

GNSO Council Member Commitments

Preamble. The GNSO Council members, elected or nominated by their peers, share the responsibility of managing the gTLD policy development process for the community. As such Councilors already have a number of responsibilities such as the ones included here <https://gns0.icann.org/en/basics/101/role-council-member>
More generally, as members of the ICANN Community we agree to adhere to [ICANN's Expected Standards of Behavior](#) included here <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/expected-standards-2016-06-28-en>

Beyond these responsibilities as Members of the GNSO Council, and as part of the wider ICANN Community, we commit to:

Commitments:

- In terms of our Councilor responsibilities:
 - Keeping up to date with all the information and documentation shared with the Council members in preparation for Council meetings or other Council activities,
 - to be able to adequately inform and advise our Stakeholder Groups and/or Constituencies and ourselves;
 - to be able to participate and positively contribute to conversations and debates when these occur, and;
 - To be able to take decisions and participate in votes in the full understanding of the issues at hand.
- In terms of Supporting, Building and Maintaining Consensus:
 - Building our understanding of the issue either directly or via trusted and recognized subject matter experts who can be referenced or quoted;
 - Making efforts to listening to and understanding others' point of view particularly when these are in opposition to our own;
 - Striving to making our views understood by presenting them in an open and transparent manner;
 - Endeavoring to finding middle grounds that are acceptable to all, and where these cannot be achieved, clearly defining where consensus exists and where it does not;
 - Owning outcomes wherever these might have landed compared to our own or our group's views, in their entirety, for the portions where Consensus exists and recognizing where it didn't;
 - Refraining from relitigating issues in other ICANN venues;
 - Acknowledging participation to similar efforts outside of the ICANN Community;
 - Remembering that Consensus is hard to build, engages efforts and resources that are scarce, which are wasted and lost when we prove unable to respect and maintain it.

- In terms behavior:
 - Being kind while maintaining the right to vigorously disagree;
 - Acting respectfully toward others, especially those with opposing points of view;
 - Refraining from attacking adversaries through uncivil discourse, both in public and in private;
 - Being transparent about the motives and interests behind our positions, as an essential part of civil discourse;
 - Applying to ourselves and encouraging others to conduct themselves with the highest levels of honesty, transparency, and to foster constructive civil discourse based on these principles;
 - Understanding and acknowledging that politely expressed disagreements about substantive issues should not be viewed as personal attacks;
 - Refraining from what may be perceived as the making of snide remarks and condescending attitudes;
 - Valuing honesty and good will while striving to solve problems, and;
 - Encouraging others to practice these civil behaviors.