

My Testimony: Esteban Lescano

I have taken part in the Community Onboarding Pilot Program since ICANN56 in Helsinki, continuing the work and participating in both ICANN58 in Copenhagen and ICANN59 in Johannesburg.

The program was very useful for me because it has forced me to get a better understanding of ISPCP constituency, its members, its leadership and the main topics under discussion.

Moreover, the program was a wonderful opportunity to collaborate and to build bridges with people from other constituencies inside ICANN's ecosystem through our worksessions held before each of the ICANN Meetings that I was able to attend.

In some way, I felt that the Program was a "neutral" arena for people coming from different constituencies and in some cases with opposite agendas to work together for the ICANN community common benefit.

During the program, I worked with Osama Tamimi, from Palestine and an ICANN fellow alumni like me. We drafted the Onboarding document together, summarizing all the relevant information about ISPCP for newcomers and following the guidelines developed in each Onboarding work session.

I believe that the Program is trying to fill the "information gap" that exists when a newcomer starts to participate in the ISPCP constituency and is a good tool to provide the materials needed to allow a "soft landing" into everyday ISPC's activity inside ICANN, because is not easy to understand ISPCP and its role inside ICANN when you are a newcomer. I remember my first approach to ICANN in Buenos Aires ICANN48, before my first fellowship and how hard was to understand the topic under discussion in ISPCP public meeting.

The dialect, the issues and the way in which they are treated need a better explanation when is your first or second ICANN meeting.

From that point of view the Onboarding Program is a great idea as a "think tank" for each community to develop new tools to lead the onboarding process when a newcomer arrives.

ICANN's complexity needs a better explanation and more effective tools to promote engagement, beginning with each constituency, Supporting Organization and Advisory Committee.

It is important to mention that during the process, Osama and I worked in connection with ISPCP Leadership, Wolf Ulrich Knoblen

and Tony Holmes, who read and reviewed the document as it was being drafted.

I hope to continue working on the Program during 2018 and finally, I want to thank Janice Douma Lange and her team for the opportunity of continuing learning about ISPs inside ICANN ecosystem, in collaboration with colleagues from other constituencies and taking part in the process of helping newcomers to engage with ICANN.

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