Enhancing ICANN Accountability – Work Stream 2 (WS2) Recommendation 3.1 - Implementation Documentation

Enhancing ICANN Accountability – Work Stream 2 Final Report

See https://www.icann.org/resources/work-stream-2-implementation-en for more information on Work Stream 2 implementation.

WS2 - Framework of Interpretation for Human Rights – Recommendation 3.1

The CCWG-Accountability WS2 recommends the adoption of the Framework of Interpretation it developed for the ICANN Bylaws dealing with Human Rights, which can be found in Annex 3.

Final Implementation Report/Rationale

The first part of Recommendation 3.1 was completed on 7 November 2019 with ICANN Board’s adoption of the consensus recommendations contained within the WS2 Final Report, which includes the Framework of Interpretation (FOI).

In order to implement the FOI, the community needs to establish mechanisms for checking that their policy recommendations, policy advice, and other community-developed recommendations (e.g. Reviews or Cross-Community Working Groups) take human rights issues into consideration and provide the ICANN Board with relevant information on that portion of their work. The ICANN community carries the responsibility to factor human rights considerations into their policy advice and recommendations, and to indicate if and how these considerations have been addressed in their formal advice and recommendations to the Board.

In an effort to support the community, ICANN org published a page on 5 May 2022 on the community wiki as a repository of documents relating to ICANN and the ICANN community’s work on human rights. The page aims to enhance transparency and information-sharing as community groups implement Recommendation 3.1. Additionally, ICANN org will provide the community with the necessary support for the community’s efforts to establish the mechanism(s) necessary for upholding the human rights core value. The scope and timeline of the work will depend on and guided by how the community wants to implement this recommendation. ICANN org will continue to meet its obligations under the recommendation by providing ongoing support for ICANN community efforts to establish mechanism(s) necessary for upholding the human rights core value.

Independent of the FOI, ICANN org published its first-ever Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) on its daily business operations in May 2019. The exercise was carried out by an independent third party and focused on the functional areas of human resources, procurement, meetings, and security operations. The findings were generally positive, citing that ICANN org does a good job in following best practices, while emphasizing the need for ongoing training and communication across all areas of operation. ICANN org has addressed the HRIA recommendations and will continue its efforts to incorporate human rights work into the overall culture of ICANN, as part of its ongoing planning and operational activities.
Timeline

- Expected implementation date: 2 February 2022
- Final implementation date: 5 May 2022

Milestones

- ICANN Board’s adoption of the consensus recommendations contained within the WS2 Final Report, which includes the FOI (7 November 2019)
- Community wiki page: The ICANN Community’s Work on Human Rights (5 May 2022)