Global Public Interest (GPI) Framework

In June 2020, the ICANN Board, in consultation with the community, developed a proposed global public interest (GPI) framework.

The Board asked ICANN org to test the framework as a pilot with two case studies: the System for Standardized Access/Disclosure (SSAD) recommendations and the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures (SubPro) recommendations.

The goal of the pilot was two-fold: to determine the framework's use and utility for the Board and to demonstrate how the community could use the framework to evaluate relevant public interest considerations within a given issue.

The pilot has since been completed, and the framework below reflects the changes resulting from the pilot.

The ICANN community is encouraged to leverage the framework during the policy development process as a way to help structure and guide its discussions on the GPI.

For previous versions of the framework and for the pilot report, please visit the GPI wiki.

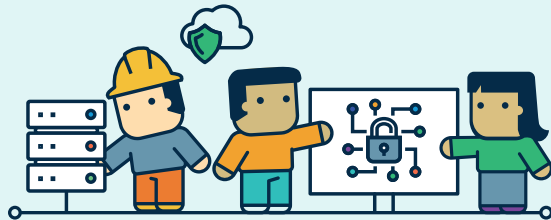# Proposed Framework Categories

ICANN's technical coordination

Stable
Secure
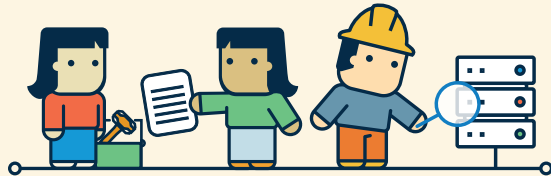Open
Resilient
Interoperable

ICANN's role in the DNS marketplace

Fair
Trusted
Supportive of competition
Innovative

Benefit to the Internet community

Beneficial
Inclusive
Supportive of underserved communities
Supportive of human rights

ICANN's global multistakeholder community and policy development processes

Diverse	Transparent
Respectful	Open
Inclusive	Balanced
Innovative	Accountable

ICANN's financial operations

Fiscally responsible
Sustainable

Proposed Framework

Overall ICANN Categories	Public Interest Categories	Bylaws Considerations
ICANN's technical coordination	Stable Secure Open Resilient Interoperable	✅ Will it preserve and enhance the administration of the DNS and the operational stability, reliability, security, global interoperability, resilience, and openness of the DNS and the Internet? (Commitment a.i) ✅ Will it maintain the capacity and ability to coordinate the DNS at the overall level and work for the maintenance of a single, interoperable Internet? (Commitment a.ii) ✅ Will it, to the extent feasible and appropriate, delegat[e] coordination functions to or recogniz[e] the policy role of, other responsible entities that reflect the interests of affected parties and the roles of bodies internal to ICANN and relevant external expert bodies? (Core value b.i.)
ICANN's role in the DNS marketplace	Fair Trusted Supportive of competition Innovative	✅ Will it, where feasible and appropriate, depen[d] on market mechanisms to promote and sustain a competitive environment in the DNS market? (Core value b.iii) ✅ Will it introduc[e] and promot[e] competition in the registration of domain names where practicable and beneficial to the public interest as identified through the bottom-up, multistakeholder policy development process? (Core value b.iv)
Benefit to the Internet community	Beneficial Inclusive Supportive of underserved communities Supportive of human rights	✅ Will it operate in a manner consistent with these Bylaws for the benefit of the Internet community as a whole? In performing its Mission, ICANN must [operate in this manner], carrying out its activities in conformity with relevant principles of international law and international conventions and applicable local law, through open and transparent processes that enable competition and open entry in Internet-related markets. (Commitments a) ✅ Will it, within the scope of its Mission and other Core Values, respec[t] internationally recognized human rights as required by applicable law [?] This Core Value does not create, and shall not be interpreted to create, any obligation on ICANN outside its Mission, or beyond obligations found in applicable law. This Core Value does not obligate ICANN to enforce its human rights obligations, or the human rights obligations of other parties, against other parties. (Core value b.viii)

Overall ICANN Categories	Public Interest Categories	Bylaws Considerations
ICANN's global multistakeholder community and policy development processes	Diverse Respectful Inclusive Innovative Transparent Accountable Open Balanced	✅ Will it respect the creativity, innovation, and flow of information made possible by the Internet by limiting ICANN's activities to matters that are within ICANN's Mission and require or significantly benefit from global coordination? (Commitment a.iii) ✅ Will it employ open, transparent and bottom-up, multistakeholder policy development processes that are led by the private sector (including business stakeholders, civil society, the technical community, academia, and end users), while duly taking into account the public policy advice of governments and public authorities [?] These processes shall (A) seek input from the public, for whose benefit ICANN in all events shall act, (B) promote well-informed decisions based on expert advice, and (C) ensure that those entities most affected can assist in the policy development process. (Commitment a.iv) ✅ Will it remain accountable to the Internet community through mechanisms defined in these Bylaws that enhance ICANN's effectiveness? (Commitment a.vi) ✅ Will it see[k] and suppor[t] broad, informed participation reflecting the functional, geographic, and cultural diversity of the Internet at all levels of policy development and decision-making to ensure that the bottom-up, multistakeholder policy development process is used to ascertain the global public interest and that those processes are accountable and transparent? (Core value b.ii) ✅ Will it striv[e] to achieve a reasonable balance between the interests of different stakeholders, while also avoiding capture? (Core value b.vii) ✅ Will it, while remaining rooted in the private sector (including business stakeholders, civil society, the technical community, academia, and end users), recogniz[e] that governments and public authorities are responsible for public policy and duly taking into account the public policy advice of governments and public authorities? (Core value b.vi)
ICANN's financial operations	Fiscally responsible Sustainable	✅ Will it operat[e] with efficiency and excellence, in a fiscally responsible and accountable manner and, where practicable and not inconsistent with ICANN's other obligations under these Bylaws, at a speed that is responsive to the needs of the global Internet community? (Core value b.v)