Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in ICANN. Don't forget to add emea.communications@communications.icann.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox! You may unsubscribe if you no longer want to receive our emails.

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Join us for ICANN63
20 - 25 October 2018
Barcelona, Spain

ICANN's 2018 Annual General Meeting is less than two months away - register today! The ICANN63 block schedule is now posted, and the full schedule will be available on 1 October. Before you make travel arrangements, check the travel and visa requirements.

Be sure to bookmark the ICANN63 meetings page as it will be updated frequently.

ICANN Publishes Comprehensive Guide on What to Expect During the Root KSK Rollover

What will happen when ICANN, for the first time ever, changes the cryptographic keys that help protect the Domain Name System (DNS)? To answer that question, the ICANN organization has just published a guide to let people know what to expect. It describes which users are most likely to see problems, and among those - what types of issues they will face and the timing of when those issues might appear.

The operators of validating resolvers will likely derive the most benefit from the guide, as they seek clear direction on what to look for once the rollover is complete. Others who may benefit from the guide are; non-technical journalists, bloggers, researchers and others who intend to write about the rollover before, during, and after the event. The guide can be accessed here.

Apply Now for the Autumn School on Internet Governance in Barcelona
ICANN is organizing a school on "The Challenges of Internet Governance" in September 2018.

EUROPE
Governance," in partnership with Consorci de Serveis Universitaris de Catalunya (CSUC) and Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionales (IBEI).

The week-long school will take place from 15-19 October 2018 at IBEI in Barcelona and is open to graduate students and professionals eager to understand the impact of the Internet on our society, economy, and its future evolution. The School will also serve as preparation in the run-up to ICANN63 in Barcelona. A number of scholarships are available.

Click here to find out more about the Autumn School on Internet Governance and how to apply.

MIDDLE EAST

A Story of Perseverance: Engagement in Yemen

The Middle East is a vast region with an estimated population of 825 million people. Over the past few years, some countries in the region have undergone unprecedented political turbulence, especially Yemen. The current civil war and political crisis in the country has created multiple obstacles for ICANN engagement from Internet disconnections to poor telecom lines. Yet despite the difficulties, we have been able to engage remotely in Yemen. Read more in Fahd Batayneh's blog here.

Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance Turns Five

The fifth Middle East and Adjoining Countries School on Internet Governance (MEAC-SIG) took place from 5-9 August, with 31 attendees from 14 countries. This year's MEAC-SIG was held in Cairo, Egypt, and hosted by the National Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (NTRA). The previous school programs were held in Kuwait (2014), Tunisia (2015), Lebanon (2016), and Turkey (2017). Read more on the fifth edition of the program in Baher Esmat's blog here.

AFRICA

Draft ICANN Africa Strategic Plan 3.0 Open for Public Comment

On 2 July, the Africa Global Stakeholder Engagement team convened a select committee of Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee representatives from Africa to review the current Africa strategy. The committee came up with a draft reviewed document: ICANN Africa Strategy Version 3.0 2016 - 2020.
ICANN Supports and Participates in Several Events Across Africa

**Burkina Faso**
ICANN participated in the West African School of Internet Governance (WASIG) and the West African Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF) from 23-27 July in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Both events were hosted by the Regulatory Authority of Communications Electronics in Benin (ARCEP) and supported by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). During the events, ICANN's Africa GSE team members presented on ICANN's role and activities in the Internet ecosystem, requested contributors to the Universal Acceptance (UA) working groups, and gave an update on the upcoming root zone KSK rollover.

**Cameroon**
On 31 July, ICANN attended SUP'PTIC (National Advanced School of Post, Telecommunications and Information and Communication Technology) for academic outreach. ICANN's Africa GSE team members presented to nearly 50 students on the ICANN organization, community, and the Domain Name System (DNS). The team also participated in Symposium TIC Afrique, organized by CAPDA and held on 1 August in Yaounde, to talk about Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance (UA). Lastly, the team gave a workshop on domain names, digital economy, and cyber laws in Africa to legal professionals in Douala.

**Kenya**
From 23-25 July, ICANN participated in the Africa Union E-commerce Conference in Nairobi, Kenya. This inaugural regional conference attracted high-level participants, including H.E. Ambassador Albert M. Muchanga, AU Commissioner for Trade and Industry, and Dr. Mukisha Kituyi, Secretary General of UNCTAD. The conference was opened by Hon. Joseph Mucheru, Cabinet Secretary for ICT in Kenya. The event provided a platform to raise awareness surrounding the state of e-commerce in Africa and ways to enhance it. ICANN presented on the role of a secure and resilient Internet for the attainment of global e-commerce goals. The detailed report and presentations are available here.

