

Expression of Interest – GNSO Nominated Mentor for the ICANN Fellowship Program Overview:

This call seeks members of the GNSO community interested in serving as a volunteer mentor for the ICANN Fellowship Program.

Please complete, save and submit this form by email to gns0-secs@icann.org. The deadline is 12 January 2023 at 23:59 UTC.

How to complete your application:

1. First, read the Acknowledgement and Consent text below. Check the appropriate box and enter the date on page 2.
2. Beginning on page 3, this application includes fields for you to fill in personal details, as well as 7 additional questions.
3. You need to fill in all sections of the form. If a given criteria (e.g. expertise) does not apply to you, leave the field empty.
4. Once you have completed the form, save it on your computer/tablet/smartphone.
5. Create a new email message addressed to gns0-secs@icann.org, attach the form which you previously saved and submit the application.

You must submit your application by 12 January 2023 at 23:59 UTC.

Fellowship Program Mentor – GNSO Expression of Interest Acknowledgment and Consent Form

Please read this Acknowledgement and Consent carefully as it contains important details about how your personal information is collected, processed, and published when you submit your application for the Fellowship Program Mentor Position (“Position”).

By completing the Fellowship Program Application Form (“Application Form”), you authorize and consent to Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (“ICANN”, “we”, “us”, “our”) collecting and processing your personal information in accordance with this Consent Form. ICANN is the data controller of your personal information when you submit the Application Form and is responsible for complying with applicable data protection laws.

What We Collect From You

When submitting the Application Form, you understand that you may provide personal information, including your name, contact information, qualifications and professional background, and any other information you voluntarily provide.

You understand provision of personal information with your application is entirely voluntary. You determine the extent to which you provide information as part of your application. However, if you decide not to provide information, you understand that it may affect your candidacy.

It is your responsibility to obtain consent from any individual for whom you provide his or her personal information of as a part of your application.

What We Collect From Other Sources

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We may collect information from other sources, including other individuals you identify. We may also collect information from publicly available sources including your personal web pages.

Why We Collect

We only process your personal information when we have a legal basis to do so under applicable law. With your consent, we process the personal information you provide in order to assess your qualifications and candidacy for the Fellowship Program Mentor Position.

Disclosures and Publication of Your Personal Information

Your completed application and all supporting documentation will be published on the GNSO Standing Selection Committee community wiki page at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> for transparency purposes. Please be cognizant of your answers as these will be published.

International Transfers

Based on your consent and for the purposes set forth above, the personal information that you provide will be processed in the United States. ICANN employs adequate safeguards to protect your personal information; however, the United States may not provide you the same high level of protection of your personal information as the laws applicable in your country of residence.

Your Rights and Choices

You freely confirm your consent to all of the above. You understand that you may withdraw your consent to future processing at any time or for any reason by emailing privacy@icann.org. If you withdraw your consent, ICANN will stop processing and delete your information without undue delay, unless there are other legal grounds for processing. Your revocation, however, will not affect any personal information that we have already processed and transferred with your consent.

Subject to applicable law, you are entitled to certain rights with respect to your personal information. You can request to access, rectify, erase or restrict, or object to, the processing of your personal information or make use of the right to data portability by contacting privacy@icann.org. You also can lodge a complaint with the supervisory authority in your country of residence at any time.

CONSENT LANGUAGE

I agree to the above provisions and consent to the processing of my Fellowship Program Mentor Position Application Form to ICANN, as set forth above, and for my Application Form to be published at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> in connection with ICANN's consideration for my candidacy.

I understand the above provisions and do not consent to the processing of my Fellowship Program Mentor Position Application Form to ICANN, as set forth above, or for my Application Form to be published at <https://community.icann.org/display/GSSC> in connection with ICANN's consideration for my candidacy.

Date: Jan 8, 2024

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Applicant Information

First Name: Mili

Last Name: Semlani

Gender: Female

Country of Residence: India

Stakeholder Group/Constituency Affiliation: NCUC Questions

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

I work as a media consultant and community builder helping small and medium size newsrooms in Asia to engage their audience reach and engage their readers better. I am also working on a tech x religion report for Rest of World.

