

Dear councillors, and community members,

I wish to provide some details on my interest in participating in the SSR2 review as a GNSO endorsed member. Many of you know me from my work in a number of areas in GNSO and broader ICANN policy however for those of you don't I will provide some quick background on my reasons for being here at ICANN.

When the NTIA announced its transition I felt that this was a crucial moment in the evolution of the internet, a moment that would be historical but also a moment that was going to be incredibly difficult to get right. I made the decision to get involved in the work of the CWG initially planning to only focus on my own small area of knowledge and expertise namely SSR related issues. I was honored to be selected to lead a design team, focusing on technical aspects of the CWGs work. Beginning with the F2F in Istanbul I have followed through on that promise to myself and believe that the CWG delivered on, and exceeded the communities needs to maintain a secure internet. I have also served on the implementation oversight task force of the CWG ensuring that our proposal is translated into reality in the correct manner.

I then ended up unintentionally getting involved in the work of the CCWG-Accountability, it was here that I truly began to understand the broad range of stakeholders at ICANN, not just within the GNSO but across the entire range of SO's and AC's. 12 months later I believe that I was a productive participant on behalf of us all, working, or attempting to work across our traditional divisions and silos, and making sure that we were going the best job for us all.

My motivation to join the SSR2 review is quite a simple one, the internet is important to us all, we all come here to participate for many wide and varied reasons however at the core of all of our work is the security stability and resiliency of the internet and the DNS root. At times it may seem like we have the ability within our communities and inter community to disagree on almost any given topic, however on this core issue I think we cannot be more aligned. The internet is a beautiful thing and we must do everything we can in order to preserve it.

I feel that moving to the SSR2 review team work at this point is a natural evolution of the work that I have done to date, I do not intend to be deeply involved in WS2 accountability, and my role as a member of the Implementation Oversight Taskforce overseeing the CWG implementation has come to a close at the same time as the review begins.

I am lucky enough to possess a skillset that I believe matches the requirements to participate in such a review team, indeed I have spoken to many members of the previous SSR and have been encouraged to apply based on their feedback.

I have spent much of my career working to protect and defend critical infrastructure across a number of industry verticals, as an information security professional I believe that I possess a relevant and useful technical skillset for a GNSO appointed member to the review team. More recently I have spent a number of years focused on the policy and strategy aspects of this field and feel that my ability to bridge the sometimes perceived gap between the technical and policy elements is critical for such a review.

Additionally I have recently been selected to serve the GNSO as its non RySG liaison to the CSC, I believe that these two roles blend quite well together and will hopefully provide a good basis for my participation in both groups.

Given the importance of this review team to all stakeholders I would endeavour to make sure that I am representing all stakeholders in the GNSO on this review, a fact that is very important to me, and that I hope I have communicated to many of you when discussing whether I should apply for this critical position.

I hope that the GNSO may consider endorsing me for this position, and if you do I will do my best to ensure that I serve you all well. If any member of the council or the greater community has any questions or comments for me please feel free to reach out to me.

Regards,

James Gannon