

# ICANN | GNSO

Generic Names Supporting Organization

## Policy Briefing ICANN70 Edition

The GNSO Background Briefings are produced by ICANN's Policy staff supporting the GNSO. These are drafted specifically in preparation for ICANN meetings to provide the community with concise background information on all relevant GNSO policy efforts.

For more information on the GNSO @ ICANN70:

 [gnso.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting](https://gnso.ICANN.org/ICANNmeeting)  [@ICANN\\_GNSO](https://twitter.com/ICANN_GNSO)

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# Welcome to ICANN70 from the GNSO Chair

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Dear Colleagues:

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council and GNSO community welcome your participation in the ICANN70 Virtual Community Forum. As was the case with the three ICANN meetings held last year, the 2021 Community Forum will take place virtually due to the continuing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Drawing on our experience with the previous virtual meetings, ICANN org and the ICANN community have worked together to improve the meeting format to better serve participants. For the GNSO, this will mean focusing sessions on the work of the GNSO Council and topics that require engagement between different parts of the community, with additional meeting time devoted to Stakeholder Group and Constituency meetings. As ICANN70 approaches, I would like to highlight a few GNSO initiatives that will be on the agenda for the Community Forum as well as ongoing work that may interest you. Additional information about GNSO projects can be found in the following sections of this briefing report.

This is a time of transition for the GNSO, with several long-running policy development efforts reaching their conclusion. Notably, the Phase 1 final recommendations produced by the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs PDP Working Group were approved by the GNSO Council in January 2021. A public comment period will be held to support the Board's consideration of the Phase 1 final recommendations. In addition, the GNSO Council considered the more than 300 final Affirmations, Recommendations, and Implementation Guidance (collectively referred to as "Outputs") produced by the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group and adopted all of those achieving full consensus or consensus support from the working group. Both of these concluded PDPs will be an important area of the community's focus.

Many of you are closely following the work of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, which concluded Phase 2 of its work in July 2020. The GNSO Council adopted all of the EPDP Team's Phase 2 recommendations on 24 September 2020. The EPDP Team's Phase 2 efforts included discussion of a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as additional topics held over from Phase 1 of the team's work (e.g., city field redaction, data retention). Those additional topics have completed all secondary steps, including a separate public comment period, and can be considered by the Board when it is prepared to do so. In addition, the Board will consider the SSAD-related recommendations following the public comment period and an operational assessment known as the Operational Design Phase.

Following input from some EPDP Team members, the GNSO Council requested the EPDP Team to further consider two topics from Phase 1 and Phase 2: (1) the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons' registration data and (2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address. The EPDP Team is currently reviewing these topics in Phase 2A of its work, which is shorter in duration than the first two phases. At ICANN70, the chair of EPDP Phase 2A will present an update on the status of the EPDP Team's work to the GNSO Council during its public meeting.

The GNSO Council is planning for new initiatives on the horizon, cataloguing the portfolio of GNSO work, and assessing how that pipeline of work can be effectively managed and executed. Focusing on key priorities identified through this effort, the GNSO Council:

- Launched an Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO) Work Track within the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group, based on the Council referral of recommendation 5 from the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms PDP Working Group Final Report.
- Initiated a PDP to review the Transfer Policy during its February 2021 meeting.
- Supported the initiation of an operational work track to address the impacts from the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Guidelines 4.0 upon existing registry agreements and future applicants, while convening an EPDP charter drafting team to facilitate the launch of a policy work track to address the impacts from the IDN variant TLD recommendations.

Sessions are anticipated during ICANN70 to support some of these new efforts. Check the schedule for the latest information.

At ICANN70, the GNSO Council will hold its meeting on Wednesday, 24 March. GNSO meetings will also take place with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), ICANN Board, and the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO). Note that due to the condensed format of this ICANN meeting, the session with the ccNSO will occur prior to ICANN70 and the session with the Board will take place following ICANN70.

Progress continues on PDP 3.0, a GNSO Council initiative aimed at introducing incremental improvements to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PDP Working Groups, as well as to empower the GNSO Council to better serve in its role as the manager of policy development processes. As the GNSO Council scopes and initiates new GNSO policy development efforts, it is actively applying PDP 3.0 improvements to the design of this work. For example, the IGO Work Track has

adopted a representative working group model and specified expectations and required skills for its members and chair. An updated charter template developed through PDP 3.0 work will be used for the PDP to review the Transfer Policy and the EPDP on IDNs, where the template has contributed to the Council’s emphasis on effectively scoping any new work it initiates. In addition, the toolkit for project and program management of PDPs has continued to evolve with a new tool to more effectively track the execution of action items.

