AN INTRODUCTION TO WIKI PRINCIPLES & EDITING

This informative guide is co-presented by

ICANNWiki Staff

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RAY KING
is a long-time wiki lover who began ICANNWiki in 2005 as his first wiki project. As well as being the Director of ICANNWiki, he is also the head of Top Level Design, LLC, which currently administers a number of TLDs, including .design, .ink, and .wiki.

ICANNWiki growing internet knowledge

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What is ICANNWiki?

ICANNWiki is a grassroots, community effort to create and curate articles describing the people and organizations, terms and topics within the ICANN community. We actively seek worldwide collaboration to increase understanding of how policy is created for the continued development of the Internet, a tool which we all use everyday. In particular, we focus on the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and related international policy and management bodies.

WHAT YOU CAN LEARN FROM THIS PAMPHLET

This guide will help you learn the ins and outs of ICANNWiki. Specifically, it will teach you how to add and edit ICANNWiki articles. We will teach you how to:

- NAVIGATE THE WIKI. ICW and its MediaWiki software platform are user-friendly, but require an understanding of the mark-up language and mechanics behind article creation.
- PREPARE BEFORE YOU EDIT. ICW is driven by its thoroughly researched content that relies on wiki-based ethos to guide its tone, clarity and validity.
- UNDERSTAND THE FOUNDATIONS OF WIKI CULTURE AND MARKUP.

EDITING ARTICLES

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EDITING CHEATSHEET

- Italic
- Bold
- Section headers
- Internal link to another ICANNWiki page
- External link to another website
- Bulleted list
- Numbered list
- Image with a caption
- Signature and timestamp (for "Discussion" pages)

CITING SOURCES

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ICANN

ICANN is an acronym for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a global multi-stakeholder organization that was created and empowered through actions by the U.S. government and its Department of Commerce.\[1] It coordinates the Internet DNS, IP addresses and autonomous system numbers, which involves a continued management of these evolving systems and the protocols that underly them.

While ICANN has its roots in the U.S. government, it is now, and continues to strive to be, an international, community-driven organization. Their management of an interoperable Internet covers 180 million domain names, the allocation of more than 4 billion network addresses, and the support of approximately a trillion DNS look-ups everyday across 240 countries.\[2]

ICANN collaborates with companies, individuals, and governments to ensure the continued success of the Internet. It holds meetings three times a year, switching the international location for each meeting; one of these serves as the annual general meeting when the new ICANN Board members take their seats.\[3]

Organization & Structure

It is central to ICANN’s mission that the organization itself is structured in a way that welcomes a variety of voices and seeks to represent the extremely diverse constituencies with continued interest in the Internet's development, from registries, to corporations, to individual Internet users. In relation to ICANN’s structural development, there have been critics who have taken issue with its closed-door sessions, the role of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and other structural and procedural rules.\[4] ICANN has been described as being in a contentious oversight situation; with some countries calling for all U.S. influence to be removed from the organization by subordinating it to the U.N.’s jurisdiction, or suggesting similar solutions.\[5] ICANN’s structure and process is outlined in the ICANN Bylaws.

Board of Directors

Main article: ICANN Board

ICANN is governed by a Board of Directors made up of 15 voting members,\[6] and the President and CEO, who is also a voting member. The board is further aided by five non-voting liaisons.\[7] From ICANN’s inception to December 2011, being a board member was a voluntary position. At that time, the ICANN Board responded to mounting pressure regarding conflicts of interest and the notion that compensation would create a more professional and accountable body by awarding themselves a $35,000 annual salary.\[8]
Neutral Point of View (NPOV) is the way in which articles on this site and on all wiki sites should be written. That is, wiki articles should not contain any bias or unverifiable facts and opinions. This line can often be hard to define; for example, on our site we often list the services of a given company, but we try to remove any marketing spin or unverifiable language that implies these services accomplish something that their competitors do not. Generally speaking, when opinions are stated as facts, or when unappealing facts are intentionally omitted, then the article is not written from a NPOV.

At ICANNWiki, we insist on including references, and generally omit articles and article sections that cannot be backed up by at least one verifiable reference. We are constantly editing our articles to better adhere to our Wiki Values and improve their status as neutral articles.

When adding or editing content on ICANNWiki, it is important that you use verifiable information with corresponding references. Third-party sources such as multi-stakeholder monitored governance bodies (ISOC, ICANN, IANA) or any other source known for its careful contributions to the subject of Internet governance (CircleID, DN Journal) are helpful, resourceful complements to your work.

ICW's dynamic and rigorous nature can be attributed to the site's emphasis on original research. Copying and pasting from another encyclopedia or resources does a disservice to your and your reader's education. While it is okay to reformulate an idea's concept for your own understanding, it is not okay to closely paraphrase or plagiarize. In the end, go for simplicity and don’t worry about over-explaining a concept.