

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
СУМСЬКИЙ ДЕРЖАВНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ
КАФЕДРА ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНИЙ НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНИЙ ЦЕНТР

**МАТЕРІАЛИ XI ВСЕУКРАЇНСЬКОЇ
НАУКОВО-ПРАКТИЧНОЇ КОНФЕРЕНЦІЇ
СТУДЕНТІВ АСПІРАНТІВ ТА ВИКЛАДАЧІВ
ЛІНГВІСТИЧНОГО НАВЧАЛЬНО-МЕТОДИЧНОГО
ЦЕНТРУ КАФЕДРИ ІНОЗЕМНИХ МОВ**

“TO MAKE THE WORLD SMARTER AND SAFER”

(Суми, 23 березня 2017 року)

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF UKRAINE
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LANGUAGE CENTRE

**MATERIALS OF THE ELEVENTH
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SECTION 1 HIGH TECH WORLD

THE INTERNET AS A SEPARATE MODERN COUNTRY

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Notably, nowadays no one will contest that technologies affect almost every part our lives. Furthermore, most of these innovations and solutions are connected with global network – the Internet. Considering this, almost everyone has many accounts on different sites from social networks to banking systems. As a result of this, we literally live online. Despite the fact that many people are discussing the problem of Internet addiction, we will review the opportunity of including the Internet in the list of current world's countries.

According to analyses of International Telecommunication Union (ITU), United Nations specialised agency, in 2016 about 3,5 billion individuals were using the Internet around the world. As an illustration, this number is greater than the sum of populations of 4 most populous countries (China, India, US and Indonesia).

In fact, we cannot consider the Internet as usual familiar to us state or country by definition. According to Cambridge Academic Content Dictionary, a country is an area of land that forms an independent political unit with its government. To be honest, the Internet almost entirely corresponds to the definition, excluding attachment to the territory or land. However, the world is still changing with enormous speed. We use word 'virtual' more and more often while speaking about usual things, for example, virtual banking cards, virtual/online shops, virtual learning, virtual friends and so on. Why can't we call the Internet a virtual modern country with its population, laws, citizen rights and other significant things?

While talking about networking infrastructure, we cannot forget IT companies that deliver devices to access global network, content and websites and other internet related stuff to us. As IT firms have become very powerful and influential, that is why some countries are beginning to treat them like they are actual some kind of nation states. With this intention, in January Denmark's government decided to establish a new kind of ambassadors - 'a digital ambassador' to operate country's relationships with some of the world's biggest IT organisations like Microsoft, Google and Apple. It is the first time in the world's history that government is trying to set up a special post for co-operation and regulation of relations with tech corporations.

Seeing that, we can assume that these companies play the role of a theoretical government, which people entrust their personal data (which is not always wise act). It is an industry that dictates the trends and rules of its users.

We can predict with a high probability that shortly we will consider the Internet as a separate modern country. In conclusion, we must remember that the Internet is just a virtual world and we cannot forget about the reality and keep in touch with it.