

# RECOGNIZED ONLINE

## Universal Acceptance & Multilingual Digital Inclusion

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NEXTGEN@ICANN86

ΣΑΛΣΑΜΠΙΛ ΓΙΑΚΟΥΜΠΙ

Ç, Ş, Ğ, É, Ñ

САЛСАБИЛЬ ЯКУБИ

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سلسبیل یعقوبی

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# SALSABIL YAKOUBI

САЛСАБИЛ ЯАКОУБИ

סלסביל יעקובי



# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE INTERNET REJECTS YOUR NAME?



## SIGN-UP FORM

NAME:

سلسبيل يعقوبي

ARABIC SCRIPT FOR: SALSABIL YAKOUBI

EMAIL:

سلسبيل@مثال.شبكة

ARABIC SCRIPT FOR: SALSABIL @EXAMPLE.NETWORK

SUBMIT

CANCEL

ERROR: INVALID CHARACTERS

A VALID NAME OR EMAIL  
CAN BE REJECTED WHEN  
SYSTEMS ASSUME LATIN  
CHARACTERS.

# A MAJOR MIGRATION SPACE



10+

Scripts used in the  
Mediterranean



60+

Regional, minority, sign  
& migrant languages



≈ 65 M

EU & Mediterranean  
Migration 2025

LATIN

Ç, Ş, Ğ, É, Ñ

КИРИЛИЦА

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ

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العربية

עברית

ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ

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МЕТРЕМНХИМ

MANU MANY  
MANU SYSTEMS.  
HIGH MOBILITY.

# TRANSLATION ≠ INCLUSION

Can users understand the system?

**WEBSITE**

FIELD 1:  
Answer 1

SELECT LANGUAGE:  
LANGUAGE...

FIELD 2:  
ANSWER 2

SUBMIT

العربية
Ελληνικά
עברית
ܐܪܡܝܐ / Aramaic
ተግዳሎት
Κοιτικη



READING ≠ REGISTERING

Can the system recognize users?

**SIGN-UP FORM**

NAME:  
سلسبيل يعقوبي

EMAIL:  
سلسبيل@مثال.شبكة

SUBMIT CANCEL

ERROR: INVALID CHARACTERS



Translation helps users read.  
UA lets users register, authenticate, & communicate.

# ADAPTATION $\neq$ INCLUSION



**ARABIC**

مرحبا



**ARABIZI**  
mar7aba



**WORKAROUNDS SHIFT THE BURDEN FROM SYSTEMS TO USERS.**

# WHAT UA MEANS?



ONE BROKEN STEP = EXCLUSION

✓ سلسبيل@مثال.شبكة

CORRECT DISPLAY IS ALSO A TRUST ISSUE.

