Read the ICANN68 By the Numbers & Survey Report

The *ICANN68 By the Numbers Report* is now available, which contains information about participation in ICANN68 by session, location, and more. It also includes results of the ICANN68 Survey, which asked participants what worked best about ICANN’s second virtual meeting and what areas could be improved. Click [here](#) to explore the report.

ICANN President & CEO Announces Goals for the 2021 Fiscal Year

CANN President & CEO Göran Marby has shared his FY21 goals. Each year, Marby works with the ICANN Board to develop goals for the next fiscal year, and then works with the ICANN organization Executive team to build a plan to achieve them. These annual goals help the ICANN organization work to prioritize, address new challenges, and execute on existing projects with a strategic focus.

Read [Göran’s recent blog](#) to examine the goals.

Note: The 2021 fiscal year runs from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

ICANN’s Independent Review Process Seeks Panelists

ICANN is seeking Expressions of Interest for panelists to serve on the omnibus Standing Panel for ICANN’s Independent Review Process (IRP). The deadline to submit Expressions of Interest is extended to 31 August 2020 at 23:59 UTC. The IRP is an essential accountability mechanism to hold the ICANN Board and organization accountable.

Candidates for the IRP omnibus Standing Panel should review the [Expressions of Interest document before submission](#).

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to: [IRP-Standingpanel-EOI2020@icann.org](mailto:IRP-Standingpanel-EOI2020@icann.org)
Nominations Now Open for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building

Do you know an ICANN community member who has significantly contributed to developing capacity in areas related to ICANN’s mission? Nominate them for the Dr. Tarek Kamel Award for Capacity Building.

The ideal recipient will have at least five years of experience contributing and developing:

- National, regional, or global capacity-building programs related to ICANN’s Mission.
- Capacity-building programs that positively influenced the multistakeholder model and diversified participation at ICANN.

The ICANN Board will review a shortlist of candidates. This year’s recipient will be announced at ICANN69 in October 2020.

Learn more about the award and access the nomination form here.

Missed the ITI Webinars? Watch the Recordings.

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) has published links to two webinar recordings. The webinars provided a demo of some of the new content types and features that will be implemented on the improved ICANN.org. The webinars were held on 20 and 22 July.

The improved website will be powered by a new content management system and document management system. It will also feature an improved multilingual user experience in the six U.N. languages and aim to adhere to W3C AA accessibility standards.

Links to the webinar recordings are posted to the ITI feedback site (https://feedback.icann.org/) under the Latest News section. If you have feedback, please email the ITI team at: informationtransparency@icann.org.

New Government Engagement Publications Available

Two new publications are available from the Government Engagement team:

United Nations Update: Cyber-
Related Discussions

This publication summarizes the proceedings of the United Nations General Assembly working groups where discussions of Internet and cybersecurity-related issues take place. Click here to learn more.

Digital Services Act Update Paper

This paper provides an update on the Digital Service Act initiative. In this paper, readers will find background and analysis of the initiative with the potential relevance to the ICANN community and to ICANN’s technical role in the Internet ecosystem.

The paper is available here and the background on the paper is available on the Government Engagement publications page.

A public consultation on the DSA initiative has been currently launched by the European Commission and will remain open until 8 September 2020. ICANN org will submit a contribution to the open consultation and encourages the community to take this opportunity to contribute as well. The org will continue to monitor the DSA initiative and provide updates as relevant developments unfold.

New ICANN Learn Course: Constructive Dialogue

ICANN is built on a foundation of conversation and respect. Fundamental to those qualities is the ability to engage in constructive dialogue. It is not merely about speaking or listening; it’s about engaging in dialogue that enlightens, expands, and advances a goal.

The new Constructive Dialogue course explores interpersonal communication techniques so that learners develop constructive dialogue skills.

In this course, learners explore foundational concepts, work through examples, and have access to quick reference guides to put tools into action. Participants gain insight into ensuring all persons in the ICANN community feel heard, narrowing relevant issues, and facilitating productive conversations.

Regardless of whether you’ve been involved with ICANN for a few months or a decade, we think this course will help everyone. You can access the course at https://learn.icann.org.

Community Profile

Andrei Kolesnikov
Director of Russian Internet-of-Things Association, and also a SSAC member

How are you involved in ICANN?

My first meeting was in Mexico in 2008, as the new Director
How long have you been involved with ICANN, and in what ways?

