



82 | COMMUNITY
FORUM

Latin Script Diacritics Policy Development Process

Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG Working Session:
Kick-off Meeting
Saturday, 08 March 2025 at 21:15 UTC



Agenda



1 Welcome and Introduction

2 Confirmation of Leadership Team

3 Meeting Frequency and Schedule

4 Overview of the Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG Charter

5 Review of the Project Plan

6 Early Input Request to the Community

7 Overview of Potential Impact Considerations: GPI & HR

8 Next Steps

9 AOB

Welcome and Introduction

Agenda Item #1

Current Members

❖ Open Model: Members (25) and Observers (2)

Updated as of 06 March 2025

Name	Affiliation	Region	Name	Affiliation	Region
Members					
Amadeu Abril i Abril	RySG	EU	Bill Jouris	ALAC	NA
Claude Ménard		NA	Maureen Owusu-Addae		AFR
Darío Janeiro Pereira		EU	Raymond Mamattah		AFR
Louis Houle		NA	Sandra Rodriguez		LA
Sebastien Ducos		EU	Satish Babu		APAC
Michael Bauland	RrSG	EU	Sergio Salinas Porto		LA
Asteway Negash	BC	AFR	Sylvia Herlein Leite		LA
Mark Datysgeld		LA	Bridget Chase	Individual	NA
Anil Jain	ISPCP	APAC	Philippe Fouquart		
Emmanuel Vitus	NCSG	EU	David Bedard	GAC	NA
James Kunle Olorundare		AFR	Hazem Hezzah		AFR
Juliana Harsianti		APAC	Isabel Gates		NA
Tapani Tarvainen		EU			

GNSO Council Liaison: Prudence Malinki

ICANN org Liaison: Isabelle Colas-Adeshina (GDS), Sarmad Hussain (IDN & UA)

GNSO Support Staff: Saewon Lee, John Emery, Steve Chan

Confirmation of Leadership Team

Agenda Item #2

Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG Leadership Team



Chair: Michael Bauland



Vice Chair: Mark Datysgeld



**GNSO Council Liaison to WG:
Prudence Malinki**

Meeting Frequency and Schedule

Agenda Item #3

Proposed Working Method

Considerations

- Initially, to meet once weekly for 90 minutes
- WG may consider changing the frequency/duration of the meeting as work progresses (e.g., biweekly, weekly for 120 minutes, etc.)



Suggested Time Slot / Frequency

- ✓ Weekly 90 minutes
- ✓ Wednesdays at 13:00 UTC

Overview of the Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG Charter

Agenda Item #4

Overview of the PDP WG Charter

Key Highlights from the Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG [Charter](#)

Mission and Scope

- Examine circumstances where a base **ASCII gTLD** and the **Latin script diacritic version of the gTLD** are **NOT variants** of each other; Presumption - they need to be **visually confusingly similar**.
- Seek a mechanism for a **single registry operator to simultaneously operate both gTLDs**

Membership Model & Structure

- Open Model
 - Open to all parties interested
 - Members+Observers
- Members participate in the Consensus Calls.

Decision-making Methodology

- WG will use the **standard decision-making methodology** as outlined in [Section 3.6 of the GNSO Working Group Guidelines](#).

Open Model Membership

Members

- **Actively participate** during the course of **deliberations** and in any **WG Consensus Calls***
- **Represent view, where applicable,** of appointing organization**
- Required to have a **level of expertise**
- Familiarity with the **GNSO PDP**



Observers

- **Anyone** may join as an observer
- **Read-only access** to the mailing list
- **Not invited** to attend meetings



Conduit Roles for the PDP WG and Respective Groups

GNSO Liaison

- Council member
- Serve WG lifetime

Board Liaison

- ICANN Board member
- Serve WG lifetime

ICANN Org Liaison(s)

- GDS Staff, etc.
- Serve WG lifetime

Chair and Vice Chair should act in a **neutral manner, not counted as Members.*

***Groups not fulfilling all member slots **should not be disadvantaged**.*

Decision-Making Methodology



Consensus Designation



Full Consensus

When no one in the group speaks against the recommendation in its last readings. This is also sometimes referred to as Unanimous Consensus.

Consensus

A position where only a small minority disagrees, but most agree.

Strong Support but Significant Opposition

A position where, while most of the group supports a rec., there are a significant number of those who do not support it.

