

About ICANN

ICANN's mission is to help ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet, you need to type an address – a name or a number – into your computer, mobile phone or other device. That address must be unique so these devices know where to find each other.

With our technical partners, ICANN helps coordinate and support these unique identifiers across the world. ICANN was formed in 1998 as a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with a community of diverse participants from all over the world.

ICANN's community is a volunteer-based group of diverse stakeholders. They work together to give advice and develop policy within ICANN's mission. The ICANN Board is a group of representatives from the ICANN community that oversees the ICANN organization. The ICANN organization provides staff and resources to support the ICANN community and implements policies developed by the community.

For more information, please visit: 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, within ICANN.

By joining us you can have a real effect on making ICANN a more transparent and accountable corporation. Together we can represent the noncommercial users' interests more strongly.

Joining NCUC 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: NCUC.org/get-involved/join-ncuc 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: NCUC.org.

Come, join us!
Chair of the NCUC



NCUC

Noncommercial
Users Constituency

NCUC.org



 @NCUC



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 one member of the ICANN Board of Directors.

We have 561 members from 100 countries and all five ICANN-recognized geographic regions, including 119 noncommercial organizations and 442 individuals (as of January 2017).

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

Help elect (NCSG) 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 non-profits 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 supported 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, fully open to multistakeholder participation and resistant to intergovernmental control