The GNSO Council’s annual Strategic Planning Session (SPS) provides a key opportunity for Council to look at “big picture” issues of importance to the Council, including the deployment and application of PDP 3.0 improvements. Following discussion during the SPS held in November 2020, the GNSO Council is exploring a framework for continuous improvement, which may include evaluating the effectiveness of PDP 3.0, as well as considering additional PDP 3.0 elements not yet implemented that should be addressed as a matter of priority.

ICANN70 will be a full meeting with no shortage of opportunities to contribute and get involved. All GNSO sessions are open to anyone who wants to join, and I encourage you to take advantage. I look forward to seeing you on Zoom in the GNSO Council meeting, at a PDP working session, or at an outreach event.

**Philippe Fouquart**  
**GNSO Chair**

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# ICANN70 at a Glance

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The GNSO Policy Support Team has developed this briefing document to help community members prepare for ICANN70. It provides an overview of the status of GNSO PDP working groups and teams, as well as information about other GNSO policy-related activities, including PDP Implementation Review Teams (IRTs). The document includes links for additional background reading that will help you prepare for sessions and support active participation from all attendees.

Newcomers to ICANN and the GNSO may be interested in online learning opportunities that will further help them make the most of the upcoming meeting. We highly recommend taking the Get to Know the GNSO course on [ICANN Learn](#). The course will make it easier to navigate through the structure and content of this Policy Briefing with a better understanding of PDPs. All are encouraged to enroll.

Please note that any reference to meeting times in this document is provisional. Please consult the ICANN meeting schedule for the latest information.

## ICANN70 Meeting Information

[Meeting Page \(including Registration and Schedule\)](#)

[General Remote Participation Information](#)

[GNSO Session Remote Participation Details](#)

[Expected Standard of Behavior](#)

## GNSO Related Information

[GNSO Council Policy Update Webinar](#)

[GNSO One-Stop-Shop for ICANN Meeting](#)

[Project List](#)

If you have any questions about or suggestions for this Policy Briefing or GNSO policy activities, please contact us at [policy-staff@icann.org](mailto:policy-staff@icann.org). We look forward to a productive meeting.

# GNSO Policy Development Process Infographic

The GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP) governs the way in which the GNSO develops consensus policies relating to generic top-level domains. GNSO PDPs follow the process (see below) during their lifecycle, which consists of different steps, including: issue identification; issue scoping; PDP initiation; working group; GNSO Council deliberation; ICANN Board vote; and policy implementation.



In the following sections of the GNSO Policy Briefing, the respective steps which the PDP working groups and implementation review teams have reached are noted.

For more details about the steps in PDPs, see the following materials:

- [ICANN Bylaws, Annex A](#)
- [Detailed Infographic of GNSO PDP](#)
- [PDP Manual](#)

# Expedited Policy Development Process: Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data - Phase 2 & Phase 2A

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN70 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The EPDP Phase 2 Team has completed its work and, accordingly, will not be meeting at ICANN70. The Chair of the EPDP Phase 2A Team will be presenting the team's progress to the GNSO Council during its public meeting at ICANN70.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

On 17 May 2018, the ICANN Board approved the Temporary Specification for generic top-level domain (gTLD) Registration Data to allow contracted parties to comply with existing ICANN contractual requirements while also complying with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). This Board action triggered the GNSO Council initiation of the PDP on 19 July 2018. The PDP was conducted in two phases: Phase 1 aimed to confirm, or not, the Temporary Specification by 25 May 2019; Phase 2 discussed, among other elements, a standardized access model to nonpublic registration data. [Learn More](#)

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

### Phase 2

The GNSO Council approved the [Phase 2 Final Report](#) during its meeting on 24 September 2020 by a supermajority. The Final Report sets out the EPDP Team's recommendations for a System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) to nonpublic gTLD registration data, as well as recommendations and conclusions for the so-called "Priority 2" topics, which include, et al., data retention and city field redaction.

