



Regional Events
Calendar



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Feedback



TOP STORY

Register Now for ICANN71

Join us 14-17 June 2021 for the ICANN71 Virtual Policy Forum! ICANN71 will feature plenary sessions selected by the community. A community selection panel will also announce the recipient of the ICANN Community Excellence Award.

You can register for the Virtual Policy Forum [here](#).

Participants can register for ICANN71 Prep Week, which will take place from 1-3 June 2021. Prep Week helps improve community preparation for ICANN Public Meetings.

You can view the schedule [here](#).

If you're interested in information and metrics about the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum, check out the ICANN70 By the Numbers report, available [here](#).

ICANN
71

14-17 June 2021

**VIRTUAL
POLICY FORUM**



ICANN NEWS

ICANN Domain Name System Symposium 2021 Will Address DNS Ecosystem Security



The fourth ICANN Domain Name System (DNS) Symposium (IDS 2021) will be held virtually from 25 to 27 May 2021 in the +2 UTC time zone.

The theme for 2021 is "DNS Ecosystem Security: We're All in This Together." As the DNS protocol and its ecosystem have matured, the threat landscape and the risks and tradeoffs have also evolved. IDS 2021 will focus on measuring and mitigating risk, which is the result of the significant work by the ICANN community.

You can register [here](#) or visit our IDS page [here](#).

Strengthening ICANN Technical Engagement Around the World



Members of the Technical Engagement team. From left to right: David Huberman covers Europe and North America; Nicolás Antoniello covers Latin America and the Caribbean; Yazid Akanho and Paul Muchene cover Africa and the Middle East, and Champika Wijayatunga covers the Asia Pacific region.

By Adiel Akplogan, VP, Technical Engagement

Since the beginning of 2020, the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) and its Technical Engagement team have begun a transformation with the objective of reinforcing ICANN's engagement on technical topics globally.

In a [blog](#), I highlighted the publication of an OCTO series of papers intended to promote best practices and new research to further understand the trends in the unique identifier system, which ICANN helps coordinate. In parallel to these publications, we have also started restructuring our team to focus more on how we engage on technical topics with the community. One of our first conclusions was that the type of engagement and level of resources needed are not uniform across the globe; hence, we need a regional approach to our engagement activities.

Continue reading the blog and access ICANN's Technical Engagement course catalogue, [here](#).

For more of the latest research and analysis from OCTO, check out their Publications page [here](#).



EUROPE

ICANN Month in Hungary

As part of multistakeholder outreach, it is important to raise awareness about ICANN's key role in Internet governance with college and university students. In April, we engaged in several academic online events held for the Hungarian audience.

The Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) hosted the event, where ICANN experts gave a [series of lectures](#) throughout the month. Students not only received an introduction to the Domain Name System, but also learned about Internet governance, IPv6, the global namespace, Internationalized Domain Names, and Universal Acceptance.

Additionally, ICANN staff were invited to speak at a large and prestigious Hungarian higher education event, the National Scientific Students' Associations Conference (OTDK), where law students learned about ICANN, new generic top-level domains, and Rights Protection Mechanisms.

Many thanks to the Budapest University of Technology and Economics, as well as the National Scientific Student Associations Conference, for inviting ICANN.



EASTERN EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

ICANN70 Readout Session Attracts Over 60 Participants

On 20 April 2021, ICANN org held the ICANN70 Readout session for the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) region. The Readout covered the meeting's main discussions and outputs. The session attracted an increased number of participants from previous regional Readouts. Topics that saw the most interaction and discussion were DNS abuse, the latest steps preparing for the next round of new gTLDs, and the new initiatives and plans on Universal Acceptance.

You can view the session [here](#). Please note it is only available in Russian.



MIDDLE EAST

Your Feedback is Needed!

The seventh edition of the Middle East DNS Forum took place between 5-7 April 2021. Whether you attended the whole forum or a few sessions, your feedback is important. Participant feedback will help us to continue delivering suitable topics for the region and improving the event format.

Please take our short survey [here](#), which remains open until 24 May 2021.



AFRICA

Localizing the DNS Forum and Engaging with Local Stakeholders in Africa

As part of global stakeholder engagement in Africa, ICANN org aims to localize some of

its main regional initiatives, such as the Africa DNS Forum, at the national level. Several countries including Benin, Botswana, and Chad have already piloted national versions of this event to encourage Domain Name System (DNS) related discussions in their respective countries.

