EMEA Newsletter
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TOP STORY

Watch the ICANN57 Wrap-Up Interview

At the end of the recent ICANN57 Public Meeting in Hyderabad, India, Liana Teo, ICANN's Head of Communications in the Asia Pacific region, sits down with Stephen Crocker, Board Chair, and Göran Marby, President and CEO. Crocker and Marby look back on the seven-day event that showcased ICANN's work to a broad global audience. **Find out what they have to say!**

ICANN NEWS

Take the ICANN57 Surveys!
Tell us what you thought about ICANN57 by taking the **ICANN57 surveys**. Your feedback is important to us - it helps us improve future meetings.

Call for Volunteers

Has ICANN lived up to its commitments to ensure accuracy and compliance with WHOIS? You can participate in the Review of Registration Directory Service (RDS) - also known as WHOIS.

Apply to join the ICANN Review Team that will analyze WHOIS and make recommendations to make it more effective. Click **here** to learn more and apply.

Missed the Recent Quarterly Stakeholder Call?

On 18 October, ICANN held its Quarterly Stakeholder Call for the quarter ending 30 September. In keeping with the new format, the call highlighted the Asia-Pacific region. This new focus (including a region-friendly start time) encourages greater local engagement and participation. If you couldn't attend live, you can access the **presentation materials and recordings**.

EUROPE

First Polish Internet Governance Forum Is Born!

Participants gather for discussions at the 1st Polish IGF.

What initially began as a one-day event titled "The Internet Today and Tomorrow Conference" in 2014 has successfully evolved this year to become the first **Polish IGF**, hosted in Warsaw on 18 October 2016. The event was a joint effort of ICANN, the Polish Ministry of Administration and Digitization, the University of Warsaw Digital Economy Lab (DELab), and the Research and Academic Computer Network (NASK) - the manager of the .pl country-code top-level domain (ccTLD). Together, these organizations created a viable platform for local dialogue on Internet governance.

Maciej Grón, Director of the Department of Information Society at the Polish Ministry of Administration and Digitization, explained the viewpoint of the Polish government. "The Polish government is deeply convinced that no responsible Internet policy can be made without broad consultations and serious discussions with

the local Internet community, based on multistakeholder model principles. That's why Polish the IGF is more than an annual conference - it's a real forum where all stakeholders can present their proposals and conclusions, as well as learn about the future plans of action."

Around 250 people registered for the meeting, from many stakeholder groups - including civil society, academia, business and government. Discussion topics included Internet governance and its regional impact, the free flow of data, the Internet of Things and cybersecurity challenges, Internet platforms and the digital single market.

ICANN Media Roundtable in Spain Explores the Impact of New Internet Domains

On 19 October, a media roundtable on new generic top-level domains (gTLDs), held in Barcelona, explored the impact and opportunities created by the almost 1,200 new Internet domains. Participating panelists were Andrea Beccalli (Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager of Europe, ICANN), Santi Ribera (Director General, Fundació puntCAT), Josu Waliño Pizarro (Director General, Fundación PuntuEus), Marcus Fernandez (Member of the PuntoGal Association Board), Alain Artero (Projects Portfolio Manager, European Broadcasting Union), and Amadeu Abril i Abril (Chief Policy Advisor, COREhub).

Participants gather for discussions of the new gTLDs at a media roundtable in Barcelona.

ICANN Participates in Internet Governance Forum in Spain

The 2016 edition of the Spanish IGF, among the oldest of the national Internet governance forums, was held in Madrid on 13 and 14 October. The event took place under the auspices of Red.es, the manager of the .es ccTLD. Stakeholders from several branches of the Spanish Internet sector participated in the forum.

In his speech, Victor Calvo Sotelo, the Secretary of State for Communication, recognized the historic achievement of the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) transition. He stressed the important role that Europe has played in past years in the multistakeholder process leading up to the preparation of the final proposal.

ICANN's Andrea Becalli, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Manager of Europe, participated in a presentation on IANA transition. **Watch the presentation**.

EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

ICANN Team Joins Network Operators in Armenia

On 3 and 4 October, the Eurasia Network Operators Group Meeting (**ENOG12**) was held in Yerevan, Armenia. At the event, the ICANN team gave several presentations:

- DNSSEC implementation considerations and risk management - Richard Lamb, Senior Program Manager of Domain Name Systems Security Extensions (DNSSEC)

- IANA stewardship transition and what's next - Michael Yakushev, VP of Global Stakeholder Engagement for Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia

- Key signing key (KSK) rollover plan - Alexandra Kulikova, Global Stakeholder Engagement Manager for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

Presenters discuss topics of interest with the participants gathered at ENOG12.

ICANN Participates in Armenian Internet

Governance Forum

On 5 October, the **ArmIGF 2016**, the second Armenian Internet Governance Forum, was held in Yerevan, Armenia. Organizers were the Internet Society Armenia chapter; the Internet Society; the *Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre* (RIPE NCC); and business partners Arpinet, Arminco and ABCDomain.

In a special session, Lianna Galstyan of ISOC Armenia spoke about the the development of the Armenian Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD, which was **approved** in 2014.

ICANN's Michael Yakushev - VP of Stakeholder Engagement in Eastern Europe, Russia and Central Asia - talked about the active work of the Armenian Internet community in ICANN. He also updated the audience on the expiration of ICANN's contract with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

Panelists, including ICANN's Alexandra Kulikova (left), discuss cybersecurity at the Armenian IGF.

ICANN's Alexandra Kulikova, Manager of Global Stakeholder Engagement in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, participated in the session on cybersecurity. She was inspired by how Armenia is reviewing best practices and is trying to develop its own cybersecurity strategy.

MIDDLE EAST

Hardening DNS Security and Stability in the Middle East

One of ICANN's key strategic objectives for its engagement in the Middle East is capacity building on DNS security and stability. This objective has been fulfilled in many ways, such as encouragement of DNSSEC deployment, deployment of root server instances, Arabic script IDNs, and workshops on DNS abuse and misuse.

Recent workshops on DNSSEC - held in Beirut, Doha and Dubai - are part of ICANN's strategy the Middle East.

In October, the Global Stakeholder Engagement Team in the Middle East and the Security, Stability, and Resiliency Team of the CTO Office teamed up for a road show. They visited three cities in the Middle East to raise awareness on DNS abuse and misuse. Workshops held in Dubai, Doha, and Beirut trained a total of 80 participants on the latest trends in DNS security and how to tackle them. The workshops combined theory and hands-on training. Participants came from law enforcement agencies, computer emergency response teams, security firms, academia and banking.

The workshops were a success, with participating individuals and organizations tapping into ICANN's expertise. We hope to see them as new ICANN community members in the future!

ICANN and CCK Collaborate on Youth Education Initiative in Tunisia

ICANN and the *Centre de Calcul El-Khawarizmi* **(CCK)** have begun collaborating on a Youth Education Initiative to enhance youth capacity and awareness of Internet governance in Tunisia, through a bimonthly series of educational workshops. The first workshop was held on 26 October, and was titled "Introduction to ICANN and the Domain Name System. **Read more...**

MEAC Strategy: Just a Few Days Left for Your Comments

Forty-eight members and two observers of the Middle East and Adjoining Countries Strategy Working Group **(MEAC-SWG***)* spent the summer discussing what the key priorities of the region are when it comes

to ICANN's regional engagement. They settled on three strategic goals:

- Support a secure, stable and resilient DNS infrastructure
- Promote a healthy and competitive domain name marketplace
- Clarify ICANN's role in an evolving Internet ecosystem through engagement with the MEAC community

Read more and comment on the strategy…

AFRICA

ICANN's Nairobi Engagement Office Hosts First National Multistakeholder Briefing

This first national multistakeholder briefing was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 3 October. ICANN hosted the briefing in partnership with the .ke registry. The 100 delegates attending the event learned about the IANA transition, the Africa strategy and the ICANN ecosystem.