Divergence (Also referred to as No Consensus)

No strong support for any particular position, but many different points of **Divergence** view. (e.g., due to irreconcilable differences or no convincing viewpoint)

Minority View

Refers to a proposal supported by a small number of people. This can happen in response to a Consensus, Strong support but significant opposition, and No Consensus.

 [Consensus Playbook](#): A resource to guide the WG towards developing consensus recs.

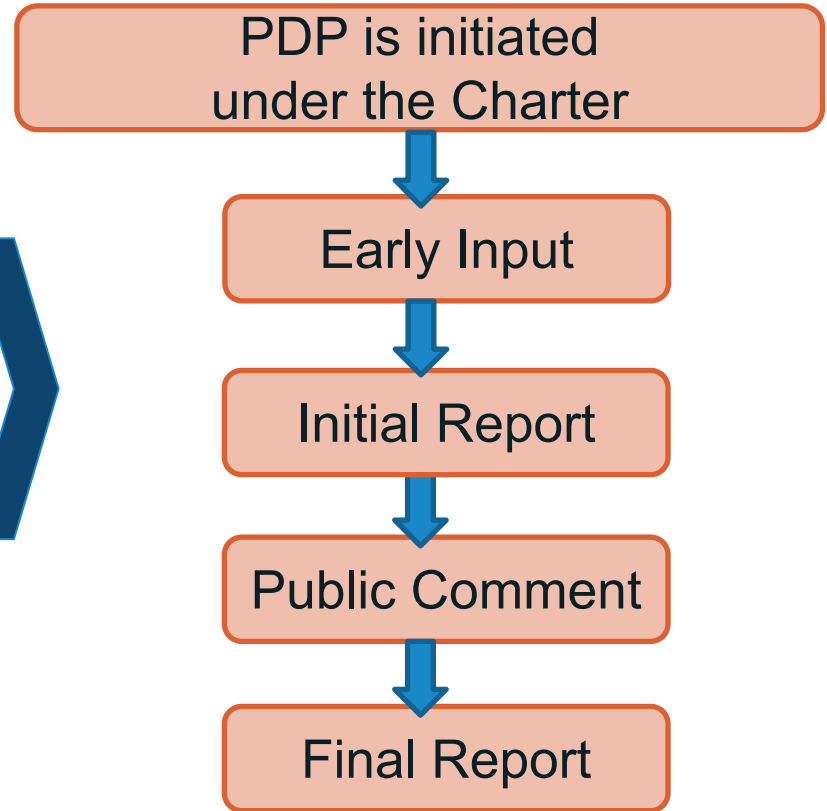
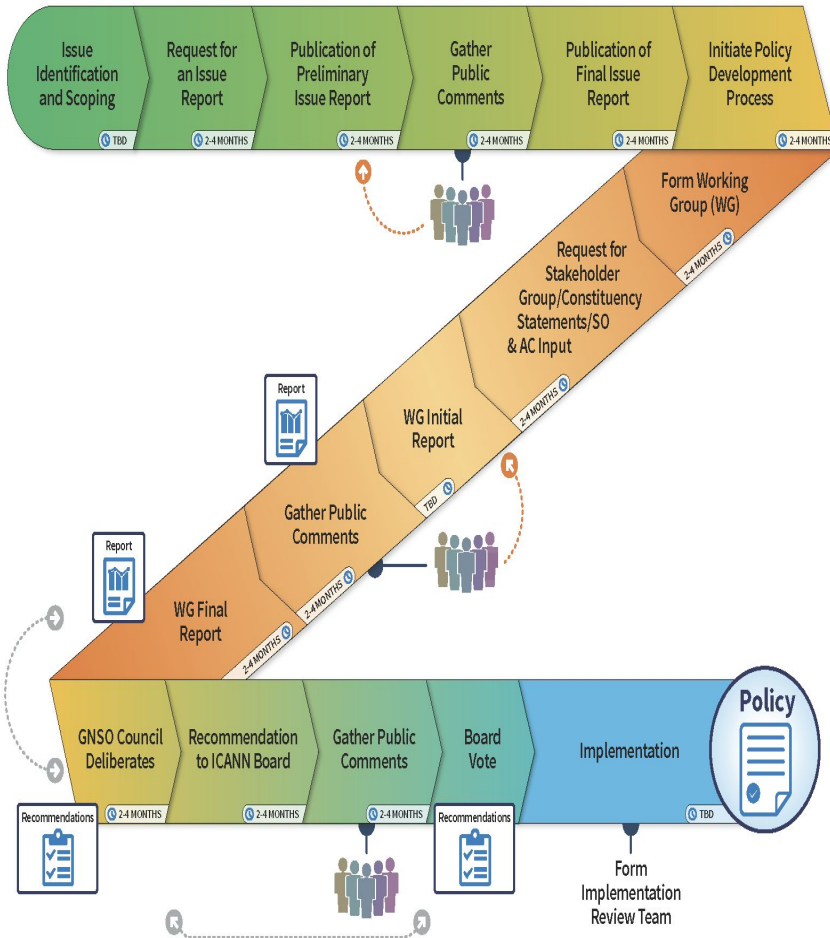
Review of the Project Plan