As part of its approval, the GNSO Council agreed to request a consultation with the ICANN Board to discuss the financial sustainability of the SSAD and some of the concerns expressed within the different minority statements, including whether a further cost-benefit analysis should be conducted before the ICANN Board considers all SSAD-related recommendations for adoption.

As the requested consultation related only to SSAD-related recommendations, the Board opted to consider the Priority 2 recommendations separately, and conducted



a [public comment](#) period on those recommendations from December 2020 to January 2021. Prior to ICANN70, the GNSO Council held an initial consultation with the ICANN Board regarding the SSAD-related recommendations prior to the Board's launch of the Operational Design Phase (ODP).

#### Phase 2A

Following the request from some EPDP Team members, the GNSO Council asked the EPDP Team to continue work on two topics: 1) the differentiation of legal vs. natural persons' registration data and 2) the feasibility of unique contacts to have a uniform anonymized email address.

As a result, the EPDP Team is currently reviewing these topics assigned by the GNSO Council in [Phase 2A](#) of its work. The team has been meeting regularly since December 2020 and progressing toward publishing its Initial Report in May 2021.

#### WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

For Phase 2, the ICANN Board is expected to launch the ODP prior to its consideration of the SSAD-related recommendations. For Phase 2A, the team's Chair will inform the GNSO Council during its public session at ICANN70 the team's progress thus far and its likelihood to reach consensus on the two assigned topics.

#### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

As part of the ICANN Board's consideration of the EPDP Phase 2 recommendations, a [public comment forum](#) is currently open. Anyone interested is invited to provide their input to help inform the Board's consideration of the recommendations.

#### MORE INFORMATION

- [EPDP Phase 2 webpage](#)
- [EPDP workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Caitlin Tubergen, Marika Konings (consultant), Berry Cobb (consultant)

# Policy Development Process: New Generic Top-Level Domain Subsequent Procedures

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN70 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The New Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will not be meeting at ICANN70 as it has completed its work. In January 2021 the Working Group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council for consideration and the GNSO Council adopted the Final Report in February 2021.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP aims to determine what, if any, changes need to be made to the existing policy recommendations from the 2007 [Final Report on the Introduction of New Generic Top-Level Domains](#). [Learn More](#)

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The working group started its work on 22 February 2016 and, over the course of several years, convened several subgroups and undertook extensive deliberations on the long list of topics in this working group’s charter. This work included numerous opportunities for community input, including public comment periods on its [Initial Report](#), [Supplemental Initial Report](#), [Additional Supplemental Initial Report from the PDP’s Work Track 5](#), and [Draft Final Report](#).

The working group submitted its [Final Report](#) to the GNSO Council for its consideration on 18 January 2021. It put forward hundreds of Affirmations, Recommendations, and Implementation Guidance (collectively referred to as “outputs”) under 41 topics. Only two outputs did not receive consensus or full consensus support from the working group. On 28 January 2021, the PDP Co-Chairs hosted a [webinar](#) for the GNSO Council to provide a detailed review of these outputs.

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously [approved](#) the outputs achieving consensus or full consensus contained in the PDP Final Report. The GNSO Council also requested that the ICANN Board initiate an Operational Design Phase (ODP) on the PDP Final Report, and requested that ICANN org convene an Implementation Review Team to implement the PDP’s outputs.



**WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The GNSO Council will submit the GNSO Council Recommendations Report pertaining to the PDP Final Report to the ICANN Board for its consideration.

**HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

As part of the ICANN Board’s consideration of the final recommendations, a public comment forum will be open. Anyone interested is invited to provide their input to help inform the Board’s consideration of the recommendations. Please check the Public Comment Opportunities [webpage](#) for more information.

**MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Steve Chan, Emily Barabas, Julie Hedlund

# Policy Development Process: Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms in All Generic Top-Level Domains

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN70 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Review of All Rights Mechanisms (RPMs) in All Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group will not be meeting at ICANN70 as it has completed its work on Phase 1. In November 2020 the Working Group submitted its Phase 1 Final Report to the GNSO Council for consideration and the GNSO Council adopted the Final Report in January 2021.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

This PDP has two phases. Phase 1 reviewed all the RPMs applicable to gTLDs launched under the 2012 New gTLD Program. These RPMs include: Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (TM-PDDRP); Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH); Sunrise and Trademark Claims services that are offered through the TMCH; and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure. Phase 2 will focus on reviewing the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), which has been an ICANN Consensus Policy since 1999. [Learn More](#)

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council initiated the PDP on 18 February 2016 and chartered the working group in March 2016.

