





 Feedback

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TOP STORY



Join Us in Cancún for ICANN67!

Don't forget to register for ICANN67 coming up 7-12 March in Cancún, Mexico. The Community Forum will include plenary sessions on high-interest topics, cross-community discussion, and internal work of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Register [here](#) and find the schedule and travel information [here](#).



ICANN NEWS

ICANN Wants to Hear from You

ICANN org is seeking Public Comment on the proposed Amendment No. 3 to the .COM Registry Agreement between ICANN and Verisign. Post your Public Comment submission [here](#) on or before 14 February 2020.

In addition, ICANN and Verisign have announced a new proposed framework for working together on initiatives related to the security, stability, and resiliency of the Domain Name System (DNS) in the form of a binding Letter of Intent (LOI) between the two organizations. [Read the full announcement.](#)



Help Shape ICANN's Future

ICANN org's new draft Five-Year Operating and Financial Plan and FY21 Operating Plan and Budget include details about the funding and execution of major strategic initiatives.

The FY21-FY25 Operating and Financial Plan also includes the "Evolving ICANN's Multistakeholder Model Work Plan," for which ICANN also seeks your input. Over the years, ICANN's multistakeholder model (MSM) has evolved, addressed important issues, and developed

policies for the Internet's domain name and numbering resources.

ICANN wants to hear what you think. View the documents and submit Public Comment [here](#) on or before 25 February.

Apply Now for ICANN and PTI Leadership Positions

The ICANN Nominating Committee (NomCom) is welcoming applications for key leadership positions within ICANN and Public Technical Identifiers (PTI). Successful candidates will have a unique opportunity to help shape the Internet's technical coordination and policy development. Find more details [here](#). The deadline to submit applications is 25 February 2020.

ICANN | NOMCOM
Nominating Committee



Improved Public Comment Feature

The Information Transparency Initiative (ITI) has released an improved Public Comment feature based on invaluable input from members of ICANN's Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees. Please check it out [here](#) and register your feedback.

Open Data Platform Update

ICANN's Open Data Program's goal is to enhance the transparency and accessibility of data. As part of the program, ICANN.org is developing an Open Data Platform to provide the community access to specific datasets. At launch, the Open Data Platform will include the following datasets:

- Registry Monthly Reports
- Identifier Technology Health Indicators (ITHI)
- Domain Name Marketplace Indicators



For more information about the Open Data Platform, register [here](#) for an informational webinar on 18 February 2020 as part of the ICANN67 Prep Week. You are also invited to attend a session on the Open Data Program during ICANN67 with the date and time to be announced soon.

Apply Now: ICANN Community Childcare Grants Program

ICANN's Community Childcare Grants Program is aimed at making it easier for community members with children to attend ICANN Public Meetings and other eligible ICANN events. The application cycle for those seeking a childcare grant for ICANN68 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, is now open and will close on 4 March 2020. Applications must be submitted by 11:59pm UTC on that day.

For more information and details about the program and how to apply, please visit [here](#).



POLICY UPDATE

Nomination Period for ICANN Community Excellence Award 2020 Now Open

The nomination period for the ICANN Community



Excellence Award 2020 is now open. Formerly known as the Multistakeholder Ethos Award, the ICANN Community Excellence Award recognizes ICANN participants who substantively contribute to policymaking within the ICANN ecosystem and who are deeply invested in developing consensus-based solutions within ICANN's multistakeholder model. Learn more about the [nomination process](#) and submit your nominations [here](#).

Register for ICANN67 Prep Week Webinars

Mark your calendars! Ahead of ICANN67, there will be a series of webinars during the week of 18-24 February 2020 to help the ICANN community prepare for the Community Forum in Cancún, Mexico.

Please register [here](#) by 14 February to receive your calendar invitation.

SO/AC Leaders Plan for 2020

The chairs of the Supporting Organizations and Advisory Committees (SO/ACs) met in Los Angeles on 27 and 28 January 2020. This meeting provided a space for leaders to hold strategic discussions outside of an ICANN Public Meeting. The collaborative agenda included discussions on governance, the respective priorities for each of the SO/ACs in the upcoming year, and a summary and status update on the FY20 goals for the ICANN Board of Directors and CEO.

Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook Now Available

The Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) [Top-Level Domain Operations \(TLD-OPS\) Standing Committee](#) published its Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Playbook, which serves as a basic business continuity strategy and implementation guide for small country code top-level domain (ccTLD) operators. The playbook is primarily for upper or middle management at ccTLDs and aims to develop resilience following disruptive events. TLD-OPS has developed exercises that expose participants to potential scenarios based on real events. Download the playbook [here](#).

