

# who we are

# how to join NPOC

NPOC, the Not-for-Profit Organizations Constituency, is the home for not-for-profit and nongovernmental organizations wishing to have a voice by participating in ICANN's policymaking processes. NPOC's role is to engage the ICANN community on how proposed and existing policies and initiatives uniquely affect those it represents.

Operational concerns within the context of NPOC are any concerns not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations might have about how policymaking processes within ICANN – and the way ICANN operates as an organization – might affect their ability to deliver mission-related services.

NPOC serves its members and communities by addressing specific operational concerns, including:

- Registering and maintaining domain names fairly and efficiently
- Protecting against fraud and abuse
- Ensuring security and privacy whilst using the Domain Name System (DNS)

To become a member is easy — visit [npoc.org](https://npoc.org), click on “NPOC membership” and complete the membership form. If you have any questions, or want to get involved, please contact [info@npoc.org](mailto:info@npoc.org).



NPOC.ORG



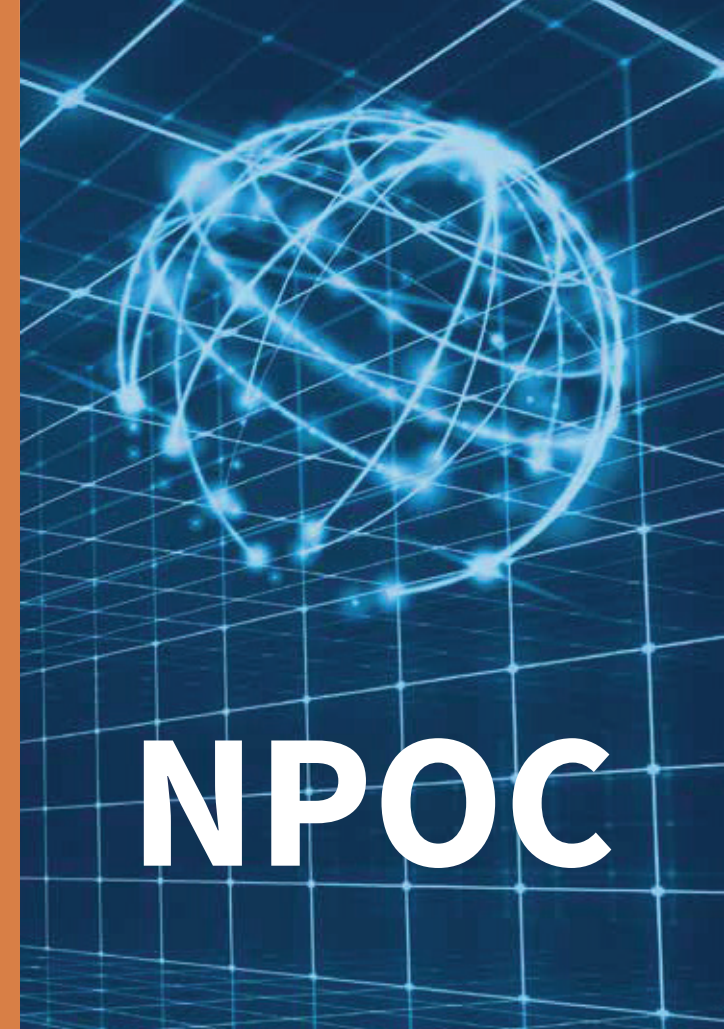
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# NPOC

not-for-profit  
organizations  
constituency

# our goals

# who can join NPOC

# about ICANN

NPOC's goal is to represent, in the best way possible, the operational concerns of civil society organizations within the ICANN Internet governance ecosystem. Community outreach and engagement play important roles in achieving this goal.

Strategies include:

- Raising awareness in civil society organizations about how to address their DNS-related operational concerns.
- Sensitizing civil society organizations to DNS-related operational concerns and relevance for them to become NPOC members.
- Encouraging and supporting the participation of NPOC members in all ICANN policymaking processes, such as working groups.

All registered not-for-profit and non-governmental organizations, as long as they have a registered domain name, have the right to make their voices heard on how the DNS will evolve in the future.

## why should you join

NPOC members participate in the different spaces where ICANN develops and reviews the policymaking process. NPOC also creates an opportunity for NGOs to network and share concerns about the development of the Internet ecosystem.



ICANN's mission is to help ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet, you have to type an address into your computer or other device. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN helps coordinate and support these unique identifiers across the world. ICANN was formed in 1998 as a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation and a community with participants from all over the world. For more information please visit: [icann.org](http://icann.org)

At the heart of ICANN's policymaking is what is called a "multistakeholder model." This is a community-based consensus-driven approach to policymaking. The idea is that Internet governance should mimic the structure of the Internet itself — borderless and open to all.

ICANN plays a unique role in the infrastructure of the internet. Through its contracts with registries (such as dot-com or dot-info) and registrars (companies that sell domain names to individuals and organisations), we help define how the Domain Name System (DNS) functions and expands.

