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# EMEA Newsletter

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Policy Update



ICANN website  
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Feedback



## TOP STORY



### Prepare for ICANN61!

San Juan, Puerto Rico, 10-15 March 2018

ICANN61 kicks off in just five days. The meeting website is now available in both English and Spanish, and features the final schedule, mobile phone app, and pre-meeting reports.



ICANN61 website [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

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# Pre-ICANN61 Policy Report



ICANN61  
SAN JUAN

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

## Policy Briefing ICANN61 Edition

[Pre-ICANN Policy Report](#)

[Pre-ICANN61 GNSO Report](#)

### Learn About Open Data at ICANN

Wednesday, 14 March, 10:30-12:00

Join us at the ICANN61 cross-community session, *Open Data at ICANN: Developing Avenues Forward for Transparency*. Team members from the Open Data Initiative (ODI) and the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) will discuss the goals of their respective projects, answer questions, and solicit feedback from the community. Please check the schedule for updated meeting room information.



## EUROPE



### Training Launches to Help Registrars Become Engaged in ICANN

On 21 February, a pilot training themed "*Get Engaged in ICANN - Seminar for Registrars*" was held in Munich, Germany, in conjunction with Domain Pulse. Registrars who participated in the day-long session included those who are already ICANN-accredited and those who are interested in becoming accredited. Registrars from other regions participated remotely.

[Read more in the blog](#) by ICANN's Gabriella Schitteck, Manager, Global Stakeholder Engagement for Central and Eastern Europe, and Mukesh Chulani, Registrar Services Senior Manager.



## EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

[ICANN Participates Remotely at the Armenian](#)



## School on Internet Governance

On 3 February, ICANN's Alexandra Kulikova, ICANN's Global Stakeholder Engagement Senior Manager for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, was a remote presenter at the Armenian School on Internet Governance (**ArmSIG**). Her lecture introduced the ICANN ecosystem and the system of unique identifiers.

This second edition, held at the American University of Armenia, began in mid-January and involves weekly three-hour courses over a five-month period. About 40 participants from various local universities are learning from local and international experts from ICANN, Internet Society (ISOC), *Réseaux IP Européens* Network

Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC), Internet Governance Forum (IGF), and Diplo Foundation.

In December 2017, during the global IGF in Geneva, ICANN signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Armenian Ministry of Transport, Communications, and Information Technologies. Our participation at the second ArmSIG reinforces our commitment to cooperating with the Armenian community.



## MIDDLE EAST

### Middle East Domain Name System (DNS) Forum Turns Five in April

This year's Middle East DNS Forum will be held in Ankara, Turkey, on 25-26 April. The event brings together members of the regional community and world experts to share experiences and learn the latest about the domain name industry. Interested in the forum? Please keep an eye on the forum's [website](#) or email us at [meac.swg@icann.org](mailto:meac.swg@icann.org). We look forward to seeing you there!



## AFRICA



### ICANN's Africa Supports Smart Africa Efforts

On 8-9 February, the Steering Committee Meeting of the Smart Africa initiative met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Meeting co-chairs were Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy at the

African Union Commission (AUC), and Dr. Senlin Tu of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). ICANN is a founding member of Smart Africa, which is championing the creation of a One Network Area in Africa. This project aims to boost the digital economies in member states of the AUC through the removal of voice roaming charges.

Read the [Smart Africa Manifesto](#).

## ICANN Participates in the Africa Science, Technology and Innovation Forum

The third [Forum on Africa Science, Technology and Innovation](#) (STI 2018), organized by the Africa Development Bank and the Government of Egypt, took place from 10-12 February in Cairo. The forum discussions centered around the role of science, technology, and innovation in fostering private sector competitiveness and economic transformation in Africa. Over 600 participants attended, including members of the ICANN organization.



Recommendations coming out of the forum included the need for holistic approaches and strategies on STI. A special fund for STI was set up, with participants pledging contributions on the spot. A ministerial declaration on STI in Africa was issued at the end of the forum.



## ICANN NEWS

### ICANN to Cohost IETF 101 in London

Along with Google, ICANN is hosting this year's meeting of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), to take place in London from 18-23 March. Be sure to read the [new blog](#) by ICANN's Adiel Akplogan, VP, Technical Engagement, where he describes ICANN's important role supporting the standards that ensure an open and interoperable Internet.