ICANN worked closely with DNS industry players and the Regulator in Zimbabwe to convene their inaugural National DNS Forum, held virtually between 15-16 April 2021. This was part of our efforts to support the development of technical capacities and local expertise in DNS operations and security, while introducing participants to the ICANN ecosystem.

On 8 April 2021, we hosted a closed webinar with the leadership of the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC) as part of our efforts to maintain closer engagement and relations with government stakeholders. The webinar covered government-related issues at ICANN such as Universal Acceptance, Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC), and the DNS market in Africa.



POLICY UPDATE

ccNSO Policy Development Efforts

The latest Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) policy development process (ccPDPs) updates include:

Following closure of the Public Comment proceeding on the Initial Report, the proposed policy for ccPDP3 on the retirement of country code top-level domains (ccTLDs) will be presented to the ccNSO Council and ccNSO members for decision-making. The ccTLD and broader communities will have an opportunity to learn more about the proposals before voting begins.

The ccPDP3-RM Working Group, which develops a review mechanism for decisions regarding the delegation, transfer, revocation, and retirement of ccTLDs, will present its results to date and seek feedback. The working group has identified which decisions should be subject to a review and explored the requirements for the review mechanism. The ccPDP4 Working Group is advancing the process for the selection of Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) ccTLD strings. The results of this ccPDP will eventually replace the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process. The working group has made considerable progress and intends to seek feedback and input from the broader community.

For the latest information on ccNSO work, please check out their [website](#).



Contracted Parties House DNS Abuse Working Group Briefs GNSO Council



The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council seeks to better understand community

definitions of Domain Name System (DNS) abuse and where gaps remain in the community's ability to combat DNS abuse in an effective manner. As the first step of this educational and level-setting exercise, the GNSO Council invited the Contracted Parties House (CPH) DNS Abuse Working Group to provide an update during the GNSO Council meeting on 22 April 2021. Serving as a fact-finding mission, this briefing helped the GNSO Council understand what the contracted parties have been voluntarily doing to combat DNS abuse and inform GNSO Council decision regarding the possible next steps.

Find more information [here](#).

At-Large Community Launches Two New ICANN Learn Courses

Two new courses about the At-Large community are now available on ICANN Learn. The first course provides an introduction to the At-Large community and the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), how they function within the ICANN community, and how end users can start and continue their involvement. The second course, "ICANN Policy Development: A Guide for At-Large Participants" provides a deeper dive into how the ALAC develops policy advice and forms policy positions.



[Find out more and enroll here!](#)



GDS UPDATE

Making the Internet Work for All Users

The Domain Name System (DNS) has changed dramatically over the past 10 years. There are now more than 1,200 active generic top-level domains (gTLDs) some of which include domain names in different scripts and with varying length (e.g., .ไทย, .london, .sport, .engineering). Despite this growth, a large number of global systems and applications don't support these internationalized and long domain names and email addresses. But ICANN organization and the Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) are working to change that. Check out the latest updates below and get involved if you're interested in helping to make the Internet work for all global users.

Latest Universal Acceptance (UA) News and Resources

- LACRALO Leads the Promotion of Universal Acceptance in the LAC Region - [read announcement](#).
- ICANN70 Showcases Universal Acceptance (UA) Progress - [read blog](#).
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): UA Readiness of Programming Languages and Email Tools ([UASG031](#))

Recent Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Developments

- Second-level Reference Label Generation Rules for the Arabic, Hebrew, and Sinhala Scripts, and Hebrew Language are Published - [read announcement](#).
- Maximal Starting Repertoire Version 5 (MSR-5) Public Comment - [read announcement](#).

For more information on ways you can get involved in supporting an #Internet4All, visit <https://uasg.tech/>, and follow, like, and share with the UASG on social media ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#)).



UPCOMING EVENTS

TIME	SESSION	ROOM LOCATION
19-20 May 2021	Africa Engagement Forum	Virtual Meeting
31 May -11 June 2021	SIDI – the School on Internet Governance, Digital Policies and Innovation	Virtual Meeting
7-11 June 2021	Rightscon 2021	Virtual Meeting
14-17 June 2021	ICANN71	Virtual Meeting



ONE MORE THING



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