# ACCEPTED HERE. REJECTED THERE.

ICANN ACCOUNT SUPPORTS EAI

BUT MANY SYSTEMS STILL FAIL

1

## Form rejection

EMAIL:  
سلسبيل@مثال.شبكة  
ARABIC SCRIPT FOR: SALSABIL@EXAMPLE.NETWORK

NEXT CANCEL

ERROR: INVALID EMAIL

2

## Browser confusion

WWW.سلسبيل.عربي  
ARABIC SCRIPT FOR: WWW.SALSABIL.ARABIC

ERROR: INVALID IDN



3

## Encoded display



The same identifier can work in one system and fail in another

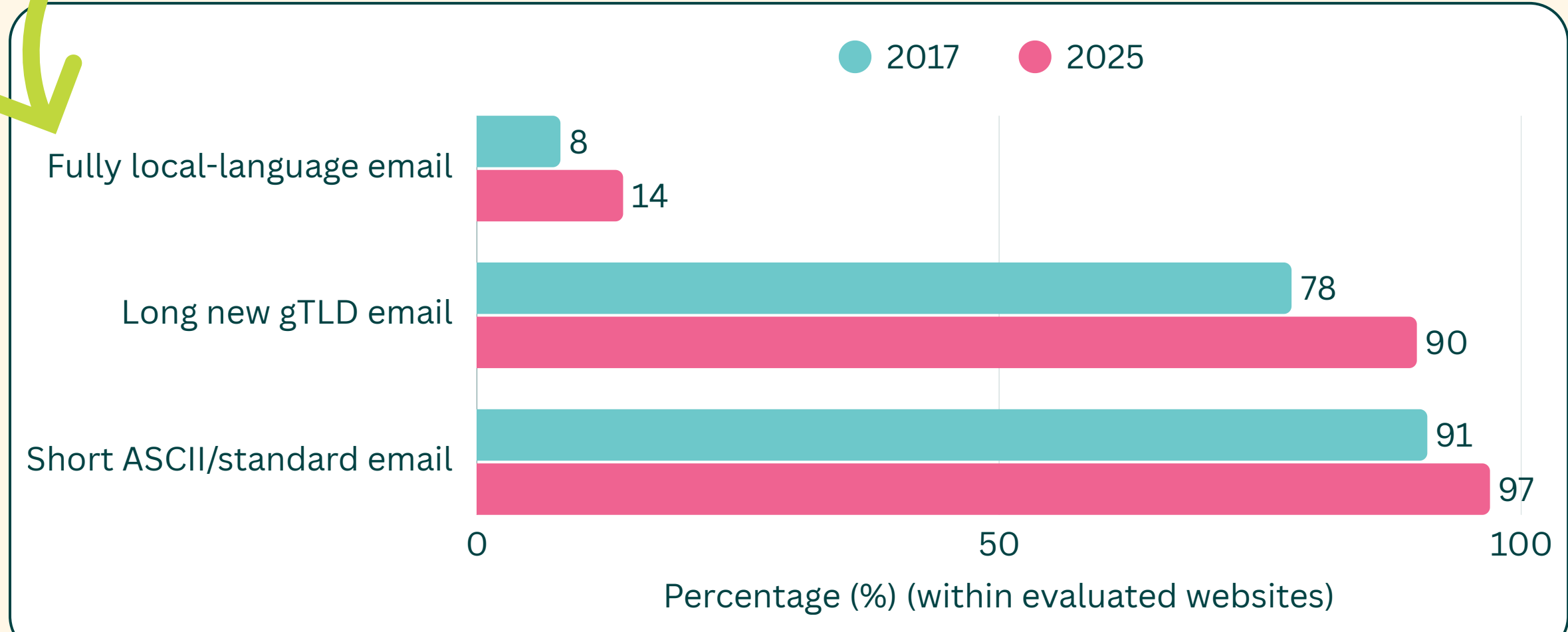
ICANN'S 2025 UPDATE SUPPORTS THE EAI POINT: ICANN ACCOUNT NOW SUPPORTS SIGN-UP AND SIGN-IN USING INTERNATIONALIZED EMAIL ADDRESSES IN LOCAL LANGUAGES AND SCRIPTS.

# PROGRESS, NOT PARITY

Support for different email formats in tested website evaluations

8% → 14%

STILL FAR BEHIND ASCII-BASED FORMATS



151 IDN top-level domains

37 Languages across 23 scripts



Root Zone support expanding toward 27 scripts

Only 10% of top 1,000 websites accept IDNs

Only 22% of global email services under gTLDs support local-language email

THE NAMING LAYER IS ADVANCING, BUT APPLICATION READINESS STILL LAG

# ICANN LAYER



**DNS**

names instead  
of numbers



**IDNs**

domains in  
local scripts



**EAI**

emails in  
local scripts



**UA**

all valid  
identifiers work

**ICANN'S RECENT WORK SHOWS PROGRESS  
BUT ADOPTION MUST SPREAD ACROSS EVERYDAY SYSTEMS.**

# WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN NEXT?

1

## Require UA-ready procurement



Make UA part of public-sector digital procurement & digital public infrastructure.

2

## Test high-impact systems



Check forms, databases, identity systems, email tools, and public portals.

## Train technical teams



Expand UA training for developers, system administrators, universities, & public-sector digital teams.

## Support local initiatives



Help communities test the systems they actually depend on

3

4

make UA normal in public services, platforms, education, and health.

# RECOGNITION IS INCLUSION

A multilingual Internet must recognize multilingual users.

MOVE FROM PROGRESS TO NORMAL PRACTICE



 Salsabil Yakoubi

 elmedia\_lab

 ElMedia Lab

 ElMedia Lab



ICANN

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