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**ICANN NEWS**

**Update on ICANN’s Strategic Planning Process**
The continued success of ICANN's mission depends on our ability to work together to anticipate new challenges and opportunities ahead. The strategic outlook and planning processes represent a joint effort between the community, the Board, and the ICANN organization to identify and track trends that relate to ICANN and its mission in order to ensure they are accounted for in ICANN's current and future strategy.
Learn more about the phases of the strategic planning process and what to expect heading into ICANN63, [here](#).

### Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Update

The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data held its first meeting on 1 August 2018.

The scope of the EPDP includes:

- Confirming, or not, the Temporary Specification by its 25 May 2019 expiration date.
- Discussing a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data.

The discussion of a standardized access model will occur only after the EPDP Team has comprehensively answered a series of gating questions specified in its charter.

The EPDP Team's first focus is to develop a triage document, outlining which elements of the Temporary Specification are supported and do not require any change. The triage effort is expected to help inform the subsequent development of a work plan. The EPDP Team is scheduled to meet in Los Angeles from 24-27 September 2018. All meeting recordings, transcripts, and materials can be found on the [EPDP wiki workspace](#).

### GAC's Engagement

The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) has formed a small group of members to participate in the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data to replace ICANN's [Temporary Specification](#).

The GAC believes that the EPDP has an important role to play in developing a comprehensive model. This model should allow access to nonpublic WHOIS data for authenticated users with a legitimate and proportionate purpose and in a manner that is consistent with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other data protection legislation elsewhere. As part of other ongoing efforts in the ICANN community, the GAC provided initial comments on ICANN's proposed [Unified Access Model](#).

### ALAC's Engagement

Since the launch of the EPDP on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, Alan Greenberg, Hadia Elminiawi, Holly Raiche, and Seun Ojededji have actively contributed to At-Large Consolidated Policy Working Group (CPWG) weekly calls. The goal is to have all members of the CPWG serve as authors to various sections of the EPDP.

### Transparency of Security Efforts at ICANN

The ICANN organization published the [Cybersecurity Transparency Guidelines](#), which outlines its commitment to a high standard of openness and transparency concerning the security of the systems and services it operates.

Learn more about this topic by reading ICANN Senior Director of Security and Network Engineering, Terry Manderson's [blog](#).

### The ICANN Complaints Department is Here to Help

Do you have a complaint about the ICANN organization? Do you need help resolving an issue? The Complaints Department is here to help you, and submitting a complaint is easy. To find out more about how the department can help you, as well as how to submit a complaint, click [here](#).
Curious about what kinds of complaints have been submitted before, or how other complaints have been resolved? You can find a comprehensive overview of the various complaints the department has received here.

**POLICY UPDATE**

**ccNSO Council Update**

ICANN, including two appointees to the Council of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO). Laura Margolis and Ajay Data will begin their terms at the end of ICANN63. The ccNSO Council consists of 18 councilors: 15 elected by ccNSO members and three appointed by the NomCom.

During ICANN62, the ccNSO Council adopted the Election Report for the Special European Council Election. Giovanni Seppia (.eu) assumed his role immediately after the selection and his term ends in March 2020.

In mid-September 2018, the ccNSO will issue a call for nominations to fill five seats on the ccNSO Council. At the conclusion of ICANN64 in March 2019, the three-year terms end for the following ccNSO Councilors: Abibu Ntahigiye (Africa), Debbie Monahan (Asia-Pacific), Peter Vergote (Europe), Demi Getschko (Latin America/Caribbean), Pablo Rodriguez (North America).

**GNSO Council Update**

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council:

- **Adopted** its review of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) ICANN62 Communiqué. This review aims to further enhance the coordination and information sharing on gTLD-related policy activities between the GAC, the ICANN Board, and the GNSO.
- **Approved** all the consensus recommendations made by the reconvened Protection of International Governmental Organizations and International Non-Governmental Organizations in All gTLDs Policy Development Process Working Group. Read the Final Report.
- **Adopted** the Second GNSO Review Implementation Final Report and submitted it to the ICANN Board for its consideration. All GNSO Review recommendations have been implemented as a result of this two-year effort.

**GAC Prepares for Fourth High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM)**

During ICANN63, the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) will dedicate Monday, 22 October to the High Level Governmental Meeting (HLGM) hosted by the Spanish government.

The HLGM is held approximately once every two years and hosted by a GAC member in collaboration with the ICANN organization. It provides an opportunity to:

- Reaffirm the critical role that governments play in providing advice to the ICANN Board on public policy issues.
- Enable all parties to gain a clearer understanding of the role of governments in ICANN processes, including the GAC.
- Reach out to administrations and governments who are not yet represented on the GAC or in other ICANN forums.
The agenda for this year's HLGM may be found [here](#).

