

## **Applicant Information**

**First Name:** Olga

**Last Name:** Kyrlyiuk

**Gender:** Female

**Country of Residence:** Ukraine

**Stakeholder Group/Constituency Affiliation:** Civil Society / Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

## **Questions**

### **1. Current employer and position. Please describe the type of work you perform:**

CEO & Founder at The Influencer Platform - a Ukrainian-based organization that trains and unites influencers of all generations who stand for digital rights, equal opportunities, and the open Internet. Responsible for general management, strategic planning, collaboration with partners, and projects' supervision. Along with the team providing analytical opinions, preparing country reports and legislation reviews, building local capacity, designing digital policies, conducting advocacy, training and consulting various stakeholders, running women empowerment projects.

Have over 6 years' experience in issues lying at the intersection of law and technology, and 3 years in rights' protection of internally displaced persons. Prior to establishing my own organization, have been working with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine, The Council of Europe Office in Ukraine and world's leading humanitarian organizations – the International Committee of the Red Cross and Danish Refugee Council.

Actively involved in regional and global Internet governance and human rights initiatives, serving as an Ambassador of the South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG) and an editor of [the SEESummary](#), being a founding member of the Internet Freedom Network for Eastern, Central Europe, and Eurasia, a member of the YouthDIG Organizing Team 2019 and of the Ukrainian IGF OrgCom in 2017-2018.

In 2019, was selected as a leader of the Open Internet for Democracy Initiative carried jointly by the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the Center for International Media Assistance (CIMA). As a part of the initiative researching on the use of artificial intelligence for strengthening and exporting digital authoritarianism.

### **2. Education:**

Hold a PhD degree in International Law, with the focus of my PhD thesis being on trends and challenges brought by the shift to global information society, as well as on the ICTs' transforming potential for a progressive development of international law, with the specific examples of Internet governance, data protection, digital rights, and cybersecurity as the areas where international law is being applied to some extent.

Completed my Master's Degree in International Law at the Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, where also got diploma in interpretation and

translation from/to English. Finished summer course of Chinese language at Beijing Language and Culture University.

**3. Please identify any GNSO Working Groups and/or chartered teams in which you are participating:**

Member of New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP, and Work Track 5 on Geographic Names at the Top Level;

Observer of Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data Expedited Policy Development Process Team.

**4. Please describe any past involvement in the ICANN Fellowship Program, if applicable. For example, have you previously been a fellow or served as a program mentor?**

Have been a fellow at ICANN 64 in Kobe.

Presented to local community in Ukraine about ICANN NextGen and Fellowship programs during a number of outreach activities in the recent years.

**5. Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience and expertise address the criteria listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.**

- **Active participant in GNSO structures and policy development processes with a track record of engagement**

Joined NCUC back in 2017, and since then actively involved into constituency activities, participating in outreach sessions and public comment, inter alia, contributed to NCSG Comments on Work Track 5 on Geographic Names at the Top Level - Supplemental Initial Report of the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process, and on Supplemental Initial Report on the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Policy Development Process (Overarching Issues & Work Tracks 1-4).

- **Previous experience serving as a mentor, teacher, or learning facilitator is a plus**

While being enrolled in PhD program I was teaching courses on Legal Aspects of ICT for Development (ICT4D), and Internet Governance for English speaking Master's students, as well as mentored students for participation in international moot court competitions. All my work positions presumed quite a big number of capacity building activities with national and international stakeholders in a variety of forms, e.g. workshops, trainings, advocacy sessions, world cafes, thematic exhibitions, etc. I've worked with people of various backgrounds and got excellent skills of explaining sophisticated concepts in simple words. Currently, I am running a women empowerment project in a form of monthly meetups to inspire and help women to find their place in the world of technology. As a SEEDIG Ambassador I'm enlarging community and strengthening engagement in the region by providing mentorship to newcomers.

- **Strong written and verbal communication skills**

Being a lawyer and having strong research record I deal perfectly well with preparation of reports, briefing notes, position papers, one-pagers, blog posts and other analytical materials. Have completed courses on diplomatic and business correspondence. I feel comfortable working in multicultural environment. Dealing with advocacy I have excellent business communication and strategic partnership building skills.