Agenda Item #5

PDP Milestones

GNSO Policy Development Process

*Standard and summarized policy development process



* Some steps omitted, for brevity and timing notations are estimates.

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Expected Deliverables



Submit its **Project Plan** to GNSO Council

**Details of tasks and estimated timeframe*

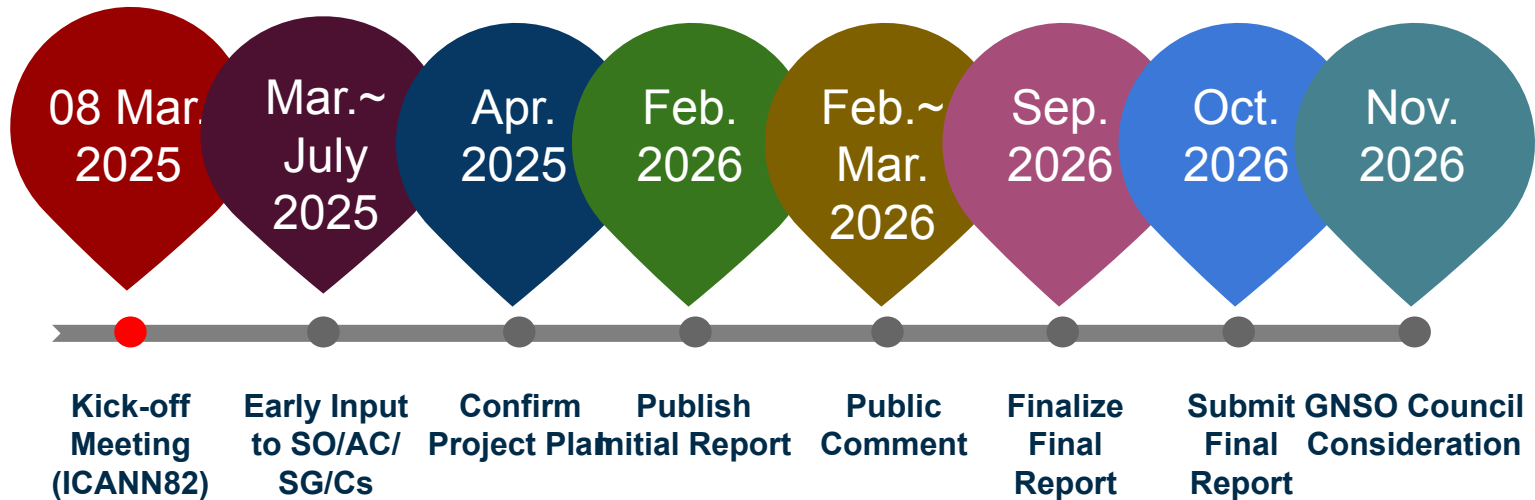


At the minimum, complete an **Initial Report & Final Report**

**Can produce additional outputs or deliverables*

Proposed Project Plan

Estimated Timeframe



Draft Work Plan - Tactical

❖ Assumptions

- GNSO Council to confirm Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG's Project Plan
- Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG meeting to kick-off on 08 March during ICANN82
- WG's weekly meetings to resume at the end of March 2025
- WG to send the Early Input Request message to SO/AC/SG/Cs by end of March 2025

When	What
08 March (Sat)	Kick-off Meeting - ICANN82
26 March (Wed)	Meeting #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review of Topic 1 (Charter Questions), Determine approach- Determine approaches for GPI/HR Framework, as necessary
31 March (Mon)	Submit Project Plan to the GNSO Council for confirmation
2 April (Wed)	Meeting #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review of Topic: Charter Questions, Determine approach
9 April (Wed)	Meeting #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review of Topic: Charter Questions, Determine approach

Scope of Work



How is it defined within the PDP WG Charter?