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GNSO Council Meets to Develop Strategy for 2020

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) held its third Strategic Planning Session (SPS) from 22 through 24 January 2020 in Los Angeles. For the last few years, the annual SPS has allowed time for the GNSO Council to onboard new Councilors and develop a strategic work plan for the upcoming year. This year, the GNSO Council also learned more about how to carry out its responsibilities as a Decisional Participant in the Community, as well as how to more effectively execute its role as a policy development process (PDP) manager by using the toolkits developed from the PDP 3.0 implementation effort. In addition, some of the ICANN Board Directors observed the sessions.

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EPDP

Temporary Specification for
gTLD Registration Data

EPDP Update

The Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data published its **Phase 2 Initial Report for Public Comment** on 7 February 2020. From 27-29 January, the EPDP Team met in Los Angeles to reach agreement on recommendations and finalize the content for the Initial Report. Discussions related to the EPDP Phase 2 Initial Report will continue during ICANN67.

GAC Begins Work on Universal Acceptance-Internationalized Domain Name Issues

The Governmental Advisory Committee's (GAC) newly formed Universal Acceptance-Internationalized Domain Name (UA-IDN) Working Group has been developing an initial work plan, including its terms of reference. The GAC is expected to endorse the group's first phase of work prior to ICANN67. The UA-IDN Working Group was established during ICANN66 to help the GAC track, consider, and address UA and IDN matters relevant to governments. Learn [more](#).

ICANN | GAC



At-Large Review Implementation Nearly Complete

The At-Large Advisory Committee submitted for review the second status report of the At-Large Review Implementation to the ICANN Board's Organizational Effectiveness Committee (OEC) in December. Nearly all of the eight issue areas identified in the previous status report have been implemented by At-Large or will be implemented in the near future.

For more information about the issues currently under review by the OEC, please visit the At-Large Review Implementation Plan Development [workspace](#).

ARIN 45 Registration is Now Open!

Registration is now open for the American Registry for Internet Numbers (ARIN) Public Policy and Members Meeting, which will take place 26-29 April 2020 in Louisville, Kentucky. ARIN holds these open, biannual Public Policy and Members Meetings so that attendees may gather to discuss draft Internet number resource policies, network with colleagues, learn more about ARIN services and operations, and attend workshops and tutorials. These meetings are a fundamental part of the policy development process at ARIN.

To learn more about the meeting, find travel details, and register either in-person or remotely, please visit the [ARIN 45 website](#).

Apply Now for the ARIN 45 Fellowship Program

The ARIN Fellowship Program is accepting applications to participate in ARIN 45. The purpose of the program is to broaden education outreach in the community and bring new ideas into the public policy discussions. This program offers hotel accommodations, round-trip economy class airfare, and a small stipend for up to ten individuals to attend Public Policy and Members Meetings.

Learn more about ARIN's Fellowship Program and how to apply on the [ARIN website](#).



GDD UPDATE

Registration Data Policy (EPDP) Implementation Work Presented at ICANN67 Prep Week

During ICANN67 Prep Week, learn about the many activities involved in implementing the new Registration Data Policy (EPDP Phase 1). This webinar will cover current policy requirements, the Implementation Review Team's work supporting the policy document drafting, completed reports and studies, and other activities stemming from the consensus policy recommendations.

The informational session takes place on Monday, 24 February at 15:00 UTC and registration is required by this

Friday, 14 February. The webinar will be followed by a Q&A session and you are welcome to submit questions ahead of time. Register [here](#).



Universal Acceptance: Looking to Form Local Initiatives

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG) is looking for advocates to form local initiatives at both regional and national levels to drive awareness and aid the development and deployment of UA-ready software and email services. These groups will work in close collaboration with UASG leadership and working groups, as well as with ICANN org. Please contact

UAProgram@icann.org for more [information](#). Universal Acceptance is key to enabling a multilingual Internet and

bringing the next billion users online – let's work together to make this a reality!

RDAP: Moving Towards a More Robust and Secure Technology

The technology transition from WHOIS-based services to solutions based on the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP) is well underway. Contracted parties are already offering services based on this protocol, which allow users to access domain name and other Internet identifier registration data in a secure and structured manner.

ICANN also offers a registration data Lookup tool based on RDAP – bookmark the [page](#)! RDAP was developed by the technical community in the [Internet Engineering Task](#)

[Force](#) (IETF) as a replacement for the WHOIS protocol. Are you ready for this technology upgrade? Learn more [here](#).



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