

A dark blue background with a network diagram consisting of interconnected nodes and lines. The nodes are represented by circles of varying sizes, and the lines are thin and light blue. The overall effect is a complex, web-like structure.

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**ASO AC – APRICOT 2025**

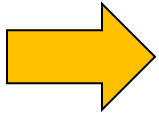
**ICP-2 Revision Project**

**27 February 2025**

## ICP-2 Timeline

(The Road to ICP-2)

1992	RIPE NCC established
1993	APNIC established
1997	ARIN established
1998	ICANN established
2001	ICANN adopted ICP-2

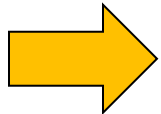


## What is ICP-2?

- Internet Coordination Policy 2
- 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>

## ICP-2 Timeline (New RIRs under ICP-2)

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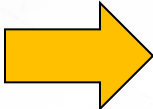


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## ICP-2 Timeline

(Revisiting ICP-2)



25 October 2023

NRO EC tasked the ASO AC with strengthening ICP-2

## 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/>



## ICP-2 Timeline (Implementation Procedures)

25 October 2023

NRO EC tasked the ASO AC with strengthening ICP-2

23 Jan 2024

NRO EC provided the ASO AC with first draft of its  
**“Implementation Procedures”** document

7 Feb 2024

ASO AC provided NRO EC with written feedback on  
Implementation Procedures

All documents related to above events can be found at  
<https://aso-apps-2.ripe.net/hyperkitty/list/ac-discuss@aso.icann.org/>

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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**”)

The logo for ICANN | ASO, featuring the text "ICANN | ASO" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font. The background of the slide is a light blue network diagram with nodes and connecting lines.

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# Presented ICP-2 (v2) Principles

## Governance

- **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.
- **Amendment:** ICP-2 may be amended upon the agreement of ICANN and all RIRs.
- **Rectification:** If an amendment to ICP-2 conflicts with an RIR's existing policies, practices, or bylaws, the amendment shall prescribe a reasonable but specific grace period for the RIR to bring its conflicting policies, practices, or bylaws into conformity with ICP-2 before the RIR may be considered non-compliant.

## RIR Ecosystem

- **Coverage:** All RIRs shall jointly ensure that all areas on the globe continually receive RIR services.
- **Service Region:** The Region for which an RIR is responsible shall cover a large multinational geographic area and shall not overlap with that of another RIR.

## RIR Lifecycle

- **Recognition:** A Candidate RIR must meet or demonstrate that it can meet all the requirements of an RIR specified in ICP-2 to be recognized as an RIR.
- **Operation:** An RIR, once recognized, must continually meet all the requirements specified in ICP-2 in an auditable fashion.
- **Derecognition:** An RIR that does not continue to meet all the requirements specified in ICP-2 may be derecognized as an RIR.

## Recognition

- **Community Support:** Resource Holders in the Region that the Candidate RIR proposes to serve must broadly support recognizing the Candidate RIR as the RIR responsible for serving that Region.
- **Community Commitment:** A Candidate RIR must demonstrate that its community is willing to support the RIR, both financially and by actively participating in its governance.



## Operation

- **Independence:** An RIR must be financially stable and independent.
- **Not-for-Profit:** An RIR must operate on a not-for-profit basis.
- **Corporate Governance:** An RIR must follow corporate governance procedures consistent with best practices in its jurisdiction.
- **Member-Controlled:** The majority of an RIR's governing body must be elected by the RIR's Members, and the governing body must maintain effective control over the RIR.
- **Community-Driven:** An RIR must maintain a community-driven policy development process that is open, transparent, neutral, and publicly documented.
- **Neutrality:** An RIR must operate and apply its policies in a manner that is neutral and consistent.

## Operation (continued)

- **Transparency:** An RIR must maintain and publish comprehensive records of its governance, activities, and finances.
- **Audit:** An RIR must participate in regular audits by an external and independent auditor to ensure that it is continuing to comply with ICP-2.
- **Service:** An RIR must provide stable, reliable, secure, accurate, and accountable allocation, registration, and directory services, as well as related technical services, using standard protocols and specifications for cross-RIR compatibility.
- **Continuity:** An RIR must maintain continuity procedures and redundancies and participate in record sharing that would enable another RIR to perform its RIR services, if necessary.
- **Anti-Capture:** An RIR must maintain governance rules and controls to prevent itself from becoming captured.
- **Ecosystem Stability:** Each RIR must cooperate to ensure the ongoing operation and stability of the global Internet number registry system and must not operate or fail to operate in any manner that threatens such stability.

## Derecognition

- **Remedial Bias:** ICANN and all other RIRs must provide all reasonable support, if requested, to assist an RIR to cure any failure to comply with ICP-2 before derecognizing the RIR.
- **Handoff:** A Derecognized RIR must cooperate with ICANN and other RIRs to ensure the smooth transfer of its operations to a successor or interim entity designated in any derecognition decision.

## ICP-2 Timeline

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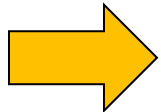
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# ICP-2 Principles Consultation Report



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

# ICP<sup>2</sup>

Criteria for Establishment  
of New Regional Internet  
Registries

**QUESTIONNAIRE**



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.

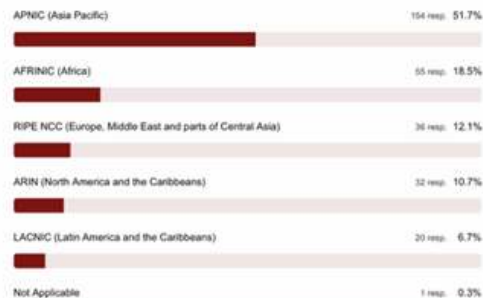
## Data cleaning and consolidation of duplicate responses

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."*

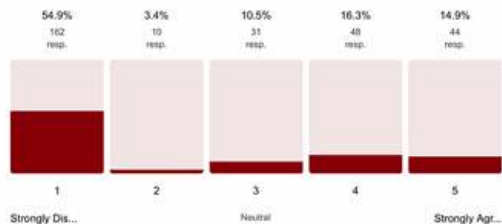
*"Consensus among and within the RIR community under consideration should also be considered."*

## 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.”*

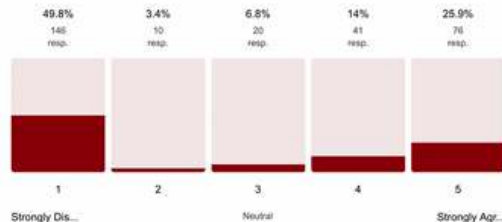
*“This requirement for immediate derecognition of an RIR that does not meet all ICP-2 standards is overly harsh and risks destabilizing the regional Internet infrastructure. Given the diverse challenges faced by RIRs, temporary lapses should not automatically trigger derecognition. A supportive approach 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

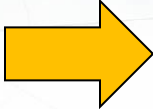
- **The bigger picture**

- 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.

## ICP-2 Timeline\*

(What's next?)



Q1 – Q2 2025

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

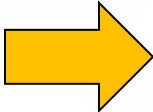
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\* Estimated dates

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## Questions for You

### **If you participated:**

Do you have feedback on how future consultations could be improved?

### **If you did not participate:**

What was the main reason? For example: time constraints, complexity, insufficient information

## Questions for Us?

### For example:

How does the work to produce the revised ICP-2 document differ from how a policy proposal is handled in our region?



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

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