For the last two years I'm also an editor of the South-Eastern European Summary of monthly events and developments in the region. I was the session organizer, speaker and moderator at SEEDIG, EuroDIG, IGF, RightsCon, Internet Freedom Summit, IFLA WLIC, and many other IG and digital rights events of smaller scale. Recently, I've partnered with Freedom House and prepared for them a policy brief regarding the influence of economic sanctions on the freedom of expression, followed by a public presentation.

- **Project management and coordination skills**

I'm dealing with project management for the last five years since I became a managing partner of my first organization. Then followed project coordinator position at Danish Refugee Council and the legal advisor role with the International Committee of the Red Cross where I was in charge of few separate tracks. Currently, I run my own organization. I am perfectly familiar with the project management circle, and have excellent team building skills. Moreover, I always had good intuition for good candidates, and after the interviews never regretted my choice. Additionally, I have experience in coordinating national and international projects involving participation of actors located in different geographical regions.

- **Networking skills**

In modern world, networking is an important means of reaching success, which is even more relevant when it comes to Internet governance field. So far, I have an extensive network of professional contacts both nationally and internationally, including within the ICANN community.

**6. Please assess and explain how your knowledge, experience & personality meet the desired attributes listed below. Leave the response blank if not applicable to you.**

- **Member of a GNSO Stakeholder Group and/or Constituency**

Non-Commercial Users Constituency (NCUC)

- **Understanding of the ICANN's mission, structure, and multistakeholder model**

Fully. I am part of the community since 2017, and have organized a number of outreach activities myself. I've attended all meetings since ICANN 58 either in person, or remotely, and am well aware of the trends and challenges faced by ICANN. I've successfully completed a number of ICANN Learn courses, and have been a part of ICANN NextGen, NextGen Ambassadors, and Fellowship Programs. Part of my PhD thesis is dedicated to ICANN as a positive example of multistakeholder model.

- **Willingness to devote the necessary time a resources prior to and during the ICANN meeting**

I was serving on the NextGen Selection Committee for ICANN 65, 66 and 67. Therefore, I fully understand what is the time commitment needed, and am ready to contribute the best of my and experience.

- **Ability to create a supportive atmosphere for mentees by being open, accessible, and approachable**

I am very open and easy-going person and fully acknowledge the importance of creating a supportive environment, especially in such a complex environment as ICANN is. I've already served as a NextGen Ambassador, thus being familiar with what it takes to take mentees through ICANN journey.

- **Robust network within the ICANN community and ability to leverage and share that network**

I do have a robust network within the ICANN community, and would be happy to make necessary introductions.

- **Ability to present information in a manner that is simple and easy to understand**

Confirm. Being familiar with ICANN environment and having profound record of capacity building activities, I know how to find proper approach to respective audience and individuals.

- **Ability to establish weekly projects and deliverables for mentees using a clear and consistent learning approach**

Easily achievable with a view to my project management and mentoring experience.

**7. Please explain your interest in serving as a mentor and what you will bring to the Fellowship Program if selected.**

I started my way in Internet governance from participation in an ICANN meeting. This is where I first got introduced to the community and understood how diverse is this environment. I remember the feeling when I wanted to embrace it all from the first time, and how at times frustrating it was that the goal “I want it all now” was not achievable at once. My persistency forced me to explore different ways of getting meaningfully engaged and contributing for the benefit of the community. I am very grateful to all the people whom I met on my way and who supported and directed me at different times. But I also wish I had a mentor who could guide me at that moment, answer my questions and be patient enough to help me find my way. And by completing that way (even I feel at ICANN you can never say you know it all) I feel now ready to share my knowledge, expertise and observations as a community member and provide the necessary guidance for the newcomers or alumni. I don’t know how my work schedule will be designed and whether I’ll be able to commit enough time in the upcoming years, but while I have time to make my contribution to the development of the Fellowship Program, I am ready to do so. Moreover, no one can know better how to guide a fellow than a former fellow.