EMEA Newsletter
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MARCH 2021

TOP STORY

ICANN70 Schedule Now Available

ICANN has released the **schedule** for the ICANN70 Community Forum, **22-25 March 2021**. Initially planned for Cancún, Mexico, the meeting will take place virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration is required to view the schedule. Details and information about remote participation tools, including interpretation, can be found **here**. Important note: ICANN70 will be held in the Eastern Standard Time (UTC-5) time zone of Cancún.

Read the announcement **here.**

EXPLORE NEW ICANN CONTENT

New ICANN Learn Course: ICANN Public Meetings for Newcomers

Is ICANN70 going to be your first ICANN Public Meeting? Have you attended an ICANN meeting before but weren't sure which sessions to attend or which groups to join? Are you unsure how to get involved in a remote meeting? If any of these are true, ICANN Learn has you covered! Enroll **here** in ICANN Public Meetings for Newcomers today. The course is free and open to all. It will introduce you to ICANN's mission and multistakeholder model, explain key terms, help you to locate groups and sessions that may interest you, and provide tips so that you can make the most of the meeting experience.

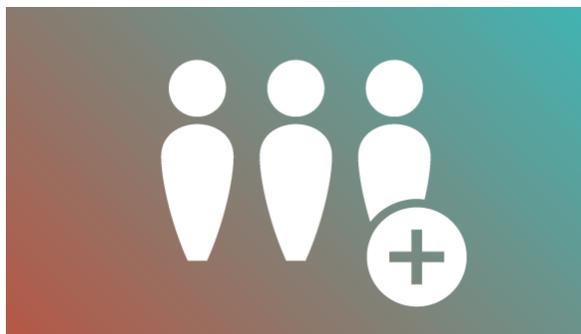# ICANN71 to be Held as a Virtual Meeting

ICANN's Board of Directors has announced that ICANN71 will be held as a virtual Public Meeting due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ICANN71 Policy Forum was scheduled to be held in The Hague, Netherlands, from 14-17 June 2021. The meeting dates will remain the same.

Read the announcement **here**.

Deadline to Apply for ICANN Leadership Positions Extended to 29 March

The 2021 Nominating Committee (NomCom) is inviting applicants for key leadership positions within ICANN, including:

- Three members of the ICANN Board of Directors
- Three regional representatives for the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) – one each representing the Africa region, Asia, Australia, and Pacific Islands region, and Latin America and Caribbean region
- Two members of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council – one each representing the Contracted Parties House and Non-Contracted Parties House
- One member of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council

The new **deadline** to submit the applications is 29 March 2021 at 23:59 Universal Coordinated Time (UTC). Find more information on the positions and application process at the **NomCom webpage**.

Read the announcement **here**.

Information Transparency Initiative Update: Project to Reach Milestone on 16 March

On 16 March 2021, the Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) team will replace some content types on the current **website** with a new ITI search experience and launch a new content subscription feature.

Read more about this important update in ICANN President and CEO Göran Marby's **latest blog**. Learn how to sign up for content subscriptions in ICANN Senior Vice President, Global Communications, **Sally Newell Cohen's blog**.
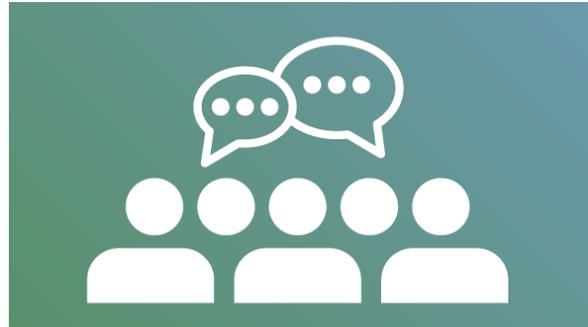
GNSO Council Approves New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Final Report

On 18 February 2021, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council voted on the **Final Report** of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP). Concluding five years of work, this working group put forward hundreds of affirmations, recommendations, and implementation guidance under 41 topics (collectively referred to as "outputs"). Only two outputs did not receive consensus or full consensus support from the working group. The GNSO Council unanimously approved all outputs except for those two. The GNSO Council also requested that the ICANN Board initiate an Operational Design Phase on the Final Report and that the ICANN org convene an Implementation Review Team to implement the outputs.

Learn more.

Expediting the Policy Proposals on Retirement of ccTLDs

The third Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Policy Development Process Working Group (ccPDP3) submitted its Interim Report to the Issue Manager for consideration by the ccNSO. The Issue Manager is now seeking Public Comment on the Interim Report. This proceeding includes the proposed policy recommendations for the retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) and separation of ccPDP3 into two parts: part one, the retirement of ccTLDs; and part two, proposed policy recommendations for a review mechanism of decisions pertaining to the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs. If the separation receives support, the ccNSO decision process on the retirement policy will start in April 2021 without waiting for the completion of part two. For more information, visit the Public Comment proceeding **here**.

GNSO Council Initiates PDP to Review Transfer Policy

On 18 February 2021, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated a two-phase Policy Development Process (PDP) to review the Transfer Policy. This PDP is tasked to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers.

After incorporating feedback received via **Public Comment**, the **Final Issue Report** recommends that the PDP address the following topics in sequence: Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes (Phase 1a); change of registrant (Phase 1b); transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, NACKing transfers, and ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2). The GNSO Council requested that the working group be convened as soon as possible after the adoption of

the proposed PDP charter, incorporating PDP 3.0 improvements.

Learn more.

ICANN Community Excellence Award 2021: Nominations Close on 29 March!

The nomination period for the ICANN Community Excellence Award 2021 closes in two weeks. Each year, the ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN community members who substantively contribute to ICANN policy development and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within the ICANN multistakeholder model. Learn more about the **nomination process** and submit your nomination(s) **here**.

EUROPE

The European Commission Briefs the ICANN Community on the EU's Recent Initiatives

On the 26 February, ICANN organization hosted the European Commission for an interactive session on its recent initiatives, including:

- The Digital Services Act (DSA)
- The EU Cybersecurity Policy Initiatives
    - The Cybersecurity Strategy
    - The revised Network and Information Security Directive (NIS2)

During the webinar, the European Commission provided an overview of the recently announced initiatives and focused on areas relevant to the DNS and the broader ICANN community. You can access the recording **here**.

MIDDLE EAST

Register Now for the Middle East Virtual DNS Forum

The seventh Middle East DNS Forum (MEDNSF) will now take place virtually on 5-7 April 2021. Organized by ICANN, the forum's local host is the Saudi Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC). The agenda features a variety of panel discussions and presentations, covering topics of interest to the regional community aimed at unlocking the full potential of the DNS industry in the Middle East.

For more information and **registration** details, visit the MEDNSF event page **here**.

ICANN participates in Internet Measurement Day: Armenia

On 12 February 2021, ICANN and RIPE NCC organized an "Internet Measurement Day" webinar, supported by the **Armenian Internet Exchange (ARMIX)** and the **Union of Operators of Armenia**.

During the event, Internet measurement tools and systems were presented and discussed, such as ICANN's **Identifier Technologies Health Indicators (ITHI)** initiative, which analyzes trends in DNS operations, and RIPE NCC's **RIPE Atlas**. One of the main questions of the event was how we can better collaborate and share information, and increase participation to get more data, which in turn would create valuable analysis to help us understand the state of the Internet.

This was a country specific event, that kicked off in Armenia, but will be continue to cover other countries in the region.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TIME	SESSION
22-25 March 2021	ICANN70
5-7 April 2021	The 7th Middle East DNS Forum
7-9 April 2021	The 11th Russian Internet Governance Forum

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