



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **International Internet Policy Executive Selected To Lead Public Participation**

Filiz Yilmaz, a 14-year veteran of international Internet policy formation and the IT industry has been tapped to serve as ICANN's Senior Director of Participation and Engagement.

"This position is critical, since Filiz will be the point person for much of the ICANN community," said David Olive, Vice President of Policy Development, "We're excited because she brings a perfect combination of technical understanding and international experience, which are core to doing this job effectively."

For the last 9 years, Yilmaz has served in various policy development and registration services management positions at the Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre (RIPE NCC), the Regional Internet Registry (RIR) for Europe, the Middle East and parts of Central Asia.

"Since I'm a citizen of Turkey, was educated in the Middle East and now live in Europe, I hope to bring my understanding of all those regions to this job," said Yilmaz. "ICANN's mission is to seek the input of the entire global Internet community in its multi-stakeholder form of policy formation and I hope to do everything possible to increase our outreach to all people."

Before joining RIPE NCC, Filiz worked at the Middle East Technical University Computer Centre holding training, user support and web development roles. This institution took part in bringing the Internet to Turkey and introduced Internet access and IT services to the academic and business community as well as the public sector. Her language skills include her native Turkish, fluent English, and intermediate Dutch.

Yilmaz holds a Master of Science from the Middle East Technical University's Informatics Institute, Cognitive Science and a Bachelor of Science from the Middle East Technical University's Faculty of Arts, Science and Mathematics.

Filiz Yilmaz will officially assume her duties on October 15. She will be based in Amsterdam and linked to ICANN's Brussels Office.

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To read more about Filiz, go here: <http://www.icann.org/en/biog/yilmaz-cv.pdf>

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**About ICANN:** *ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. For more information please visit: [www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org).*