Meet Nicolás Antoniello!

Nicolás Antoniello is the new Technical Engagement Manager in ICANN’s Office of the Chief Technology Officer.

Since I joined ICANN in March, we have deepened our efforts to develop a training and project agenda for the Latin American and Caribbean region. The objective is to be able to reach the different communities with training proposals for all audiences. At the same time, we want to cover more specific technical needs, including practical cases of configuration, operation, security, and resilience of systems such as the Domain Name System (DNS).

During this short time frame, we were able to hold virtual trainings with the Association of Paraguayan Internet Service Providers (ASISPY), the Association of Universities of Mexico (ANUIES), the LAC At-Large Organization (LACRALO), and the Latin American and Caribbean Country Code Top-Level Domain Association (LACTLD). We were also able to exchange opinions and statistics in panels of regional network operators’ groups like the Network Operators Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (LACNOG) and the Caribbean Network Operators Group (CARIBNOG). In the short term, we will also lead capacity building sessions with the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL) and with the association of Internet service providers (ISPs) in Brazil, ABRINT.

We will be contacting other organizations in the region to further expand the reach of these projects and build an even stronger technical relationship with the regional community. We look forward to resuming face-to-face collaborations as soon as possible.

I send my greetings to all members of this great regional family. I want to emphasize my desire to collaborate and contribute to capacity building in Latin America and the Caribbean. Please reach out if you have ideas for me.

Get Ready for ICANN68!
Registration is now open and available here for the ICANN68 Virtual Policy Forum. The Public Meeting, which was to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, will now be held online using ICANN’s robust remote participation tools. Registration is
required to take part. For more information, including the session schedule and remote participation tools, go to the ICANN68 site.

The Prep Session webinars to prepare the community for ICANN68 are underway. On Thursday, 18 June, there will be a Q&A with the ICANN org Executive Team. Participation information for that and other upcoming Prep Sessions are available here. You can find more preparation material documents, including the Pre-ICANN68 Policy Report and the GNSO Policy Briefing. The Prep Sessions are intended to help streamline the pre-meeting experience, increase awareness of current topics of importance, and enhance briefings and readout sessions conducted around an ICANN Public Meeting.

New ICANN History Project Video
Watch our new ICANN History Project video, which explores the key events in ICANN’s growth, from its birth to the present day. The project’s aim is to capture stories from key figures who helped shape ICANN’s past and present.

View the video and explore the ICANN History Project site.

How DNSSEC Protects the Internet
ICANN’s Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) has a new infographic to illustrate how Domain Name System Security Extensions help protect the information you send on the Internet. Check it out here.

ICANN Collaborates to Protect the DNS
ICANN and the Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance collaborative efforts aimed at supporting a safer, more secure, and resilient Domain Name System (DNS). The MoU contributes to the shared objective of helping the incident response community increase its understanding and improve its efficiency and effectiveness in preventing, detecting, containing, mitigating, and analyzing malicious activity related to the Internet’s unique identifiers. Read more here.

Changes at ICANN Organization
ICANN President & CEO Göran Marby has announced a number of changes to the ICANN org leadership structure to reallocate some responsibilities and help support the community more effectively.

Read his [blog](https://www.icann.org/blog/gooran-marby-and-changes-to-icann-org-leadership-structure) outlining the changes.

---

**ICANN69 Virtual Annual General Meeting**

The ICANN Board of Directors has decided the ICANN69 Annual General Meeting, originally scheduled to be held in Hamburg, Germany, will be held online. Read the full announcement [here](https://www.icann.org/en/news/announcements/20200720-icann69-virtual-annual-gm-dates).

---

**LAC ACTIVITIES & HIGHLIGHTS**

**DNS 101 Webinars for ANUIES (Mexico) and ASISPY (Paraguay)**

Nicolás Antoniello, ICANN’s Regional Technical Engagement Manager, delivered two webinars on 29 and 30 April on the “nuts and bolts” of the Domain Name System (How the DNS Works: DNS 101) to two large regional groups: ASISPY and ANUIES. ASISPY is the Paraguay’s Internet Service Providers Association, composed of the over 25 ISPs that bring Internet connectivity to small and medium cities in the countryside. ANUIES is the National Association of Universities and Institutions of Higher Education in Mexico comprised of 197 academic institutions. The DNS 101 topic was the first of a series of webinars that will be delivered in the coming months to these institutions. Thank you ANUIES and ASISPY for this engagement opportunity.

**ICANN LAC Talks Takes On Critical Issues**

ICANN’s Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) team launched its LAC Talks series, a new initiative geared towards maintaining active discussions with our community on the Internet’s critical trends and issues.

For the first LAC Talks meeting held on 24 April, John Crain, Chief Security, Stability & Resiliency Officer at ICANN, discussed DNS security and threats during the COVID-19 crisis. The second LAC Talks was held on 15 May, and Alain Durand, ICANN’s Principal Technologist, discussed the fifth-generation wireless technology for cellular networks.

We would like to thank the more than 200 LAC participants that attended these two sessions.

**Technical Papers Available in Spanish and Other UN Languages**

ICANN is making an effort to provide translations to some of the latest technical documents developed by the Office of the CTO, such as Explainers on Domain Name Security Extensions (DNSSEC), the Root Server System, and 5G.
Have You Implemented an RDAP Service Yet?
The Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) and replacement for the WHOIS protocol was implemented last year. Contracted parties offering RDAP services allow users to access domain name and other Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner. Resources and updates for RDAP implementers can be found here.