The working group published its Phase 1 Initial Report on 18 March 2020 for [Public Comment](#). From late May to September 2020, the working group reviewed the public comments received from 55 contributors in order to finalize its Phase 1 recommendations. The working group also developed its final recommendations by taking into account the outcome of other policy efforts, such as the Competition, Consumer Trust and Consumer Choice Review Team (CCT-RT) and the Wave 1 Report of the Expedited PDP (EPDP) on a Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Recommendation #27.

On 24 November 2020, the Working Group submitted its [Phase 1 Final Report](#), which contains a total of 35 final recommendations, to the GNSO Council for its consideration. The working group classified its recommendations into



three categories: 1) recommendations for new policies and procedures; 2) recommendations to modify existing operational practice; and 3) recommendations to maintain status quo. The working group also put forward an overarching data collection final recommendation, aiming at addressing data-related gaps. Of the recommendations, 34 received full consensus support, and one recommendation received consensus support from the working group.

Prior to its vote, the GNSO Council held a [webinar](#) to discuss the details of all these recommendations. On 21 January 2021, the GNSO Council unanimously [approved](#) the Phase 1 Final Report. On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council agreed to send the [Recommendations Report](#) to the ICANN Board of Directors for its review of all Phase 1 final recommendations, which the GNSO Council recommends be adopted by the ICANN Board.

#### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

Per Bylaws requirements, ICANN staff is expected to publish the Phase 1 Final Report and its recommendations for public comment prior to the Board consideration. This step will provide an opportunity for various stakeholders to comment on the adoption of the proposed recommendations prior to any action by the Board.

#### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

As part of the ICANN Board’s consideration of the Phase 1 final recommendations, a public comment forum will be open. Anyone interested is invited to provide their input to help inform the Board’s consideration of the recommendations. Please check the Public Comment Opportunities [webpage](#) for more information.

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Mary Wong, Julie Hedlund, Ariel Liang

# Policy Development Process: IGO-INGO to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms

## WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN70 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The GNSO Council has voted to adopt recommendations 1-4 of the International Governmental Organization and International Non-Governmental Organization (IGO-INGO) Access to Curative Rights Protection Mechanisms Policy Development Process Final Report, but elected to refer recommendation 5 to the Review of All Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs) in All gTLDs Policy Development Process (PDP). In January 2020, the GNSO Council adopted an Addendum to the RPMs charter to integrate consideration of recommendation 5 and initiate a separate Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO) Work Track. The work track held its first meeting shortly before ICANN70 and will look to expand its substantive discussions prior to and potentially at ICANN70.

## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The GNSO Council tasked the working group to consider whether the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and the Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) dispute resolution procedure should be modified to address the needs of International Governmental Organizations (IGOs) and International Non-Governmental Organizations (INGOs), or if a separate, narrowly tailored dispute resolution procedure should be developed to apply only to IGOs and INGOs. [Learn More](#)

## WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

### PDP

The original and concluded PDP working group submitted its Final Report to the GNSO Council on 9 July 2018. The GNSO Council resolved to accept the Final Report on 19 July 2018, though it did not take final action on the report at that time. The Council noted that it would seek to consider the topic of curative rights protections for IGOs in the broader context of the appropriate overall scope of protection for all IGO identifiers.

In the ensuing period of time, the GNSO Council considered how it would proceed with the Final Report, including consulting with the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC). On 18 April 2019, the Council resolved to approve recommendations 1-4 of the Final Report and refer recommendation 5 to be considered by the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP as part of its Phase 2 work.



On 16 May 2019, the GNSO Council confirmed the transmission of the Recommendations Report (relating to recommendations 1-4) to the ICANN Board. Shortly afterward, the GAC sent a [letter](#) to the GNSO Council, noting that the approval of recommendations 1-4 and referring recommendation 5 to the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP is inconsistent with GAC Advice. ICANN org conducted a [Public Comment](#) consultation process for recommendations 1-4 from 11 July to 20 August 2019.

#### IGO Work Track

In respect to recommendation 5, the GNSO Council agreed to prepare a draft Addendum to the charter for the Review of All RPMs in All gTLDs PDP and consult with the GAC prior to adoption. After engaging in dialogue with the GAC and IGOs, the GNSO Council adopted the [Addendum](#) to the charter in January 2020 to initiate a separate IGO Work Track.