ICANN Supports Africa Internet Governance Forum 2016

This year's Africa Internet Governance Forum (**AfIGF2016**) took place in Durban, South Africa, from 16 to 18 October. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Telecommunications and Postal Services, the Government of South Africa, and was cohosted by the Africa Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The event attracted 235 participants, plus an additional 800 online participants.

Participants at the Africa Internet Governance Forum 2016

For the first time, the event included an open and high level ministerial plenary session in which ministers asked questions on the theme of "inclusive development and the digital transformation of Africa." ICANN's Pierre Dandjinou, VP of Stakeholder Engagement in Africa, updated the audience on what the post-IANA transition era means for Africa. You can view **videos of all sessions**.

Just like previous editions, the 4th Africa School of Internet Governance (**AFRISIG2016**) was held just before AfIGF2016, from 11 to 14 October, with the aim of giving the students an opportunity to experience a real IGF. At the workshops, 42 students selected from across Africa were introduced to broad topics of Internet governance.

Basque:
Gu guztiok gaude Interneten zaintzan. Erronka globala da

English:
European Internet Forum Members meet ICANN's new President and CEO Göran Marby

Spanish:
Mesa redonda centrada en el impacto y las oportunidades creadas por la introducción de los nuevos dominios de Internet

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ICANN COMMUNITY

Sandra Hoferichter is the Secretary General of the European Dialogue on Internet Governance (**EuroDIG**). As a Board member of **Medienstadt Leipzig e.V.,** a German not-for-profit organization, she became involved in Internet governance matters in 2006. Her first accomplishments, including coordinating the European Summer School on Internet Governance, **ICANN Studienkreis** and Experts meetings on the Internet of Things.

Since 2010 Sandra has served on the At-Large Advisory Committee (**ALAC**). Starting in November 2016, she will be serving on the Nominating Committee (**NomCom**). Sandra established the ICANN Academy project and has been chairing the working group since its inception in 2011. The working group has made modest, but steady progress over the years. The ICANN Academy has issued calls for participation in the **Leadership Program** and **Chair Skills Program**. Cross-community involvement will help move these projects forward in the coming year.

Sandra's contributions, both to the ICANN community and to the Internet governance, facilitate the collaboration among different stakeholder groups and develop participation processes that are open and transparent.

Sandra holds a degree in Architecture from the Leipzig University of Applied Sciences.

POLICY UPDATE

Governmental Advisory Committee ICANN57 Communiqué

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) Communiqué from ICANN57 is available for review **here**. ICANN receives input from governments through the GAC. Its key role is to give advice to ICANN on issues of public policy, especially where there may be an interaction between ICANN activities or policies and national laws or international agreements. The GAC meets three times a year at ICANN Public Meetings, where it discusses issues with the ICANN Board of Directors and other ICANN Supporting Organizations, Advisory Committees and other groups.

RIPE Chair Selection Procedure

The *Réseaux IP Européens* (RIPE) community is currently discussing how it will select future RIPE Chairs.

Hans Petter Holen, the current RIPE Chair, has published two draft documents for comment: **Chair Selection Procedure** and **RIPE Chair Function Description**. Community members can supply their feedback on both documents via the dedicated **ripe-chair-discuss@ripe.net** mailing list.

GNSO Council Approves Proposed Framework for Future Cross-Community Working Groups

Up to now, cross-community working groups (CCWGs) have been formed on an ad-hoc basis, without a consistent framework of underlying operating principles that take into account the different working methods of the various Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. In March 2014, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council and Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council **approved the charter** for a CCWG to develop a framework for future CCWGs. The proposed framework identifies key principles and process steps to be considered during each phase of the CCWG life cycle (initiation, formation, operation, decision-making, closure, and post-closure). The CCWG submitted its proposed framework to the ccNSO and GNSO Councils on 19 September 2016. The GNSO Council **approved the proposed framework** at its meeting on 13 October 2016.

