

A dark blue background featuring a complex network diagram. The diagram consists of numerous grey circular nodes of varying sizes, interconnected by thin, light blue lines. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some larger nodes acting as hubs. The overall effect is a sense of global connectivity and digital infrastructure.

ICANN | ASO

Address Supporting Organization

Joint Session

ASO and the ICANN Board

12 March 2025

Topics of the day

- Intro: What is ICP-2
- What is the outcome of your ICP-2 survey?
- Please provide thoughts on the progress or likely outcome of the ICP-2 update process.

What is ICP-2?

- Internet Coordination Policy 2: [Criteria for Establishment of New Regional Internet Registries](#) (accepted 4 June 2001)
- Document that provides criteria for recognizing new RIRs
 - Examples
 - Sufficiently large proposed service region
 - Support of local numbering community
 - Technical capability
- <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/new-rirs-criteria-2012-02-25-en>

History

- **RIPE NCC** (1991), **APNIC** (1992) and **ARIN** (1997) were established before ICANN
- **RFC 1466** (IETF, 1993) describes the RIR system:
 - Well-established organization
 - Mutual recognition and the operations of the RIRs
 - Stable, reliable, and provides timely service
 - Implements the rules set by the community
 - Coordinates with the IANA in distributing resources
- Later refined in **RFC 2050** (IETF, 1996) and **RFC 7020** (IETF 2013)

Why revisit ICP-2?

- ICP-2 is nearly 25 years old
 - The Internet has changed over the last quarter century
 - The relationships between RIRs and ICANN and between each other have changed
- Need to more explicitly provide for
 - An RIR's ongoing responsibilities
 - Potential de-recognition of an RIR that can no longer adequately provide for the needs of its numbering community

ICP-2 Review Project

On 25 October 2023, the NRO EC* asked the ASO AC to help with two tasks aimed at strengthening the RIR system:

- (1) ICP-2 Implementation Procedures:** Review and advise the NRO EC on its draft procedures for validating and addressing ongoing RIR compliance with ICP-2 (“Implementation Procedures”)
- (2) Strengthen ICP-2:** Revise ICP-2 to make the RIR system more accountable to the Internet community

*Read more about the NRO EC at: <https://www.nro.net/about/executive-council/>

Topics of the day

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ICP²

Criteria for Establishment
of New Regional Internet
Registries

QUESTIONNAIRE

ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report



<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/icp-2-principles-questionnaire-report-and-data/>

Proposed Principles Input

There were two processes from 8 October – 6 December 2024

(1) ICANN Public Comment: 14 responses

(2) RIR Questionnaire: 298 responses

- The ASO AC carried out a qualitative analysis to inform the next version of ICP-2.
- Important to note, this was not a vote on the principles, but a means to understand concerns and considerations that should be kept in mind
- The response data is public, and the ASO AC has published a summary of the responses
- The input is being used to draft the updated version of ICP-2

<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/icp-2-principles-questionnaire-report-and-data/>

implementation of the principles is outside the scope of ICP-2 and the work of the NRO NC, your detailed feedback will be shared with the RIRs. For the purposes of transparency and possible future use, the comments on implementation have also been included in this overview.

Methodology

Members of the NRO NC and supporting RIR staff reviewed the comments received. Upon reading through the comments, we worked to identify the main themes or concerns emerging from the comments to create a summary for each principle. Additionally, comments that provided constructive feedback or relevant insights were also included in the summary.

We further considered whether the comments pertained to the content of the principle itself, the possible implementation of that principle or the phrasing of the principle. Comments that did not relate to the principle or ICP-2 in general were marked as being off-topic and excluded from this summary.

We received 298 individual submissions from the RIR communities. Upon review, approximately half of these were found to be duplicate comments, most likely generated using artificial intelligence (AI) tools. A more detailed note on how these were considered is shared below.

Many responses provided a rating that did not match the content of the response. We evaluated the content of the response, rather than using the rating from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree.