In September 2020, the GNSO Council conducted an Expression of Interest process for the IGO Work Track Chair and issued a call for volunteers to the various community groups to assign members. Since December 2020, the chair has been identified and the membership has been established. The work track met for the first time on 22 February 2021.

#### **WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?**

The ICANN Board is now considering recommendations 1-4, taking into account public comments received from the public consultation process. With respect to recommendation 5, the IGO Work Track has begun its substantive deliberations and will work towards delivering its Initial Report.

### **HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?**

In respect to recommendation 5, interested parties should coordinate with the members assigned from their respective Stakeholder Group (SG), Constituency, Supporting Organization (SO), or Advisory Committee (AC) to stay current with the work and to communicate any input they believe the IGO Work Track needs to consider. Interested parties are also able to follow the work track's progress by signing up as an observer.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP webpage](#)
- [PDP workspace](#)
- [IGO Work Track workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Mary Wong, Steve Chan

# Policy Implementation Update

Implementation review teams (IRTs) are convened to assist ICANN org in developing the implementation details for the Board-approved policy developed in GNSO PDP working groups. This is to ensure that the implementation conforms to the intent of the policy recommendations (as per IRT Principles & Guidelines).

[Learn More](#)

## Registration Data Policy for gTLDs

### (EPDP PHASE 1 IMPLEMENTATION)

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will conduct one working session at ICANN70, on Thursday, 25 March 2021 at 12:30-14:00 (Cancún Local Time). Please check the ICANN70 meeting schedule for the confirmed time.

Three stages of the policy implementation were designed in advance of the Board resolution

- Stage 1: Effective 20 May 2019, contracted parties must continue to implement measures consistent with the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, as adopted by the Board on 17 May 2018.
- Stage 2: This stage will begin after the ICANN org publishes a Registration Data Policy as a Consensus Policy and formally notifies the contracted parties. During this stage, contracted parties may implement the Interim Policy, the Registration Data Policy, or elements of both as they prepare for the effective date of the Registration Data Policy. The timing of this milestone is to be determined.
- Stage 3: Contracted parties must comply with the Registration Data Policy as of its effective date, which the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) Team on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data recommended to be 29 February 2020.

The Stage 1 interim Consensus Policy named [Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs](#) was published on 17 May 2019.



The implementation team is now working on the implementation plan for Stage 2. The process steps include drafting the complete gTLD Registration Data Policy and agreeing on a timeline that can be shared for public comment (including the anticipated implementation time for the contracted parties). The IRT has been focusing efforts on:

- deliberations to resolve conflicting interpretations of some of the recommendations
- evaluation of the requirements set by the policy language for technical feasibility
- projection of the scope and time for the tasks to be implemented
- assessment of the critical path to define a realistic implementation timeline

When the implementation plan is produced, it will be published for public comment.

In January 2021, the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Council passed a motion to provide guidance on the interpretation of EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 7. In accordance with the motion, this has been communicated to the IRT and the ICANN Board for consideration of next steps.

This IRT is open to all to join. You may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please follow the instructions in the “call for IRT” announcement. The IRT meets every other week via teleconference and in person at ICANN Public Meetings.

#### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [EPDP Phase 1 background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Dennis Chang

The following Implementation Review Teams (IRTs) do not plan to meet at ICANN70

## Privacy and Proxy Services Accreditation Issues

The IRT for the [policy recommendations](#) developed by the Privacy Proxy Services Accreditation Issues (PPSAI) Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group began meeting in October 2016 and has reviewed the draft Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and other associated program materials in preparation for the public comment phase.

On **04 March 2019**, ICANN org wrote to the GNSO Council, suggesting to wait before proceeding to public comment and implementation of the PPSAI recommendations until the completion of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data. The GNSO Council deferred the decision on this issue to ICANN org in a [message](#) on 30 April 2018. In its [response](#) on 5 September 2019, ICANN org confirmed that implementation work would remain paused pending the resolution of EPDP Phase 2.

Both phases of the EPDP are now complete, and ICANN org has provided its [draft review](#) of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the PPSAI recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27. Following review by the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, the report will be shared with the GNSO Council, to help determine next steps.

### MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Cyrus Jamnejad



## Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information

The ICANN Board **adopted** the recommendations of the PDP working group in September 2015. Since commencing implementation work in July 2016, the IRT and Global Domains and Strategy (GDS) have produced a **preliminary policy document**. Due to complexities emerging from the Implementation Review Team (IRT)’s discussions and work in other areas related to registration data directory services (RDDS)—in particular the **Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process** (EPDP)—the implementation’s projected announcement and effective dates are to be determined.

Given the implementation’s relationship to the evolution of registration data policies and procedures, the PDP working group’s Recommendations are being assessed per Recommendation 27 of the Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Phase 1 Team’s **Final Report** to ensure policy and implementation consistency across the many work streams in this area.

Both phases of the EPDP are now complete, and ICANN org has provided its **draft review** of the impact of the EPDP recommendations on existing policies and procedures, including the Translation and Transliteration of Contact Information recommendations, per the EPDP Phase 1 Recommendation 27. Following review by the EPDP Phase 1 IRT, the report will be shared with the GNSO Council, to help determine next steps.

This IRT is open to all participants. You may join as either a member (with full posting rights to the mailing list and the ability to participate in all meetings) or as an observer (with read-only status for the mailing list). If you are interested in joining, please contact GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@icann.org](mailto:gnso-secs@icann.org).

### MORE INFORMATION

- [PDP background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Isabelle Colas



## Protection of IGO and INGO Identifiers in All gTLDs

On 16 January 2018, the **implementation** of the Consensus Policy for the Protection of Certain Specific International Governmental Organization (IGO) and International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) Identifiers for All gTLDs was published. As of 1 August 2018, implementation has been completed for the portion of the policy that provides protection by reserving full names for certain specific names of IGOs, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), and the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement (RCRC). For INGOs, the implementation period will be 12 months from the release of the INGO Claims Systems Specification which is currently under development by the ICANN org.

In January 2019, the ICANN Board **adopted** the policy recommendation proposed by the Reconvened PDP Working Group on the Protections of the Specific Red Cross Red Crescent Names in All gTLDs. After the **Public Comment**, the **consensus policy language** was revised and published in February 2020. The implementation was completed by 1 August 2020, which resulted in changing the **reserved Domain Name System (DNS) Labels** from 700 to over 7,000.

The INGO Claims System implementation is on hold at this point in consideration of potential additional requirements that could be combined to create this new system. ICANN org is consulting with the Implementation Review Team (IRT) on the timing of the restart.

If you are interested in joining the IRT, please contact the GNSO Secretariat at [gnso-secs@icann.org](mailto:gnso-secs@icann.org).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- [PDP background](#)
- [IRT webpage](#)
- [IRT workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Dennis Chang



# Other GNSO Council Project Update

Between ICANN69 and ICANN70, the GNSO Council has also focused on the following policy work in addition to PDPs.

## Internationalized Domain Names

In August 2020, following the adoption of the Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) Scoping Team [Final Report](#), the GNSO Council supported the initiation of an operational work track to address the impacts from the [IDN Implementation Guidelines 4.0](#) upon existing registry agreements and future applicants. A Contracted Parties House (CPH) team has been tasked to determine what specific amendments may be required for the guidelines to allow them to continue toward ICANN Board consideration and adoption. To achieve this goal, the CPH team is in the process of developing suggested revisions to the guidelines and to the extent that it is necessary, identifying elements that should be removed for resolution in policy development instead. The CPH team is expected to submit its outputs for consideration by the original and concluded IDN Guidelines Working Group, which developed the IDN Implementation Guidelines 4.0. Once the CPH and the IDN Guidelines Working Group are in alignment, this should pave the way for the guidelines to return to the queue for ICANN Board adoption.

In October 2020, the GNSO Council kicked off efforts related to the policy work track, which is to focus on the definition and management of IDN variant TLDs. In November 2020, the Council [launched](#) a call for volunteers within the GNSO community for a drafting team to develop a draft charter, as well as an initiation request for an Expedited PDP (EPDP) on IDNs. In developing the EPDP charter, the drafting team is expected to consider existing policy work related to the IDN variant TLD definition and management, such as the [IDN Variant TLD Implementation Staff Paper](#), [recommendations for the Technical Utilization of the Root Zone Label Generation Rules \(RZ-LGR\)](#), and IDN related recommendations from the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP. Furthermore, the drafting team is expected to apply the [revised GNSO Working Group Charter Template](#), a work product of the PDP 3.0 initiative. Since its establishment in December 2020, the drafting team has been meeting on a regular basis, with the aim to submit its deliverables for GNSO Council's review in Q2 2021.

