
Implementation Status: Registration Data Policy for gTLDs (Expedited Policy Development Process Phase 1 Implementation)

WHAT CAN I EXPECT AT ICANN67 IN RELATION TO THIS TOPIC?

The Implementation Review Team (IRT) will conduct two working sessions to plan for the Stage 2 policy at ICANN67, on Wednesday, 11 March 2020 (10:30-12:00 EST) and Thursday, 12 March 2020 (10:30-12:00 EST).

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

The ICANN Board adopted the **Temporary Specification for Generic Top-Level Domain (gTLD) Registration Data** on 17 May 2018 in accordance with the procedures for establishing policies in ICANN's agreements with registry operators and registrars. The Temporary Specification provides modifications to existing requirements in the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) and Registry Agreement (RA) in order to comply with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). From its effective date of 25 May 2018, the Temporary Specification can only remain in force for up to one year and will expire on 20 May 2019.

On 19 July 2018, the GNSO Council initiated an Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data and chartered the EPDP Team.

On 4 March 2019, the GNSO Council adopted the EPDP Team's Phase 1 Final Report and submitted it to the Board for their consideration. The Board conducted a Public Comment and passed a resolution on 15 May 2019 to authorize the implementation of most of the EPDP Phase 1 recommendations, except for parts of two recommendations.

Working in advance of the Board resolution, the IRT produced the concept of three stages of the policy implementation.

- 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 organization 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 EPDP Team 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.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

The Temporary Specification provides modifications to existing requirements in the RAA and RA in order to comply with GDPR. The recommendations from the EPDP Team provide community consensus views on the requirements that are now needed to be implemented as a consensus policy.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATUS OF THIS PROJECT?

The IRT 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 the: 1) deliberations to resolve conflicting interpretations of some of the recommendations; 2) evaluation of the requirements set by the policy language for technical feasibility; 3) projection of the scope and time for the tasks to be implemented; and 4) assessment of the critical path to define a realistic implementation timeline.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTED NEXT STEPS?

On 24 February 2020, the IRT will host a Pre-ICANN67 webinar (register [here](#)) to present the implementation project overview and update. At ICANN67, the team will conduct two open working sessions. When the implementation plan is produced, it will be published for Public Comment.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

One can join the IRT by following the instruction in the [call for IRT](#) announcement. The first IRT meeting was held on 29 May 2019. The IRT is expected to meet every other week via teleconference and in person at ICANN Public Meetings.

One can also choose to become an observer of the IRT mailing list on a read-only basis. The names of IRT mailing list observers are published on the [IRT workspace](#).

MORE INFORMATION

- EPDP Phase 1 Final Report: <https://go.icann.org/2TNA63g>
- ICANN Board resolution of 17 May 2019 adopting 27 of the 29 recommendations included in the EPDP Team’s Phase 1 Final Report: <https://www.icann.org/resources/board-material/resolutions-2019-05-15-en#1.b>
- IRT workspace: <https://community.icann.org/display/RDPIRT>
- Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/interim-registration-data-policy-en>
- Call for Volunteers: Implementation Review Team for Registration Data Policy Implementation: <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2019-05-20-en>

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