I've been involved for a while. My journey began through the SO/ACs structure, starting with the ccNSO, GNSO, ALAC, and finally SSAC.

What are the most challenging things about being a part of the ICANN community?

Different interests of the stakeholder groups and acronyms.

What are the rewarding things about being a part of the ICANN community?

The multicultural environment and all that comes with it in broad way – I’ve definitely learned a lot!

What would you suggest to newcomers at ICANN?

Start with DNS basics. You only become a real stakeholder after this.

The Middle East Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025 Is Ready

The final ICANN Middle East Regional Plan for Fiscal Years 2021-2025 and the Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2021 have been published. To view the plans and for more information, read the full blog [here](#).

The Middle East Space in the Time of COVID-19

Nadira Alaraj, Middle East Space Co-Chair, and Tijani Ben Jemaa, Middle East Space Co-Chair and ALAC Leadership Team Member

The Middle East Space gathers the ICANN Middle East community to address current topics of debate, and in turn produces a statement for each topic expressing the consensus opinion of the Middle East community.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the travel restrictions worldwide, the Middle East Space is being organized remotely.

The first virtual session, “Universal Acceptance
of Arabic Script Based Domain Names and Email Addresses,” was held 15 April and attracted close to 40 participants.

The Middle East Space is currently tackling the final report of the Accountability and Transparency Review Team 3.0 (ATRT3).

The Middle East Space calls for more community participation in this effort to gain more visibility and credibility for the Middle East community at ICANN. If you are interested in participating, please email meac.swg@icann.org.

Nadira Alaraj, Middle East Space Co-Chair, left, and Tijani Ben Jemaa, Middle East Space Co-Chair and ALAC Leadership Team Member, right.

AFRICA

The Africa Regional Plan for FY21-25 – What It Means

ICANN’s final Africa Regional Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2021-2025 was published last month. To learn more about the regional plan, read the full blog here.

The Eighth Africa Domain Name System (DNS) Forum 2020 Goes Virtual

The eighth Africa Domain Name System (DNS) Forum was held from 27-28 July 2020 virtually for the first time as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The forum was organized by Africa Top Level Domains Organization (AFTLD), the Africa Registrar Association (AfRegistrar), and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). The forum attracted 257 people with active engagement over the two-day period covering thematic topics focused on policy, technical, and marketing, as well as emerging issues under the current pandemic and other emergencies.

EUROPE

A Call for Registries and ISPs to Participate

ICANN is reaching out to large Internet service providers (ISPs) and registries, including country code top-level domains (ccTLDs), to ask for their help in making the Identifier Technology Health Indicators (ITHI) a valuable tool for the good of the entire Domain Name System (DNS).

Gabriella Schitte, Global Stakeholder Engagement Senior Manager, Nordic and Central Europe, and Alain Durand, Principal Technologist, have co-authored a blog explaining the project, its importance, and why we would like more stakeholders to participate. Read the full blog here.
Don't Miss the UK Internet Governance Forum 2020

As part of our continued efforts to support local and regional Internet Governance Forums, ICANN org will be sponsoring and participating in this year's 2020 UK Internet Governance Forum (IGF). The forum will take place virtually from 15-17 September 2020. For more information on the forum click here.

The agenda mirrors the global IGF main themes: data, environment, inclusion, and trust. The sessions will be spread across three days to make online participation easier. You can register for sessions here.

ICANN at EuroSSIG

Monday 20 July 2020, ICANN Board Chair Maarten Botterman spoke to students at the European Summer School on Internet Governance (EuroSSIG) about ICANN's role overseeing the Internet's system of "unique identifiers," the multistakeholder model, and the importance of the principles of an open, inclusive, and global Internet, especially given the current pandemic.

Maarten spoke from his home in the Netherlands to 16 students in Meissen, Germany. Maarten invited the students to join ICANN69, to be held online 17-22 October 2020. Three of the students have already been selected to join the NextGen program for ICANN69.

ICANN at the Cyber Polygon

On July 8, ICANN's John Crain, Chief Security, Stability, and Resiliency Officer, participated in the Cyber Polygon, a cyber security capacity building event organized by Sberbank and its security subsidiary Bi.Zone. One of the biggest cyber security conferences in Eastern Europe and the Central Asia region, the event was kicked off by Mikhail Mishustin, the Prime Minister of Russia. This year, the Polygon conference focused on COVID-related cyber threats and how massive global events affect the Internet. John Crain gave a 15-minute interview where he spoke about what ICANN is doing to keep the Internet secure and stable during this period, the collaboration taking place with cyber
experts from all over the world, and the value of the information exchange between registries, registrars, and cyber security vendors to help prevent threats.

