States worldwide have been employing sophisticated and Orwellian tools for the collection, storage, and analysis of our private communications, laying claim to some of our most intimate personal information. Whistleblower Edward Snowden’s leaks have exposed this global surveillance infrastructure and its profound intrusions on our privacy. They have also led to a growing recognition that while these surveillance and information technologies have developed rapidly, laws protecting privacy at the national and international levels have not kept pace with these changes.

The panel will discuss these issues, focusing on the right to privacy guaranteed by Article 17 of the ICCPR.