



GNSO Council IDNv4.0 Guidelines Update

16 Dec 2021

Board Letter to Council

The ICANN Board is concerned that delay in implementing the latest update to the Guidelines may continue to expose the end users to the potential security issues for IDN registrations at the second level, which version 4.0 is to address.

Therefore, the ICANN Board proposes that the GNSO expeditiously proceed to review and organize the 19 guidelines of the IDN Guidelines version 4.0 into two subsets:

1. those which are already part of currently applicable IDN Guidelines 3.0 and additional guidelines which do not overlap with topics included in the IDN Expedited Policy Development Process (EPDP) charter approved by the GNSO, and
2. the few guidelines which overlap with the topics included in the IDN EPDP charter.

Reply Points re: IDN Guidelines v4.0

- There are no stability & security issues addressed in v4.0 of the Guidelines that are not addressed in v3.0 (cf. there are SSR issues being addressed in the IDN EPDP)
 - the new v4.0 Guidelines (i.e., not part of the v3.0 Guideline) apply to new registrations only
 - only four of the ten new Guidelines are mandatory
- Of the four mandatory Guidelines,
 - #6a – use of RFC7940 to represent LGRs, (old tables can remain in old format)
 - #11* – activation of variants
 - #13* – harmonization of IDN tables
 - #18* – publishing of IDN policies,

three (*) collide with the IDN EPDP, none of these have SSR implications
- In addition, Guideline 12 overlaps with the IDN EPDP but is not mandatory

Thank You