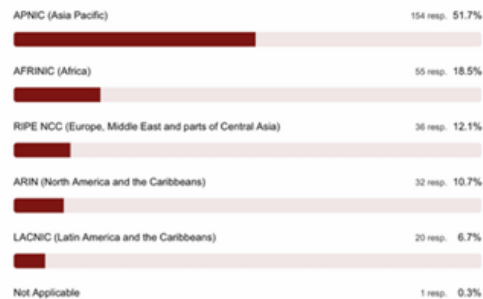
Data cleaning and consolidation of duplicate responses

A linguistic clustering analysis was conducted to identify repeat comments, concluding that approximately 150 of the 298 responses received belonged to clusters of highly similar responses. This analysis was carried out using the deep learning model, BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers), to identify clusters of highly similar responses. Filtering out highly-similar responses allowed us to focus on the content of the unique comments received.

It is important to note that these near-identical responses have also been included in this analysis. However as these repeated the same pieces of information, each group of identical comments has been treated as a single input. The identical comments were also manually reviewed to check for false positives.

The summary includes a selection of comments related to each principle, to provide a glimpse of the comments received. [The full dataset of comments is available on the NRO website.](#)

Responses received by region



Authority

Any proposal to recognize a Candidate RIR or to derecognize an RIR must originate from the NRO EC after a majority vote in favor of the proposal. ICANN shall have final authority to decide whether to adopt the proposal, subject to ICP-2, provided that ICANN has first consulted with and given substantial consideration to the input of each RIR.

Summary of the comments received

- Comments in support of the principle highlighted the following:
 - There is a need for a balance of authority between the NRO EC and ICANN
 - The input from other stakeholders needs to be included such as RIR communities or the ASO AC, the GAC and RIR communities and members
- Comments also raised concerns with the principle, namely:
 - The role of the NRO EC needs clarity, there is the possibility of becoming gatekeepers
 - The existing RIRs might have a conflict of interest with the establishment of new RIRs
 - Giving ICANN the final authority could contradict the independence of the RIRs, ICANN might gain a lot of power
- Others felt that ICANN has a global oversight role and hence its involvement is appropriate
- The role of all stakeholders and the processes behind should be transparent
- Multistakeholder involvement of the RIR community is indispensable

Sample Comments

“This principle establishes a clear and balanced approach to RIR recognition and derecognition. It empowers the NRO EC to initiate proposals based on community consensus, while granting ICANN the final authority to ensure global consistency and adherence to ICP-2 principles. This division of authority safeguards the stability and integrity of the internet’s numbering resources.”

“A candidate RIR will emerge always for part(s) of any of the 5 service regions, so i see a clear conflict of interest in the ability of RIRs voting about it.”

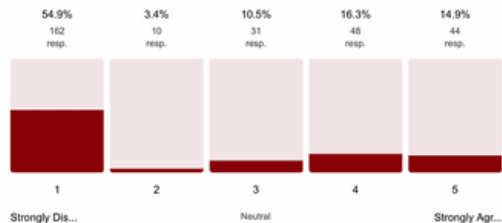
“Consensus among and within the RIR community under consideration should also be considered.”

Numerical Rating

Authority

295 out of 298 answered

2.3 Average rating



Derecognition

An RIR that does not continue to meet all the requirements specified in ICP-2 may be derecognized as an RIR.

Summary of the comments received

- Comments in support of the principle highlighted the following:
 - The processes leading up to derecognition should be clear, transparent and well-defined
 - There should be a defined grace period to help provide guidance and corrective action, including opportunities to appeal, possibly addressed by the addition of a remedial phase in the RIR life cycle between operation and derecognition
 - Derecognition should be a last resort
- Respondents who disagreed with the principle stated that derecognition should not be immediate, automatic or due to minor or temporary lapses
- Several comments addressed the implementation of this principle:
 - Meeting ICP-2 requirements should be objectively verifiable
 - The processes leading up to derecognition should be clear, transparent and well-defined
 - There should a smooth, clear handover process in case of derecognition
 - Derecognition should be a last resort
- The phrasing of the “operation” principle indicates a de-facto presumption of derecognition in the case of continual non-compliance
- The roles of the NRO EC, the RIRs and ICANN need to be clearly defined

Sample Comments

“As I support the idea we need to define the derecognition, I simply support this. I would argue to add the remedial phase of lifecycle between operation and derecognition.”