## POLICY UPDATE

### ICANN | GNSO

#### GNSO Council Decision Underscores Commitment to Empowered Community

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council recently adopted modifications to the GNSO Operating

Procedures that add GNSO voting thresholds for certain Empowered Community-related decisions. The changes are effective immediately, and aim to ensure the GNSO can fulfill its roles and responsibilities as a Decisional Participant in the Empowered Community. In a related action, the GNSO Council proposed changes to the ICANN Bylaws, which are currently under ICANN Board consideration. [Read more...](#)

### GAC Highlights at ICANN61

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) will start ICANN61 with a capacity-building workshop on Domain Name System (DNS) resiliency and recovery in the context of natural disasters.

### ICANN | GAC

During the meeting, the GAC will review topics such as:

- Two-character and country and territory codes at the second level
- Protections for international governmental organizations
- Independent Review Process Panel
- Policy development process and cross-community working groups
- General Data Protection Regulation
- New generic top-level domain subsequent procedures

The GAC will meet with the Generic Names Supporting Organization, At-Large Advisory Committee, Country Code Names Supporting Organization, and the ICANN Board.

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## At-Large News

### Proposed Changes to ICANN Meetings

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) ratified a policy advice statement on the **Proposed Incremental Changes to the ICANN Meetings Strategy** that recommends:

- Community Forum: no changes
- Policy Forum: at least five days for outreach
- Annual General Meeting: six days plus an additional day for wrap-up activities

### At-Large Review

The leadership of the At-Large Review Working Party continues to prepare the response to the ICANN Board Organizational Effectiveness Committee mapping exercise of the At-Large Review. Next steps will be determined at ICANN61.

### NARALO at ICANN61

The North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO) will celebrate its 10-year anniversary at ICANN61 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Immediately before the meeting, NARALO will hold the first North American School of Internet Governance (NASIG). **Learn more about NASIG.**



## WHAT'S NEW IN REVIEWS

### Reviews: How to Get Involved

Learn about the draft recommendations of the NomCom Review at ICANN61.

Join the independent examiner at the **ICANN61 session** covering the draft recommendations of the Nominating Committee (NomCom) Review. There, you'll have the opportunity to engage directly with the independent examiner.



**Give feedback on the RSSAC Review Assessment Report.**

The independent examiner has published its **assessment report** of the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC) and invites your input by 23 March. Learn about their findings, ask questions, and share your input at the **ICANN61 session**.

**Get the status of all active Specific and Organizational Reviews.**

Visit our **Review Status Update page**.



## GDD UPDATE

**Call for Experts - Study the Application of Root Zone Label Generation Rules**

ICANN is forming a technical group to study how to apply the Root Zone Label Generation Rules (RZ-LGR) for Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) and IDN generic top-level domains (gTLDs). The study group will be composed of technical subject matter experts from various groups, organizations and committees. [See announcement for details.](#)



## Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) - Microsoft Announces New Expanded Support

Universal Acceptance (UA) is a foundational requirement for a truly multilingual Internet. Email Address Internationalization (EAI), which allows email addresses to use local scripts, is an important part of this process and a core component of the UASG's work. The UASG created resources, including the [Quick Guide to EAI](#), to help companies with EAI efforts. Recently, UASG member company [Microsoft](#) made another step forward in EAI when it announced support for email addresses in 15 Indian languages across its email apps and services, including Office 365, Outlook 2016, Outlook.com, Exchange Online and

Exchange Online Protection (EOP).



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events in the EMEA region:

- 10-16 March, [WHD Global](#), Rust, Germany
- 15-16 March, [WACREN Conference](#), Lomé, Togo
- 17-23 March, [IETF 101](#), London, UK
- 19-23 March, [WSIS Forum](#), Geneva, Switzerland
- 6 April, [RIGF](#), St. Petersburg, Russia
- 25-26 April, [The Middle East DNS Forum](#), Ankara, Turkey
- 29 April-11 May, [Africa Internet Summit](#), Dakar, Senegal

Learn more about how ICANN will be participating in [regional events near you.](#)

### ISTANBUL

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