Internet Community Gathers at 2017 IGF in Geneva

More than 2,000 participants from 142 countries attended this year’s Internet Governance Forum (IGF), which was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 18 to 21 December. Members of the global Internet community came together to discuss some of the most pressing issues impacting the Internet, such as cybersecurity, data protection, privacy, surveillance, and encryption. ICANN held three workshops and participated in the Open Forum, which gave us an opportunity to touch on key topics, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its effect on the ICANN community. The IGF continues to be one of the most important venues for discussing critical Internet-related matters.

Update on the Root KSK Rollover Project

Matt Larson, VP of Research, Office of Chief Technology Officer

The ICANN organization will not roll the root zone key signing key (KSK) in the first quarter of 2018.

We have decided that we do not yet have enough information to set a specific date for the rollover. We want to make clear, however, that the ICANN org is committed to rolling the root zone
KSK and we will continue to discuss this important process with the community, gather their feedback, and give all interested parties advance notice of at least one calendar quarter when we set the date for the rollover.

Read more...

Get Ready for ICANN61
Register now for ICANN61! The Community Forum will take place from 10-15 March 2018 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Come and network with your peers, engage in face-to-face discussions, ask questions, and help develop and implement Internet policies.

Before booking your travel, check the travel and visa requirements for Puerto Rico. Foreign nationals generally need a visa to enter the United States. U.S. citizens do not need a passport to enter Puerto Rico, but starting in January 2018 must present a driver's license that complies with the REAL ID Act. Find out more.

Nomination Period Opens for ICANN Multistakeholder Ethos Award
Award Targeted for ICANN62 | Nominations Close 19 March 2018

ICANN has opened the nomination period for ICANN's Multistakeholder Ethos Award, which will be presented at ICANN62. The award recognizes ICANN participants who have invested deeply in consensus-based solutions, acknowledged the importance of ICANN's multistakeholder model of Internet governance, and contributed substantively to the ICANN organization and community. Read the full announcement.

Kim Davies Appointed VP, IANA Functions, and President, PTI
In this role, Davies will be ensuring that the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions are performed in a secure, stable, and efficient manner with a commitment to operational excellence. As VP of IANA Services, he will report to Akram Atallah, President of ICANN's Global Domains Division. As President of PTI, Davies will also serve as one of the five directors on the Public Technical Identifiers (PTI) Board. Read the full announcement.

ICANN60 By the Numbers Now Available
ICANN has published the ICANN60 By the Numbers report, which includes technical, demographic, and attendance statistics of the recent Annual General Meeting in Abu Dhabi. This report is part of ICANN’s commitment to transparency and to improving your meeting experience.
ICANN Publishes Updated gTLD Marketplace Index
Produced twice annually since July 2016, the gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta) presents statistics related to generic top-level domains (gTLDs). These statistics track progress against the goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace to be robust, stable and trusted. View the Health Index to learn more, see the worldwide regional distribution data and graphical representations for each category.

Data Protection/Privacy Activities
In December, we published details on how to submit a proposed model for providing registration directory services and meeting other data retention requirements while remaining compliant with the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The most recent legal analysis from law firm Hamilton is also available - visit ICANN's data protection/privacy page regularly to stay up to date.

Follow the Latest Progress of the Nominating Committee (NomCom) Review
The assessment report of the NomCom Review was published on 8 January 2018. See "Key News and Updates" on the NomCom wiki page. The Analysis Group, which is conducting the review, will hold a webinar in mid-January. Find out how you participate or access the recording.

For the current status and links to additional information about all Specific and Organizational Reviews, see: https://icann.org/resources/reviews

Encountering Issues Transferring Your Domain Name?
Read Part III of our Domain Name Registrant educational series, "Do You Have a Domain Name? Here’s What You Need to Know." This blog offers detailed information about why you might be having issues transferring your domain name and what you can do to resolve them.
ARIN Celebrates 20th Anniversary

December 2017 marked the 20th anniversary of the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN). ARIN originated through more than a year of discussions involving the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA), Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Center (RIPE NCC), Asia-Pacific Network Information Centre (APNIC), National Science Foundation (NSF), and Federal Networking Council (FNC).

Consistent with the RIPE NCC and APNIC models, representatives of the Internet community suggested a non-profit organization as an appropriate body to manage Internet Protocol (IP) address space for assigned territories. With that, ARIN began operation on 22 December 1997.

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, ARIN launched a page on its blog with a list of milestones that the organization has achieved and quotes from staff and the community about their most memorable moments.

ARIN thanks the Internet community for its support over the last 20 years and looks forward to what lies ahead!

ccNSO Council Elections

At its 7 December meeting, the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) Council adopted the Council Election Report FY 2018. The Council decision took effect seven days later. These ccNSO Councilors will begin their three-year terms after ICANN61:

- Abdalla Omari (Africa)
- Young-Eum Lee (Asia-Pacific)
- Katrina Sataki (Europe)
- Margarita Valdes (Latin America/Caribbean)
- Byron Holland (North America)

GNSO Council Updates

- The GNSO (Generic Names Supporting Organization)
Council submitted its review of the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) ICANN60 Communiqué to the ICANN Board. The review covers topics such as intergovernmental organization protections, enhancing participation in ICANN, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and applications for .amazon and related strings.

- The Council directed the Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues Implementation Review Team (PPSAI IRT) to consider the issue of privacy/proxy registration and the implementation of Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy (IRTP) Part C. The Council has concerns about whether the addition or removal of a privacy/proxy service potentially triggers the 60-day inter-registrar transfer lock. The IRTP recommendations did not address this issue, and the potential harms were not brought to the attention of the ICANN organization. Registrars and other affected parties are encouraged to work with PPSAI IRT to put forward recommendations.

- Heather Forrest, the GNSO Chair, was confirmed as the GNSO representative on the Empowered Community Administration until the end of ICANN63. She had been fulfilling this role on a temporary basis since the end of ICANN60.

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ccNSO Looks to ICANN61

ccNSO sessions will be limited to five days at ICANN61 and will start on 11 March. The full schedule for ICANN61 will be posted on 19 February. In the meantime, you can consult the [draft ccNSO Members Meeting agenda](#).

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At-Large Activity at Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2017

IGF 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, marked the first time the At-Large community held a community-wide approach to workshop and outreach activity. For a number of years, through At-Large, the end-user community has been represented at the IGF. New this year were community-organized At-Large/ICANN-specific workshops, roundtables, and "lightning talks" focusing on end-user issues. They also introduced an [At-Large Booth](#), where community volunteers answered questions and recruited newcomers. [Learn More](#).

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New At-Large Working Group Activity

The At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) has renewed its focus on its nearly 20 working groups with the aim of streamlining the policy, process, and outreach activities of the At-Large community. Examples of these efforts are verifying that the At-Large wiki workspace and website are complete and up to date. Also, to ensure a more cohesive approach to At-Large policy development, several existing policy working groups were merged. The goal of merging these working groups was to improve the effectiveness of new and continuing At-Large activities - including At-Large Review Implementation, At-Large Structures Criteria and Expectations, and ICANN policy issues.
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