“In principle yes, but the 'derecognition' process should not exclusively lie with the NRO which is effectively a trade association with potentially vested interests in maintaining the status quo. The derecognition conditions and process needs to be better enumerated.”

“Generally agree that derecognition must be possible, but the devil will absolutely be in the details of what lies under the principle.”

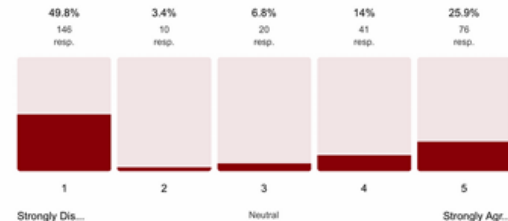
“This requirement for immediate derecognition of an RIR that does not meet all ICP-2 standards is overly harsh and risks destabilizing the regional Internet infrastructure. Given the diverse challenges faced by RIRs, temporary lapses should not automatically trigger derecognition. A supportive approach would provide the necessary resources for resolution.” (Comment submitted repeatedly)

Numerical Rating

Derecognition

293 out of 298 answered

2.6 Average rating



General Comments

We thank everyone who had the patience to submit additional feedback on the ICP-2 update process after this fairly lengthy questionnaire. The general comments covered a wide range of topics and a summary cannot do justice to them. We have shared a short selection of feedback we found particularly useful at present.

Summary of the comments received

- **Process**

- Some commenters appreciated the specificity of the questionnaire format
- Respondents need to be given more time to provide feedback, particularly organisations that might require legal reviews prior to sharing input
- A more structured approach over an ad hoc one is preferred
- The methodology used here did not allow for the consideration of other RIR structures nor did it recognise the existing architectural model of the system
- A questionnaire has limitations, there might be topics that are relevant that are not covered by the questions

- **Engagement with the communities**

- The RIR communities would like to have greater insight into the work of the NRO NC and more sustained opportunities for engagement
- Communities should have the opportunity to contribute to this process

- **Implementation considerations**

- The implementation of ICP-2 is likely to be complex and will require careful detailing, as will the updated text of ICP-2
- The RIR system is yet to evolve a dispute resolution mechanism along the lines of ICANN

- **The bigger picture**

- Accountability and ethics need to be mentioned explicitly in ICP-2
- The RIR system needs to be considered within the larger framework of the evolution of institutions, external forces, jurisdictional issues and the development of technology
- Outer space could be considered a region

The general comments can be viewed in detail in the raw data files.

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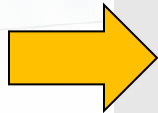
ICP-2 Timeline

(Principles Document and Consultation)

8 Oct 2024	ASO AC published a proposed set of 24 “core principles” to be included in the next version of ICP-2 (“ Principles Document ”)
8 Oct – 6 Dec 2024	Public consultation on the ICP-2 Principles Doc
Dec 2024 – Feb 2025	ASO AC reviewed community feedback on ICP-2 Principles Document received during public consultation
24 Feb 2025	ASO AC published ICP-2 Questionnaire Summary Report (“ ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report ”)

ICP-2 Timeline*

(What's next?)



Q1 – Q2 2025

The ASO AC will draft a revised ICP-2 document (“**Draft Document**”), taking into account feedback received during the consultation on the ICP-2 Principles Document

