ICANN for Beginners:
An Introduction
www.icann.org
Maria's ICANN colleagues working together
How does your computer or smartphone find a web address when you type the words, or the URL, into your browser and what is ICANN's role in all of that?
IP ADDRESS
192.168.0.7

DOMAIN NAME
icann.org
So, what is ICANN?
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
Virtual Tour of ICANN

1. How does the Internet work?
2. Why is ICANN important to the Internet?
3. What initiatives is ICANN working on?
4. Why should you get involved?
5. How can your skills make an impact?
6. How do you get involved?
7. Where can you go to learn more?
How Does the Internet Work?
How to send information from one place to another, in a **predictable and reliable way**.
Think of information sent over the Internet as a **digital postcard**, with a **receiver address**, a **sender address**, and **content**.
Your Phone  
IP Address  
192.0.2.4

Abena’s Phone  
IP Address  
192.0.2.7

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>IP Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jon Postel</td>
<td>192.0.2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Reynolds</td>
<td>192.0.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vint Cerf</td>
<td>192.0.2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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https://www.icann.org

.com

.au
TLDs

top-level domains

ccTLDs

country-code top-level domain

.gTLDs

generic top-level domain

.au .ng .br

.com .org .edu
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So, who runs the Internet?
Distributed, resilient network
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Why Is ICANN Important to the Internet?
Keep the Internet **secure, stable, and interoperable**
Does ICANN control content on the Internet?
That’s the job of content providers, regulators, and law enforcement in individual countries.
ICANN ensures that the Internet remains stable, secure, and interoperable
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Community → Board of Directors → Staff (ICANN org)
ICANN’s multistakeholder model
Top-down Governance
Community-Driven Policy Making

Multistakeholder Model
Supporting Organizations

Advisory Committees
Generic Names Supporting Organization

GNSO  •  https://gnso.icann.org

Council composed of 21 members—divided into 2 houses (contracted and non-contracted parties)—who work on generic top-level domain (gTLD) naming policies (e.g., .com, new gTLDs).

Governmental Advisory Committee

GAC  •  https://gac.icann.org

Provides advice on public policy issues, particularly on interactions with policies and national laws or international agreements.

At-Large Advisory Committee

ALAC  •  https://atlarge.icann.org

Voices the interests of the individual Internet user and is composed of 15 members—2 from each of the five Regional At-Large Organizations (RALOs) and 5 appointed by the ICANN Nominting Committee. It is supported by over 200 At-Large Structures (ALSes) and volunteers.
What Initiatives is ICANN Working On?
I started following discussions related to not-for-profit concerns.
Working toward a multilingual Internet

1. Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)
2. Universal Acceptance

DNS Security Threat Mitigation Program

The DNS Security Threat Mitigation Program is one of ICANN's initiatives to improve security and prevent threats from disrupting the DNS system.
Why should you get involved?
Skills

MEETINGS
By participating in ICANN’s work, you will:

- Connect to others
- Grow your network
- Expand your perspective
How your skills can make an impact
Hola
Bonjour
Hello
Привет
مرحباً
你好
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- Researching and reading draft policy documents
- Organizing or taking part in discussions
- Reaching out to new people about getting involved
- Leading a meeting
- Writing white papers, blogs, or comments
- Finding compromises as part of consensus-based decision making

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How do you get involved?
Attending meetings and workshops online or in-person

Comment on issues through ICANN Public Comment Proceedings

Join one of ICANN’s Supporting Organizations or Advisory Committees

Join a working group on a specific topic
Where to go to learn more
Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) Team
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Thank you!

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