

Evolution of the GAC and Its Support

***Overview of GAC Working Method
Evolution and Support Staff Changes***

Implications for Public Comments

DNS Webinar #2
Monday, 22 May 2023

Recent GAC Evolutionary Themes within ICANN

- **GAC Work Method Evolution**
- **Staff Support Evolution**

Evolution of GAC Working Methods

Several Thematic Changes

- Participant Demographics
 - 244 new participants since ICANN66 (3.5 years)
 - 77 new participants since ICANN74 (1 year)
 - 32 new participants just since ICANN76
- Private to Public
- Face-to-Face to Intersessional (and now hybrid)
- Pace of Policy Development
- “Leadership” Expansion (Vice Chairs, Topic Leads, Small Groups)
- GAC Input - Expansion of Opportunities
 - Advice (Communiqué, etc.)(more programmatic)
 - Public Comments and Other Statements
 - Cross Community Groups and Policy Development Engagement

Evolution of GAC Support

Before - Independent Secretariat

- Funded by GAC Members
- Operations, Research and Advice
- Seven Staff (3 ACIG, 4 ICANN)
- Regular Interactions with ICANN Government Engagement Team

~ 2018 - Transition Necessitated

Now - ICANN org Staff Support

- Formal Transition at beginning of 2019
- Operational Support from ICANN Policy Support Function
- Five Operational Support staff
- Regular Interactions with ICANN Government Engagement Team

GAC Support Staff



**Fabien
Betremieux**



**Rob
Hoggarth**



**Benedetta
Rossi**



**Julia
Charvolen**



**Gulden
Tepe**



GAC Support Functions

- Operations and Processes for Committee, Leadership and Working Groups
 - Calendars
 - Meetings and Calls
 - Elections
 - Email Lists
- Tools
 - Website
 - Action Decision Radar
- Records
 - Membership
 - Transcripts
 - Travel Support/Guidelines
- Communications
 - Communiqué
 - Public Comments and Statements
 - Correspondence
 - Liaison function with ICANN org and other communities

Public Comment

ICANN Public Comment System

<https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment>

- Format of forums (open, closed and upcoming)
- Timing of Forums (40 days standard)
- Methods for Input
 - Form Templates
 - Specific Questions
 - Structured Questions
 - Free Form
 - Tracking and summary reports

GAC Methodology

- Initial Guidance from Topic Leads/Small Groups and GAC Leadership
- Drafting
- Review
- Submission

Next GAC Welcome Webinar

- **2 June 2023**

Appendix

DNS Webinar #2
Monday, 22 May 2023

Evolution of GAC Communications/Collaboration

Collaborative Communications Have Expanded Over Last Few Years:

- Other ICANN Communities (SOs and ACs)
- Board/GAC Interaction Group (BGIG) - collaboration and info exchanges on “Issues of Importance” and IGO Protections
- ICANN org Outreach
 - Senior Executive Information Calls on Specific “Hot” Topics (DNS Abuse)
 - Regular Intersessional CEO “1:1” with GAC Leadership Team
 - CEO-GAC Chair Calls as needed

Non-GAC Communiqué Positions

The screenshot shows the GAC website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with language options (English, العربية, Español, Français, Русский, 中文) and a search bar. Below that, a main menu includes 'NEWS', 'ABOUT THE GAC', 'GAC ADVICE', 'MEETINGS & RECORDS', and 'WORK EFFORTS'. A dropdown menu for 'Work Efforts' is open, showing options like 'Topics', 'Activities', and 'GAC Working Groups'. The 'Activities' section is highlighted, and a sub-menu for 'GAC Public Comment Opportunities' is visible. Below this, there are sections for 'Ongoing Work' and 'Outcomes'. At the bottom, there's a section titled 'GAC Public Comments Filed 2019 Onwards'.

Public Comment Proceedings (linked)	Drafting Responsibility (i.e GAC Participant, WG, leadership, staff, etc)	GAC Participant Volunteer	Date Comment Submitted	Comment Link
Second Security, Stability, and Resiliency (SSR2) Review Team Final Report	GAC PSWG	PSWG	8 Apr 2021	GAC COMMENT
GAC Comments on the Draft FY22-26 Operating & Financial Plan and Draft FY22 Operating Plan & Budget	GAC/Support Staff		15 Feb 2021	GAC COMMENT
GAC	GAC/Support		22 Feb 2021	GAC

- 24 Comments & Statements since Feb. 2019
- Average length of 4227 words (compare to average for Communiqués since ICANN44 of 2820 words)
- Drafted by Topic Leads, submitted to full GAC review and non-objection
- On: Reviews, GNSO PDP Reports, ICANN Strategic/Operational Plans and Budgets, and various Community Consultations

Source: <https://gac.icann.org/activity/gac-public-comment-opportunities>

Evolution of GAC Input

- **Development Changes** (e.g., ATRT Recs)
 - From Only at GAC Meetings to Sometimes Intersessional
 - Specificity Improvements (e.g., distinguishing between advice, follow-up to advice and issues of importance)
- **Advice Assessment Changes**
 - More Detailed Board Tools and Processes
 - Assessment of Advice (e.g., clarification call, correspondence follow-up)
 - Addressing Issues of Importance and other GAC “input”