Q2 – Q3 2025

Public consultation on the Draft Document

Q3 – Q4 2025

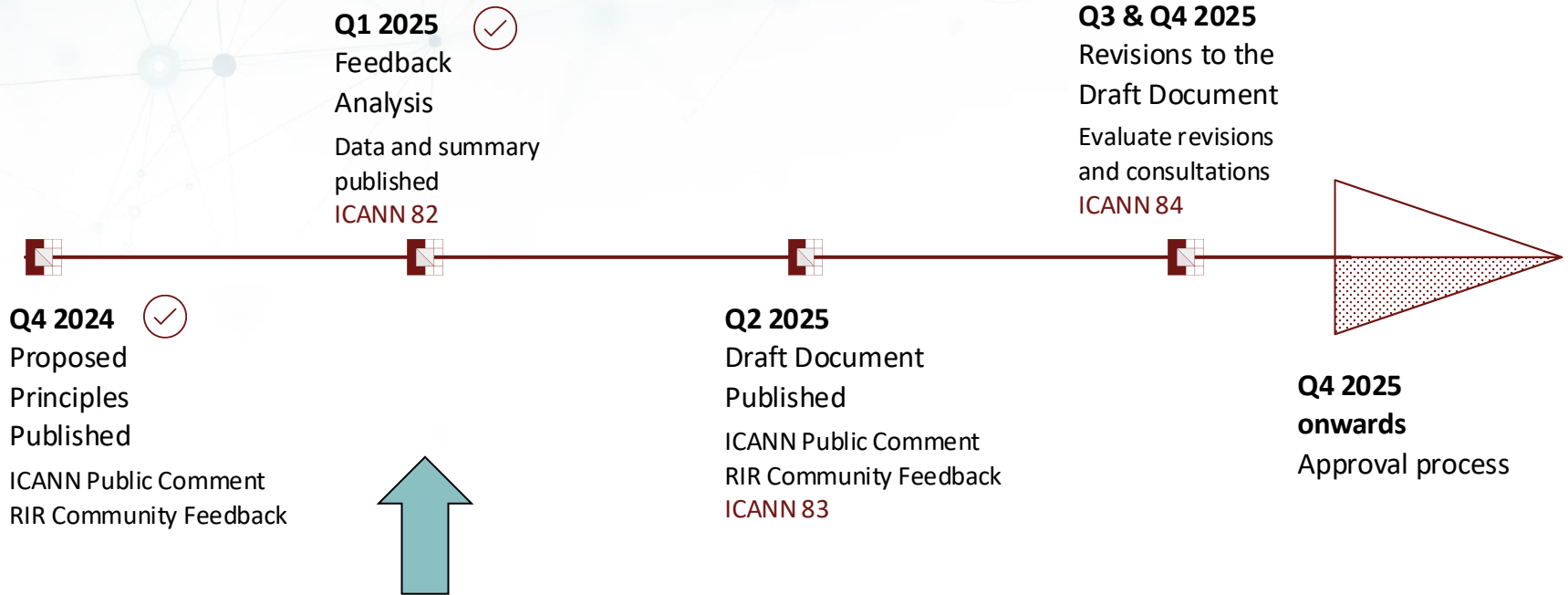
- Review community feedback from public consultation
- Revise Draft Document (“**Revised Draft**”) based on community feedback
- Publish Revised Draft and present to community at RIR and ICANN meetings and through other channels

Q4 2025

- Final review and revision of updated ICP-2 document
- Begin NRO and ICANN approval and adoption process

* Estimated dates

ICP-2 Timeline



Next Steps: Q2 and Q3 2025

- **Share Input on the Proposed Principles and Drafting (Feb - March – April – May)**
 - Share input from the Principles questionnaire and the information about the process at RIR Meetings: APNIC 59 (completed), ARIN 55, LACNIC 43, RIPE 90, and a webinar for AFRINIC
 - Prepare the updated ICP-2 draft document for publication (ongoing)
- **Consultation on the Draft Document (late May – June – July)**
 - The aim is to present the draft document at ICANN 83 in Prague
 - The ASO will run an ICANN Public Comment Process
 - Webinars to present the draft document to each RIR communities once it is published
 - Consultations with each RIR community regionally via mailing lists
 - Input from both processes will feed into revising the draft document if needed