In SCOPE



“This PDP is **limited to examining a single issue**. In circumstances where a **base ASCII gTLD and the Latin script diacritic version of the gTLD are NOT variants of each other**, **what mechanism is needed in order to allow a single registry operator to simultaneously operate both gTLDs?** A presumption for this issue is that the ASCII and Latin script diacritic have a **non-negligible chance to be determined to be visually confusingly similar.**”

NOT in SCOPE



“For clarification purposes, this PDP will use the **Latin RZ-LGR as one of the relevant baseline foundational documents** when delineating scope. This PDP must understand the work that was completed by the Latin Generation Panel, including the **rationale and impact of the various exclusions of Section 3: Variant Sets.**”

***Latin RZ-LGR:**

<https://www.icann.org/sites/default/files/lgr/rz-lgr-5-latin-script-26may22-en.html>

Scope of Work



Charter Qu's Prescribed within the PDP WG Charter

- Under what circumstances should a base ASCII gTLD and the Latin script diacritic version of the gTLD be **simultaneously delegated**, if any?
 - If such circumstances exist, **what measures should be put into place** in order to mitigate the potential for end-user confusion?
- If a solution is needed to this issue, are any of the elements of the **ccTLD Fast Track process** transferable?
- If a solution is needed to this issue, are any of the elements from either **Phase 1 or Phase 2 of the EPDP on IDNs, or Topic 25 on IDNs from the SubPro Final Report**, relevant, or warrant discussion specific to Latin script diacritics?
- If a solution is needed to this issue, will it have **any impact on existing Consensus Policies**?



The mission and scope of this PDP are grounded on the Charter, but the questions may go more in-depth as a result of WG deliberations.

Scope of Work



Considerations to Managing Scope in Final Issue Report

- ❑ Some potential considerations to limit instances of ASCII/diacritic versions:



- **Limit to the same entity** operating the ASCII/diacritic versions?
- **Limit to applied-for IDN strings of existing ASCII gTLDs**, where the existing ASCII gTLD is a “workaround” for the proper IDN string? And/or vice versa, limit to applied-for ASCII strings that act as a “workaround” for the existing IDN gTLDs?
 - If so, “workaround” **would need to be defined**: for instance, other than for the absence or inclusion of diacritic marks, the strings are otherwise identical (e.g., déjà and deja).
 - This may mean that **only fully-decorated and fully-ASCII versions are in scope** and that **the solution would be limited to a maximum of two strings**.
 - This would **exclude linguistic characteristics** like singular/plurals (e.g., resume/resumes & résumé/résumés) and alternative spellings (e.g., colour & color).
- **Include new gTLD applications in the future** (e.g., a single applicant seeking to operate both the ASCII/diacritic versions), but consider whether **additional limitations** are needed; For instance, perhaps only **certain application types** (e.g., Community, Geographic Names, .BRAND, etc.) could be allowed.

Scope of Work



Examples Presented in Final Issue Report

Language	With Diacritics	Diacritics Omitted
French	.déjà	.deja
Spanish	.español	.espanol
Portuguese	.violão	.violao

Scope of Work

Examples of Potential Impact on Existing gTLDs

	Existing gTLD	Potential Applied-for String
French	.hermes	“.hermès”
French	.lancome	“.lancôme”
French	.quebec	“.québec”



***Note:**
Only showing examples for French. This list was introduced to the GNSO Council during ICANN78.

Existing Body of Work



Considerations for Solution / Impact



[ccTLD Fast Track Process](#)



[Phase 1 EPDP-IDNs](#)



[Phase 2 EPDP-IDNs](#)



[SubPro PDP](#): Recommendations under Topic 25 on IDNs and other relevant topics



[Existing Consensus Policies](#)

Early Input Request to the Community

Agenda Item #6

Early Input Request

Draft Message - PDP WG to Confirm

❖ Draft Message

- Circulated with the Team on 24 February 2025
- Comments received by 05 March 2025



❑ Summary of Substantive Comments:

1

Acronym for Latin Script Diacritics PDP WG:

- Objections to LSD due to its negative connotation.
- Other suggestions: LD, LATSD, DLS, etc.