Watch the interview here.

POLICY UPDATE

The EPDP Phase 2 Final Report is Now Available

The Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Team (EPDP Team) finalized and submitted its Phase 2 Final Report to the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council on Friday 31 July 2020. The Phase 2 Final Report focuses on the deliberation of the creation of a system for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic registration data; issues noted in the Annex to the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data ("Important Issues for Further Community Action"); and, issues deferred from Phase 1 (also referred to as Priority 2 items), such as redaction of city field, etc. Following delivery of the Final Report to the GNSO Council, the GNSO Council is expected to consider it for adoption at its September meeting.

GNSO Council Holds an Extraordinary Meeting about Work Prioritization

On 16 July 2020, the GNSO Council held an extraordinary meeting to discuss its new method of work prioritization based on specific programs and timeframes. The Program Management tool and Action Decision Radar (ADR) aim to assist the GNSO Council in managing a multitude of projects, as well as prioritizing actions based on their importance and urgency. Materials from this meeting can be found here.

At-Large Organizational Updates

The At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) will hold webinars in August and September on the topics of new gTLD subsequent procedures; and DNS-over-HTTPS (DoH) and DNS-over-TLS (DoT).

The At-Large Unaffiliated Individual Mobilization Working Party has launched with the goal of reviewing At-Large unaffiliated individual membership criteria and participation. This group will guide At-Large leadership in how best to engage these members.

ccPDP4 Begins

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) working group to develop policy recommendations for the de-selection of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings (ccPDP4) will kick off its work at the start of September. The results of ccPDP4 will replace the IDN country code top-level domain (ccTLD) Fast Track Process, which has guided the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings since 2009. To stay informed about the work of this group, consult its workspace and the ccNSO website.
LACRALO Statement on Latin America (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025

On 17 July 2020, the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) endorsed the Latin American and Caribbean Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO) statement on the Latin America (LAC) Regional Strategic Plan for FY2021-2025. LACRALO agreed that the LAC regional strategy is consistent with end user challenges in the region. The statement included specific comments on the following four subtopics: security of the Domain Name System, the ICANN multistakeholder model, unique identifier systems, and regional geopolitics.

UASG Welcomes Six New UA Ambassadors

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has welcomed six new individuals into the UASG Ambassador Program for FY21 (July 2020-June 2021). These new ambassadors have a wide range of expertise and experience in the domain name industry, IT, engineering, software development, and technical research, and will help support UA efforts in Benin, India, Nigeria, South Africa, and Turkey. The UA Ambassador Program now has a total of 13 ambassadors from nine different countries representing the Asia Pacific (APAC), Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA), Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and North America (NA) regions.

To learn more about the new ambassadors and the work they do, click here. Stay up to date on the latest UA developments by following @UASGTech on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn.

Have You Experimented With ICANN’s Lookup Tool That Leverages RDAP?

Since last year, the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP), developed by the technical community in the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) as a replacement for the WHOIS protocol, has been delivering domain name and Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner.

ICANN offers a registration data lookup tool based on RDAP and you can access it here.

Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-17 September</td>
<td><strong>2020 UK Internet Governance Forum</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
21-25 September  
SEEDIG

7-9 October  
IGF Italy 2020

17-22 October  
ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting

ISTANBUL
Hakki Yeten Cad. Selenium
Plaza No:10/C K:10
34349 Istanbul, Turkey

ICANN AROUND THE WORLD

Regional Offices:
Los Angeles, U.S.A (Headquarters)
Brussels, Belgium
Istanbul, Turkey
Montevideo, Uruguay
Singapore

Engagement Centers:
Beijing, China
Geneva, Switzerland
Nairobi, Kenya
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Partnership Centers:
Asunción, Paraguay
Cairo, Egypt
Seoul, Republic of Korea

For address and contact information, visit: icann.org/contact

Twitter Arabic
Twitter English
Twitter French
Twitter @ICANN

Twitter Russian
Twitter Spanish
Twitter Spanish
Flickr

LinkedIn
Slideshare
Soundcloud
YouTube