Next Steps: Q3 and Q4 2025

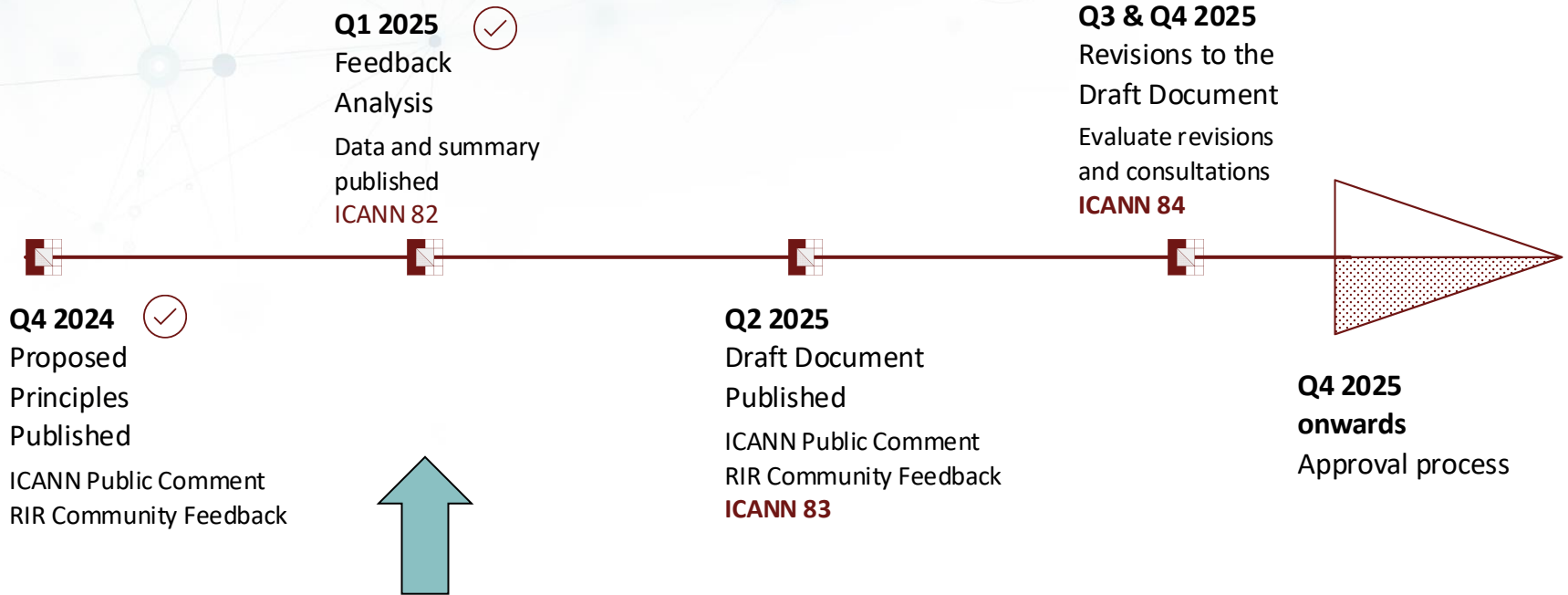
- **Revising the Draft (August)**

- Revisions to the draft document based on the input from the ICANN Public Comment and the RIR community consultations
- Aim to publish the revised draft by early September 2025

- **Presenting the Revised Draft (September – October)**

- Presentations at RIR Meetings in the second half of the year – APNIC 60, ARIN 56, LACNIC 44 and RIPE 91 and possibly at the Africa Internet Summit in September
- The revised draft will be presented at ICANN 84 in Muscat
- Evaluate whether further amendments and consultations are needed, or if it can be presented to the NRO EC and ICANN for approval (timeline to be determined).
- If there are only minor revisions needed following the public comment and RIR input, the document could potentially be presented for approval at ICANN 84 at the earliest.

ICP-2 Timeline



Why revisit ICP-2?

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 - The Internet has changed over the last quarter century
 - The relationships between RIRs and ICANN and between each other have changed
- Need to more explicitly provide for
 - An RIR's ongoing responsibilities
 - Potential de-recognition of an RIR that can no longer adequately provide for the needs of its numbering community

Expected Outcome

- Updated criteria to reflect 25 years of experience
- An RIR's ongoing responsibilities
- Potential de-recognition of an RIR that can no longer adequately provide for the needs of its numbering community

Questions About the ICP-2 Process?

<https://www.nro.net/policy/internet-coordination-policy-2/faq/>



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27 - 30 April

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RIPE 90

12 - 16 May

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APNIC 61

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