About ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) coordinates the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) functions, which are key technical services critical to the continued operations of the Internet's underlying address book, the Domain Name System (DNS). The IANA functions include: (1) the coordination of the assignment of technical protocol parameters including the management of the address and routing parameter area (ARPA) top-level domain; (2) the administration of certain responsibilities associated with Internet DNS root zone management such as generic (gTLD) and country code (ccTLD) Top-Level Domains; (3) the allocation of Internet numbering resources; and (4) other services.

ICANN currently performs the IANA functions under a U.S. Government contract and is accountable to the global community under an Affirmation of Commitments. The organization performs its functions via bottom-up multistakeholder participation. ICANN is currently engaged in a process of internationalization, with new hub offices and engagement centers opening around the world. Information on ICANN's organization, governance, procedures, and range of activities is all available at www.icann.org.

Join Us!

The NCUC welcomes all individuals and noncommercial organizations interested in advocating for and protecting noncommercial communications, activities and interests on the Internet.

Joining gives you and/or your organization the chance to be directly represented in global public policy development for the Internet.

Prospective members should complete the application form for the Noncommercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) within which NCUC is located in the ICANN organization, and select NCUC as the constituency you wish to join.
The application form can be found at:
http://ncuc.org/page/become-a-member
or by writing to us at ncuc@ncuc.org.

We do most of our work online through email lists and other electronic platforms.

More information about how we are organized and work together is available at: www.ncuc.org.

Come, join us!

Dr. William J. Drake, University of Zurich and Chair of the NCUC

NCUC

Noncommercial Users Constituency
www.ncuc.org

@ ICANN

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Who We Are

The Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC) is the home for civil society organizations and individuals in ICANN's Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO). The GNSO is the place where different stakeholders are represented in ICANN and develop consensus policies for governing generic top level domain (gTLD) names like .com and .org.

The NCUC advocates positions on domain name-related policies that protect and support noncommercial communication and activity on the Internet. As a part of the GNSO's Noncommercial Stakeholders Group (NCSG) we have real voting power in ICANN's bottom-up, multistakeholder policymaking process, including the opportunity to help elect members of the GNSO Council and a member of the ICANN Board of Directors.

We have 418 members from 96 countries and all five ICANN-recognized geographic regions, including 107 noncommercial organizations and 311 individuals (as of April 2015). Our members include individuals and non-profit organizations involved in civil liberties and human rights, Internet freedom, consumer protection, education, research, development, and many other areas of public policy advocacy.

What We Do

Mobilize civil society actors to participate in ICANN, including its working groups and other processes

Send members to ICANN's three meetings per year around the world, which are free of charge and open to all interested parties

Elect representatives to the GNSO Council, which coordinates the policy development process for gTLDs

Appoint representatives to ICANN's Nominating Committee, which appoints members of the Board of Directors and other ICANN bodies

Develop and advocate policy positions

Collaborate and interact with other stakeholders in ICANN on matters of common concern, including businesses, governments, and others

Organize conferences and events exploring global Internet governance issues

Noncommercial Uses and Users
We seek to ensure that commercial interests do not override the interests of nonprofits and ordinary users

Diversity and Consumer Choice
We support a competitive domain name industry that offers Internet users innovation, quality, and affordability

Human Rights
We promote an approach to domain name policy that is consistent with internationally recognized human rights

Freedom of Expression
We challenge efforts to abuse the core of the Internet by censoring expression and regulating content

Privacy
We oppose efforts to use domain registration records for indiscriminate surveillance

Access to Knowledge
We advocate for protection of the global public sphere against excessive intellectual property restrictions

Development
We work for policies that promote socio-economic growth and development in all areas of the world

Multilingual Internet
We want all cultures and linguistic groups represented in the domain name space

Denationalization
We support transferring US government stewardship of the IANA to the global multistakeholder community

Global Internet Governance
We strive to make ICANN and other governance institutions accountable, promote multistakeholder participation, and resistant to intergovernmental control