

ICANN | IPC

Intellectual Property Constituency



ABOUT THE IPC

The Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) is the voice for intellectual property (IP) at ICANN. The IPC is part of ICANN's Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), a multistakeholder organization that develops policy for generic top-level domains (gTLDs).

We represent the views and interests of owners of intellectual property worldwide. We are primarily focused on trademark, copyright and related intellectual property rights, and their effect on and interaction with the domain name system (DNS). The IPC works to ensure that these views, including minority views, are reflected in the recommendations that the GNSO Council makes to the ICANN Board.

Additionally, we represent the interests and concerns of consumers who depend on strong

intellectual property protections as an essential element of consumer protection.

Our members include individuals, companies, law firms and intellectual property organizations from around the world.

The IPC has been at the forefront of global advocacy efforts for transparency and accountability in the DNS, in support of protection and enforcement of trademark and copyright rights online. The IPC represents the interests of intellectual property owners during the planning, implementation and rollout of ICANN's New gTLD Program; over 1,000 new gTLDs will ultimately be part of the domain name landscape.



WHAT WE DO

- Participate in all ICANN Public Meetings.
- Elect two Councilors to the GNSO Council.
- Participate with other stakeholders in Working Groups, the lifeblood of ICANN, to develop policy recommendations.
- Provide public comments on proposed ICANN policies and activities affecting IP rights.
- Work with other ICANN stakeholders to understand and promote common interests.
- Select a representative to the ICANN Nominating Committee, which appoints members of the Board of Directors and other ICANN organizations.



HOW TO JOIN

 The IPC welcomes applications from organizations and individuals committed to advocacy for and development of IP rights.

For more information and to apply:
www.ipconstituency.org/join-the-ipc/

Categories of IPC members:

-  Companies, firms and organizations with an interest in IP protection
-  Individuals with an interest in IP protection
-  Local, state and national IP organizations
-  International IP organizations

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KEY IPC ISSUES

- WHOIS/registration directory services, including WHOIS accuracy, availability of WHOIS information, translation and transliteration of WHOIS information, privacy and proxy services, and advancements in “next generation” registration directory services.
- Reviews of ICANN’s New gTLD Program including competition, consumer trust and consumer choice, and planning for subsequent rounds.
- Reviews of rights protection mechanisms (RPMs) for the New gTLD Program and for “legacy” gTLDs, including the Uniform Rapid Suspension System (URS), the Trademark Clearinghouse (TMCH), and the Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy (UDRP).
- Internet governance, including the IANA Stewardship Transition and the associated process to enhance ICANN accountability.
- Issues related to geographical indications and other geographic terms.
- Abuses and concerns related to the New gTLD Program, both overall and with specific registries and new gTLDs.
- Strong, consistent enforcement of ICANN’s contracts with registries and registrars, especially new provisions regarding the protection of intellectual property rights.



IPC LEADERSHIP



Greg Shatan

PRESIDENT



Steve Metalitz

VICE PRESIDENT



Fabricio Vayra

SECRETARY



Lori Schulman

TREASURER



Heather Forrest

VICE CHAIR FOR THE GNSO COUNCIL



Paul McGrady

GNSO COUNCILOR



Kiran Malancharuvil

PARTICIPATION COORDINATOR



ABOUT ICANN

ICANN’s mission is to help ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet, you have to type an address into your computer — a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN helps coordinate and support these unique identifiers across the world. ICANN was formed in 1998 as a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation and a community with participants from all over the world. ICANN and its community help keep the Internet secure, stable and interoperable.

ABOUT THE GNSO

The Generic Names Supporting Organization fashions (and over time, recommends changes to) policies for gTLDs (e.g., .com, .org, .biz). The GNSO strives to keep gTLDs operating in a fair, orderly fashion across one global Internet, while promoting innovation and competition.



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