Furthermore, to fulfill ICANN Board's request that the GNSO coordinates with the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) to ensure a consistent solution is developed for IDN variant gTLDs and IDN variant ccTLDs, in January 2021 the GNSO Council appointed a liaison to the ccPDP4 on the Selection and Deselection of IDN ccTLD Strings

**MORE INFORMATION**

- [Drafting Team workspace](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Ariel Liang, Steve Chan

## Transfer Policy Review

Following receipt and review of ICANN org's [Transfer Policy Status Report \(TPSR\)](#), the GNSO Council agreed to establish a Transfer Policy Review Scoping Team during its [meeting](#) on 19 September 2019. The scoping team is tasked with advising the GNSO Council on how to approach further policy work, if any, on the Transfer Policy. Specifically, the scoping team was tasked with providing recommendations on the:

- approach to the review (e.g., by initiating a new PDP)
- composition of the review team or PDP working group
- scope of the review and future policy work related to the Transfer Policy

The scoping team provided its [Initial Scoping Paper](#) to the GNSO Council in April 2020. It recommended the GNSO Council initiate a PDP, or series of PDPs, as applicable, for policy work on the scoping team's identified issues with the Transfer Policy. It also recommended that the GNSO Council instruct ICANN Policy staff to draft an Issues Report, outlining, et al., the issues described in its Initial Scoping Paper.

On 23 June 2020, the GNSO Council requested a Preliminary Issue Report on the issues identified in the Initial Scoping Paper. The [Preliminary Issue Report](#) was published for [public comment](#) on 12 October 2020. The report was updated following the public comment period and submitted as a [Final Issue Report](#) to the GNSO Council on 12 January 2021.

On 18 February 2021, the GNSO Council [initiated](#) a two-phase PDP to review the Transfer Policy. This PDP is tasked to determine if changes to the policy are needed to improve the ease, security, and efficacy of inter-registrar and inter-registrant transfers. As recommended in the Final Issue Report, this PDP is to address the following topics in sequence: Form of Authorization and AuthInfo Codes (Phase 1a); change of registrant (Phase 1b); transfer emergency action contact and reversing inter-registrar transfers, Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy, NACKing transfers, and ICANN-approved transfers (Phase 2). As a next step, the GNSO Council will finalize and approve the charter for this PDP.

### MORE INFORMATION

- [Transfer Policy PDP Final Issue Report](#)

**STAFF RESPONSIBLE:** Emily Barabas, Caitlin Tubergen

# Generic Names Supporting Organization Schedule for ICANN70

Please confirm against the [final schedule](#) as changes may occur. For remote participation details, please check this [wiki page](#) created by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) Support Team. Live audio streaming, recording, and transcripts will become available after meetings. Unless specified with the symbol [C], sessions published in this table are open to all. At time of publishing, virtual meeting rooms have not yet been finalized, please see the final schedule for further information.

DATE	MEETING
<b>Monday, 15 March 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: Contracted Party House (CPH) and ICANN Board
<b>Tuesday, 16 March 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: Commercial Stakeholder Group (CSG) and ICANN Board
<b>Wednesday, 17 March 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) and GNSO Councils
<b>Monday, 22 March 2021</b>	Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency (NPOC) Open Meeting
	Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) Brand Registry Group (BRG) Community Update
	Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group (NCSG) Policy Committee Meeting
	CPH DNS Abuse Work Group Community Outreach
	Intergovernmental Organizations (IGO) Work Track
	Introduction: PDP to Review the Transfer Policy

DATE	MEETING
<b>Tuesday, 23 March 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: NCSG and ICANN Board
	Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers (ISPCP) Membership Meeting
	Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC) Open Meeting
	Business Constituency (BC) Membership Meeting
	CPH Discussion Panel on the Industry Landscape
	CSG Membership Meeting
	RySG Membership Meeting
<b>Wednesday, 24 March 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and GNSO Council
	RySG GeoTLD Group Community Session
	NCSG Open Meeting
	Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) Membership Meeting
	GNSO Council Public Meeting
<b>Thursday, 25 March 2021</b>	Registration Data Policy Implementation Review Team (IRT)
<b>Thursday, 01 April 2021</b>	Joint Meeting: GNSO Council and ICANN Board

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