2. Education:

Bachelors and Masters in Journalism and Communication

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

I am an NUCC EC member and engage with GNSO policy via the NCSG policy committee.

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?

I have been an ICANN fellow in 2018 and 2019. I have also been a part of the youth team that piloted and championed the next gen at ICANN mission in 2014 led and organised by Netmission.

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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
- Previous experience serving as a mentor, teacher, or learning facilitator is a plus
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Project management and coordination skills
- Networking skills

As a two-time ICANN fellow myself, I am passionate about giving back to the community and especially passionate about working with newcomers in the ICANN ecosystem. I have spent over 8 years starting as a youth fellow in the internet governance space right from the Youth Ambassador at ICANN52 to Netmission to APriGF fellow to now an NCUC EC member and I am attuned to the challenges newcomers face.

Over the years, I have actively engaged with various initiatives related to relevant areas within ICANN's scope, such as Internet governance, domain name system policy, etc.

I have attended more than 3 in-person ICANN meetings after my fellowship and learnt more about how to navigate the post fellowship journey and reckon that over the years this is emerging as a far greater challenge for both graduating fellows looking to further engage and constituencies looking for young blood. Hence I also started and lead Youth4IG— a community of young people in Asia engaged and willing to grow in the internet governance space, in 2019. At Youth4IG, we ran a community first mentorship programme with Samira Gupta and Donna Austin as our first mentors and 6 youth fellows from the global south as mentees to address this gap.

I wish to use this mentorship opportunity to bridge this gap and further my mission to start a mini mentorship programme with NCSG for graduating and interested fellows thus allowing them a pathway to stay engaged in policy work and ICANN community.

I have also contributed to working groups like the Transfer policy, and applicant support at the NCSG level to support our councillors and their work which gives me a sound understanding of the various roles for new volunteers and prepare fellows for the actual policy work, whilst setting realistic expectations.

My professional roles have taught me the value of time management and adequate process and structure to drive impactful outcomes. Over the years, I have married my natural flair for interpersonal communication and skill to adapt to technology and new tools to build strong connections and friendships in large communities like the ICANN ecosystem. I believe these skills will come in handy as a mentor too.

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

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- Willingness to devote the necessary time and resources prior to and during the ICANN meeting
- Ability to create a supportive atmosphere for mentees by being open, accessible, and approachable
- Robust network within the ICANN community and ability to leverage and share that network
- Ability to present information in a manner that is simple and easy to understand
- Ability to establish weekly projects and deliverables for mentees using a clear and consistent learning approach

I have spent more than a decade being a volunteer in the internet governance world.

Starting as a youth fellow myself, I have experienced the programmes and their challenges first-hand and contributed via feedback and discourse to evolve them.

Thanks to some incredible mentors, I understand the significance of mentorship in guiding fellows through the complexities of ICANN's processes and policies. In my informal capacity, I have always spent 1-2 hours chatting with fellows and sharing my experience and tips to help them navigate their ways at every in-person meeting. My expertise in public speaking, note taking and familiarity with community members also enables me to connect them to people with relevant expertise to support the fellow's interests and needs. I am eager to leverage my skills and experiences to contribute to the professional growth of emerging leaders in the ICANN community.

I am also grateful for all the people in the community that I have engaged, worked and acquainted with over the various meetings and zoom calls, and for the ever widening network in the ICANN community which will be helpful in connecting my mentees to people with specific expertise and greater alignment with their interests.

As a community builder and journalist, communication is my strong suit and having worked in four developing economies in Asia, I have a sound understanding of cultural sensitivity while networking. I am absolutely passionate about fostering greater gender balance and especially enable women from the global south to overcome cultural and language barriers to participate in ICANN and other IG forums.

I look forward to the opportunity to support and empower fellows as they navigate their journeys within the ICANN community.

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7. Please explain your interest in serving as a mentor and what you will bring