2

Wording related to the presumption set for work scope:

- *“...the ASCII and Latin script diacritic have a non-negligible chance to be determined to be visually confusingly similar.”*
- Suggestion to discuss in detail during scope/topic deliberations while Early Input message is sent as is staying true to the Charter

Overview of Potential Impact Considerations: GPI Framework and HR Framework

Agenda Item #7

Considerations for Impact on GPI and HR



How is it determined within the PDP WG Charter?

Impact on GPI



The WG is expected to consider the potential impact of any recommendations on the **Global Public Interest**.

In order to facilitate this analysis, the WG may wish to consult this [checklist](#) and may also benefit from consulting the [GPI Toolkit Wiki page](#).

Impact on Human Rights



The WG is expected to consider the potential impact of any recommendations on **human rights**; **whether there is a likely human rights impact**, and if so, **who are the groups** expected to be impacted and the expected **severity of the impact (high / medium / low)**.

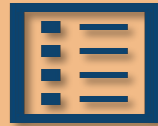
If an impact is anticipated, the WG is expected to address the following questions: **1) is the proposed action necessary to achieve the desired outcome, 2) is the proposed action proportionate, 3) is the proposed action legitimate.**

Overview of the GPI Framework

❖ Background and Key Features



Community discussions since 2016



ICANN Board identified GPI as an operational priority in 2019



ICANN Board developed a GPI Framework in June 2020



Piloted with 2 retroactive case studies; SSAD & SubPro



Does not alter the decision-making process; Not a means to change PDP



Potential community use would allow for a proactive GPI consideration



Checklist offers categories / language to aid discussion

GPI Checklist for Community Use

❖ Checklist:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uVOXywoowxvM1Hn5GuCkkinuZiMc4smc/edit?gid=502947118#gid=502947118>

Potential positive impact	Potential negative impact	Not relevant	Overall ICANN Categories	Potential positive impact	Potential negative impact	Not relevant	Public Interest Categories	Potential positive impact	Potential negative impact	Not relevant	Bylaws Considerations
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	ICANN's technical coordination	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Stable	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Will it "preserve and enhance the administration of the DNS and the operational stability, reliability, security, global interoperability, resilience, and openness of the DNS and the Internet"? (Commitment a.i)
				FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Secure				
				FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Open				
				FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Resilient				
				FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	Interoperable				

Human Rights Framework

- ❖ Human Rights referenced/categorized within the [GPI Framework](#)

Bylaws Considerations

Will it "within the scope of its Mission and other Core Values, respect internationally recognized human rights as required by applicable law"? [This Core Value does not create, and shall not be interpreted to create, any obligation on ICANN outside its Mission, or beyond obligations found in applicable law. This Core Value does not obligate ICANN to enforce its human rights obligations, or the human rights obligations of other parties, against other parties.] (Core value b.viii)

Human Rights Checklist for Community Use

❖ Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) Tool:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1yuJuDXh_M9dvVhQWsH1pYS2MEpl-I2dDeSrWLy6rOwM/edit?gid=853107611#gid=853107611

Description	One or two sentences summarizing the issue.		
Negative Impact Scenario(s)	<p>Negative impacts resulting from the situation described. To determine whether an adverse human rights impact has occurred or is likely to occur, one should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Substantive content of the right in question - Nature of business interaction or interference with the individual's right(s) - Causality - Experience and views of the rights-holders in question - Data and evidence collection, where possible 		
Impacted Groups	<p>Rights-holder groups who may be negatively impacted. Particular attention should be paid to groups that may be vulnerable to cumulative impacts, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women, children, or elderly people - LGBTQ - Ethnic minorities - Religious minorities - Indigenous peoples - Persons with disabilities - Refugees or migrant workers - Human rights defenders 		

Next Steps



Support Staff to send the Early Input Request to SO/AC/SG/Cs



WG to review the PDP WG Charter, Latin RZ-LGR, and other relevant documents for topic deliberation



WG to consult with respective groups and provide timely feedback on the Early Input Request, if any

Opportunities to Get Involved



Interested in serving as a member?
Sign up via gns0-secs@icann.org



Interested in following the work?
Become an observer. Email gns0-secs@icann.org



Share your input during Public Comment periods.

AOB

Agenda Item #9

Engage with ICANN – Thank You



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