### At-Large Leadership Elections, Selections, and Appointments

Four At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) members will join the At-Large Leadership Team (ALT) and serve with incoming ALAC Chair, Maureen Hilyard, from the Asian, Australasian, and Pacific Islands Regional At-Large Organization (APRALO). The ALT members will begin their terms at the end of ICANN63.

- Tijani Ben Jemaa | African Regional At-Large Organization (AFRALO)
- Sebastien Bachollet | European Regional At-Large Organization (EURALO)
- Ricardo Holmquist | Latin American and Caribbean Islands Regional At-Large Organization (LACRALO)
- John Laprise | North American Regional At-Large Organization (NARALO)

The ALAC recently ratified the nominations of four ALAC delegates to the ICANN Nominating Committee:

- Aziz Hilali | AFRALO
- Nadira Al-Araj | APRALO
- Tracy Hackshaw | LACRALO
- Leah Symekher | NARALO

All four ALAC liaisons were re-appointed unanimously to serve another year:

- Barrack Otieno | ccNSO
- Yrjö Länsipuro | GAC
- Cheryl Langdon-Orr | GNSO
- Andrei Kolesnikov | SSAC

### Calls to Action for Community Participation in ICANN Reviews

#### SPECIFIC REVIEWS:

Share your feedback on the Competition, Consumer Trust, and Consumer Choice Review (CCT) Final Report. Find the public comment

Provide input on the Registration Directory Service Review (RDS-WHOIS2) Draft Report. Find the public comment [here](#). You may also choose to join a webinar which will be hosted by the RDS-WHOIS2 Review Team to share key findings and recommendations, while providing an opportunity to take questions from the community.

You can join the webinar by clicking

- 17 September 2018 at 15:00 UTC
- 17 September 2018 at 21:00 UTC

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON TIMING OF REVIEWS

View the summary reports on public comments to adjust the timing of reviews. The summary reports on Public Comment for Short-term Options and Public Comment for Long-term Options have been published. Next, the ICANN organization will analyze the comments received and coordinate with the Organizational Effectiveness Committee of the ICANN Board (OEC) to identify recommendations to the ICANN Board.

### STAY UP TO DATE WITH REVIEWS
Visit the *Review Status Update Table* for the latest status on all active Specific and Organizational Reviews.

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**GDD UPDATE**

**Data Protection/Privacy and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) News and Updates**

Read the most recent ICANN announcement regarding the Board reaffirming the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data and the blog from Göran Marby, ICANN President and CEO, regarding a possible unified access model for community input.

Stay up to date with the latest ICANN organization data protection and privacy news [here](#).

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**GDD Publishes New and Updated Resources for gTLD Registries and Registrars**

The ICANN GDD General Operations Handbook for Registrars is a new resource which provides high-level information pertaining to ongoing registrar operations required to fulfill the obligations specified in the base Registry Agreement and Specification 13.

An updated version of the GDD General Operations Handbook for Registry Operators has been published to the Registry Resources section of icann.org.

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**New Universal Acceptance Steering Group Tool for Email Address Internationalization**

Test out the new Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) widget that takes an email address and checks to see if the mail server advertises support for receiving Email Address Internationalization (EAI).

Check your email address today at: [EAI Widget](#).

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**Registry System Testing Documentation Update**

Multiple Registry System Testing (RST) updates related to the domain name system (DNS), Internationalized Domain Name (IDN), and WHOIS testing have recently been published to icann.org. The associated FAQ document was also updated to reflect the related changes.

More details about these documentation updates can be sourced from this recent announcement.
Update on the Registration Data Access Protocol

The Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) pilot discussion group and the ICANN organization have posted for public comments a proposed profile, technical implementation guide, and service level agreements (SLA) which follows the requirements of the Board approved Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. While RDAP delivers registration data much like WHOIS, its implementation is expected to help standardize registration data access and query response formats.

Learn more about this process, the plans surrounding the review, and the proposed profile, SLA, and reporting requirements here.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us at these upcoming events in the EMEA region:

- 10-11 September, MENA ICT Forum '18, Amman, Jordan
- 10-13 September, ITU Telecom World, Durban, South Africa
- 12-13 September, TLDCON 2018, Jurmala, Latvia
- 23-24 September, Arab Security Conference 2018, Cairo, Egypt
- 24-26 September, SAFNOG-4, EANOG and tzNOG, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- 27-28 September, Ukrainian Internet Governance Forum, Kiev, Ukraine
- 20-25 October, ICANN63, Barcelona, Spain
- 29-30 October, IGF Spain, Madrid, Spain
- 29 October - 16 November, ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, Dubai, UAE

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

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