abroad.`

Head of State,

Head of Government and

Ministers for Foreign Affairs

In a world where war is everybody's tragedy and everybody's nightmare, diplomacy is everybody's business."

Lord Strang, former British diplomat, 1966

Citizen Diplomacy?

Everyone is a diplomat

Rise of New Skills

Personal skills of diplomats:

'**moral precision**,

the willingness to confront foreign policy realities directly *and*

with **conviction**'

Harold Nicolson, British Diplomat

"Entrepreneurial Diplomats"

- Functions
  - Global network facilitation, **creating international networks** for the exchange of information and ideas
- Capabilities
  - **Master of new social media**
  - Functional abilities: conference/event organization, network maintenance etc.

Real Time Diplomacy

Virtually instantaneous reaction



Air time

- Congress of Vienna 1814
  - **4 days** Vienna to Berlin
  - **21 days** Vienna to Paris
  - **23/24 days** Vienna to London
- Istanbul – London diplomatic line
  - Post telegraph era: 17th century **(1900 miles)**
    - Express messengers: **5-7 miles an hour**
    - Ordinary/regular messenger: **4 miles an hour**
  - 18th century – **a month**
  - Telegraph era – **about an 24 hour**
  - 1912 – Telephon era

Risks and Opportunities

Insecurity vs. Speed

No more slowness

Information security and encryption tech

Embedding **digital tools** in every part of **foreign policy work**

- Computerizing foreign policy operations
- Providing services digitally cost effective and time saving
  - The State Department: **21st Century Statecraft;**
  - UK Foreign Office: **Digital Diplomacy**

- First Official Email Exchange Between Heads of Government (February 4, 1994)
  - Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt to United States President Bill Clinton

- First Virtual Embassy: the Republic of the Maldives (22 May 2007)



- Ambassadors Tweeting (19 October 2009)
  - Mexican Ambassador to Washington, Arturo Sarukhan
- @Sweden (12 June 2012)
  - Give voice to citizens

Findings…

- Data, data everywhere
- Instant reaction
- Information security
- New skills for diplomats

THANK YOU

GET IN TOUCH



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