Extended Process Review Panel Working Group (EPSRP) - Final Report

In June 2015 the ICANN Board of Directors requested that the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) - in consultation with other stakeholders, including the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC) - provide further guidance on and refinement of the methodology for the second string similarity review process. This includes the interpretation of split recommendations, to be applied to the relevant, current and subsequent cases in the Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) Country Code Top-Level Domains (ccTLD) Fast Track process, as well as to inform the proposed policy for the selection of the IDN ccTLD strings. In October 2015, the ccNSO established a working group with participants from the ccTLD community and the GAC.

In July 2016, the **EPSRP working group** sought feedback, via a **public comment proceeding**, on its proposed guidelines for the methodology on the second string similarity review process, including the interpretation of a split recommendation. Feedback received during the public comment proceeding included a **statement from the At-Large Advisory Committee**, **input from Verisign** and a **statement from the SSAC**. The GAC submitted **comments** at a later stage. The ccNSO **discussed** the EPSRP **final report** at its meeting at ICANN57.

GDD UPDATE

Key Signing Key Rollover Operations Begin

On 27 October 2016, ICANN created a new root zone key signing key (KSK). This new cryptographic public/private key pair was made during the quarterly Root KSK Ceremony at our secure key management facility in Culpeper, Virginia. With this key generation, the initial operational phase of the first root KSK rollover - the process of changing the "master key" of the Domain Name System (DNS) - has begun. Network operators, Internet service providers and those who have enabled DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) validation will need to update their systems with the new root KSK once it has been published in July 2017. To learn more, visit the **KSK rollover webpage**.
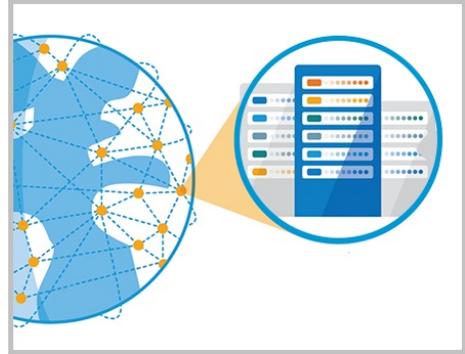
Available for Comment - New gTLD Program Study Results

Reviews of the New gTLD Program are currently underway to assess whether program objectives are being met. In October, ICANN published two new reports that will feed into these reviews:

- "Phase II Assessment of the Competitive Effects

Associated with the New gTLD Program" explores whether the program has affected competition in the domain name marketplace. **Read the draft report** or **submit a comment**.

- "Continuous Data-Driven Analysis of Root Server System Stability" will help the Internet community determine if additional steps are required to safeguard the root zone's security and stability. Read the **draft report** or **submit a comment.**

Internationalized Domain Names: Developing Root Zone Label Generation Rules

In October, the Lao script community finalized its proposal for root zone Label Generation Rules (LGR). The proposal is the fifth to be finalized - after Arabic, Armenian, Georgian and Khmer script rules - and is now available for **public comment.**

In addition, ICANN announced the formation of a Generation Panel to develop LGRs for the Greek script.

Root zone LGRs determine valid **Internationalized Domain Name** (IDN) labels and their variants in the world's many languages and scripts. Internationalized Domain Names include non-ASCII characters from scripts such as Arabic.

DELEGATED TLDs

Eight new gTLDs were delegated in October 2016

case   newholland
caseih   volvo
iveco   radio

See the full list here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming EMEA events:

- 17 November - **Internet Governance Forum (UK-IGF)**, London, UK
- 22-24 November - **Africa Regional WSIS Follow-up and Annual Review & Expert Group Meeting on Emerging Issues in ICT - 2016**, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- 24 November - **Digital Economy, Management, Innovation, Society and Technology (DEMIST) Conference**, Warsaw, Poland
- 25-30 November - **African Network Information Center (AFRINIC-25),** Port Louis, Mauritius
- 28 November - 1 December - **Commonwealth Parliamentary Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Project**, Windhoek, Namibia
- 1-2 December **EE DNS Forum/UA DOM**, Kiev, Ukraine

Learn more about how ICANN will be participating in **regional events near you**.

ISTANBUL HUB CONTACT DETAILS
ISTANBUL, TURKEY

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

Tel: +90.212.999.6222

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