ICANN also offers a registration data lookup tool based on RDAP – bookmark this page!

Challenges Impacting Domain Name Registrants

New UA Resources Available
The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) has published two new resources for the developer community. Check them out below and join the effort to become UA ready.

Country-Based Evaluation of Websites for Acceptance of Email Addresses in 2020
This report builds upon previous testing of the top 1,000 websites done in 2017 and 2019, and provides a country-based analysis of email acceptance rates across 20 different countries. View the results here.

Universal Acceptance Readiness Framework
To help the developer community identify potential issues preventing UA readiness in web-based and native apps, the UASG developed a technical guide that provides a framework for scoping UA conformance work on software applications. View it here.

Stay up to date on the latest UA news by following @UASGTech on Twitter.
Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs
PDP Phase 1 Initial Report
The GNSO Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group began its review of Public Comment submissions related to the Phase 1 Initial Report. In total, the working group received 55 submissions (38 from organizations, five from ICANN community groups, and 12 from individuals) and will analyze each submission using the Public Comment review tool. Learn more.

CCWG-Auction Proceeds to Complete Final Report
The Cross-Community Working Group on New gTLD Auction Proceeds (CCWG-AP) will soon complete its Final Report. Once this work concludes, the Final Report will be submitted for consideration to the chartering organizations and then the ICANN Board. The CCWG-AP co-chairs plan to provide additional information and answer questions about the recommendations in the coming weeks. Learn more.

At-Large Regional Policy Engagement Program Launch
The Regional At-Large Organization (RAI) leaders launched the At-Large Regional Policy Engagement Program (ARPEP) on 22 April 2020. The ARPEP will support the engagement of At-Large Structures, regional work, and the At-Large community’s policy advice activities. The At-Large and Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) teams, and Regional At-Large Organization leadership agreed to work jointly on several activities, including the implementation of the FY21 Regional Outreach and Engagement Strategies. The GSE and At-Large support teams will leverage current work to promote ongoing policy work.

At-Large Capacity Building Working Group Hosts Training Webinars
Earlier this month, the At-Large Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) hosted two capacity building webinars to build subject matter expertise among its community members. The first webinar focused on geopolitics and cybersecurity, representing a collaboration between ICANN org, former ICANN Board members, and community experts. The second webinar focused on the topic of Universal Acceptance and included Universal Acceptance Working Group Chair Ajay Data. Learn more.

Policy Development for IDNs
The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council recently adopted an Issue Report on Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) country code top-level domain (ccTLD) strings. The adoption of this report begins the fourth policy development process (ccPDP) for the ccNSO. Once the ccPDP is complete and adopted by the ICANN Board, it will replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process, which is the current guideline for the selection process of IDN ccTLD strings.
Opportunities to Participate:
ICANN Reviews

Specific Reviews are led by teams of community volunteers to assess the performance of the ICANN organization and make recommendations for improvement. All Specific Review team plenary meetings are open and available for observers to join. You may share your feedback and input any time to the team’s public mailing list. Details of meeting schedules and mailing lists are available on the team Wiki pages. Upcoming Specific Review team meetings include:

The third Accountability and Transparency Review Team (ATRT3) has published its Final Report. The report contains five recommendations with regard to ICANN accountability and transparency in the following areas:
- Prioritization of review and Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability, Work Stream 2 (WS2) recommendations
- Amending Specific and Organizational Reviews
- Accountability and transparency relating to Strategic and Operational Plans including accountability indicators
- Public input
- Assessment of the implementation of ATRT2 recommendations.

The report will be published for Public Comment in advance of the Board’s consideration. Click here to find out more.

Organizational Reviews are led by independent examiners who assess the extent to which ICANN’s Supporting Organizations (SOs), Advisory Committees (ACs), and the Nominating Committee (NomCom) fulfill their purpose, are accountable to their stakeholders, and whether any changes in structure or operations are needed.

Webinar: Nominating Committee Review Implementation Working Group (NomComRIWG): Implementation Milestones and Next Steps
Wednesday, 17 June at 16:00 – 17:00 UTC.

Join the NomCom Review Implementation Working Group (NomComRIWG) Webinar to hear an update on the progress of their implementation work, as outlined in their detailed implementation plan. This webinar presents an opportunity to hear more on the potential Bylaws changes the NomComRIWG is working on, but also ask questions and provide input on the implementation work of the 27 recommendations. See more information and details here.

Visit the Reviews Status Update Table for the latest progress of Specific and Organizational Reviews and links to additional key resources for each.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Marcelo Funes, Director, NIC Argentina

Marcelo Funes was recently appointed Director of Network Information Center (NIC) Argentina, the National Directorate of the Registry of Internet Domains. Its function is to provide the administration of the .ar domain and also facilitate access to a secure and reliable Internet for all Argentines, because it is one of the keys to the country’s development.

Marcelo has a bachelor’s degree in Computer Science, a master’s degree in Management of Technological Services and Telecommunications, and a diploma in Smart Cities. His projects are focused on technology and innovation in public policy. He led the Smart City area of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and coordinated provincial entities in the technological engagement area.
Marcelo considers the Internet to be one of humanity’s most extraordinary inventions and believes it should be at the service of every man and woman on this planet.