
ICANN82 | CF – Get to Know ICANN Community: Noncommercial Stakeholder Group
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SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Welcome back, my dear fellows, NextGeners, and newcomers for the last session of the onboarding for newcomers. This is the last one to cover about the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group. We have heard today about the stakeholder group, but the part of non-contracted parties, and we also talked about GNSO, we talked about ccNSO, we talked about At-Large, and now it's our last session where we will be covering the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group, which is NCSG.

And we will continue learning new acronyms here in ICANN. So, it'll be my pleasure now to introduce the current chair for NCSG, Rafik Dammak, who is my old friend. And he will guide us through what is NCSG and then give the floor to our two representatives. One will be introducing Juan as a chair of NPOC, which he will explain us what is it, and then Wisdom, another fellow alumni, who will talk about NCUC.

So today we'll learn some new things for us and we will understand what is this NonCommercial Stakeholder Group doing, and how as a newcomers we can go there and be part. And we have a lot of fellow alumnis and NextGen people who are part of this group. So we will learn, and Rafik, without further ado, I

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am giving the floor to you to guide us through NCSG.

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay. Thanks, Siranush, for this kind introduction. Yeah, my name is Rafik Dammak, I'm the Chair of NCSG. So for today, we will try to explain briefly about the NCSG, what we, we do, why we are here, and we'll be happy and glad to answer your question and to clarify, because as Siranush said, there are too many acronyms.

So we'll try to go maybe to remind for some point just to refresh your memory. So starting—okay, yeah, okay. Technology. So we are part of the GNSO, so hopefully you heard or you learned about the GNSO, the Generic Names Supporting Organization, where the policy is made for all about the gTLD, and kind of how it's structured.

So GNSO is formed by several stakeholder groups and constituencies, but there is kind of a layer, which we call the two houses, the Contracted Party House, and the Non-Contracted Party House. That means what are the relations with ICANN, even there is the contract, like for registrar or registry, or not like our case. So we are in the Non-Contracted Party House.

So moving next. In the Non-Contracted Party House, so we are going down, we have two stakeholder groups, the CSG, where you also have several constituencies, and the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group. So we will now focus on the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group, or NCSG.

Basically, NCSG is representing the civil society and the non-commercial users within the GNSO. So that's kind of our place there that we are focusing on gTLD policy and we try our best to represent the interest of the civil society, non-for-profit organizations, foundations, and non-commercial individual users. So that's just to highlight that, we have two types of membership. We have individuals and organizations, so can be different size. And within the NCSG, you have two constituencies.

The idea of having two constituencies, you have a group that they can-- like an interest group so they can focus on some areas. They have some specific interests so people can organize themselves. So we have the Non Commercial User Constituency, which historically precedes the NCSG. We're not going how all that was organized, but that's that, we have the NCUC and then we have the NPOC. So you will get more explanation about them from Juan and Wisdom later on.

Okay. Just to give you an idea about the representation in NCSG. So I shared before that we have individuals and organizations of all size. I don't have here kind of the breakdown between organization and individuals, but just in term of numbers, we can see that we have representation in particular from Africa and APAC, which is important in term of diversity and show how we are kind of representing maybe part that are not necessarily represented well in other parts in ICANN. But we can always do better, and there is not just geographical diversity, but also diversity in term of structure, interest, opinion, and so on. And we

have to thrive to do our best on that front.

Okay. More important than structure and acronyms and so on is, why we are here, what we stand for. Maybe for those who attended some of our sessions starting yesterday, we care a lot about human rights and domain names. So the idea here is we try to explain and to assess the implication of ICANN policy on human rights or that to have that human rights perspective for any policy in particular for gTLD.

So just here sharing some examples. They have the freedom of expression and privacy. Privacy is something really quite important and we advocated for many years in particular if you are aware about the Registration Data Request Service or what was called before WHOIS, and we kind of took the lead here to advocate for the protection of data privacy for all users.

And then also you have the kind of issue related to access to knowledge that kind of how you balance that versus the trademark rights. On the other hand, since also as I explained before, we have that geographical diversity and like people from Africa and APAC, there is that part about development and so on. We worked hard about Applicant Support for gTLD. We worked with the ALAC, for example, on that matter since 2011, 2012. I mean, how we can have that Applicant Support group to have that diversity also and the applicants for gTLD.

On other areas, we have interest on IDNs because there is not just about non-Latin script, but there are many languages that you are not using that alphabet, and we care about this issue. The last

part, since we have that civil society dimension in our DNA, we care a lot about due process transparency and accountability.

Getting interested in terms of procedure is not for the fun to care about procedure, but because it's an important matter to ensure the participation that our voices are heard and to ensure that, and in particular the accountability, so that whatever is decided, we try to avoid that impact on users. So those are areas, it can be maybe not look formal, but it's important, in particular like here in ICANN, for the multi-stakeholder model legitimacy and also how we are managing processes. So we care about those topics and additional, as I shared, about human rights.

Okay, we have just to share with you that we have like, okay, we are a group within GNSO and what does it mean? So we have the representation in the GNSO council. I think you had some introduction this morning about it. And so we have six council representatives there. So we elect them, that membership elects them for a term of two years. And they have that flexibility and autonomy to represent our position there. And just here kind of to expand that we have different committees, like the executive committee and the policy committee, but not going in detail there.

The last part is most important is we have representation in the GNSO Council, but where we have more influence is that we have representatives and members participating in the working groups. So if you get more understanding about GNSO, most of the work is not done in the GNSO Council. It's done within the GNSO Working

Group when we have all those policy development processes. And so having our people or our members there, it means we can have influence the outcome of those process.

So the question here is why join us? Why you will make an effort to participate and to become a member of the NCSG. So just to remind here, I try to explain this, it is the stakeholder group for civil society, non-commercial users and non-for-profit organizations. And I believe many of you will be eligible and interested to join us. Joining us, meaning also that you can work with other members on policy discussions, not just to work, but also to learn.

So you can find mentors, people with expertise that they work on some of those topics for many years so they can share their knowledge, and also it's kind of be a learning experience. I can speak for myself and others, when I come here many years ago, I had no idea, but because I joined NCSG, I found a place where I can find support people to explain to me about different topics, but also when to participate in the different working groups.

It's a good learning experience, and I encourage everyone to do so. Maybe in the beginning, it's challenging, but yeah, it's step by step, we all went through that process. And so here again, if you join us, you will find that space and people to help you. And then you can get elected and volunteer to represent the NCSG and the GNSO Council and also in the different committees.

And I can tell you we have many newcomers who become leaders quickly. So we give that chance because we also care again about

diversity. We have that environment to allow people to clearly become quickly leaders and to participate effectively.

Finally, is to participate in working groups and committees. So that's, again, as I try to share, is where really work happens. ICANN meetings, we have all these discussions, but most of the work is done between the period between ICANN meetings and the working groups in the calls. So if you join us, you can also be able, in some, you have to be a member of a representative stakeholder group to participate, and so you will be able to do so.

And also, finally is drafting public comments. It's an interesting experience because you will try to learn, you take some reports, some policy recommendations, you try to understand what this is about, and then you do the drafting.

It's not easy but exercise, but with the help of others, and it's kind of collaborative work, you can deliver something, and with that, you get more expertise. And we have many examples of people who joined us and became experts on specific areas. So that's why I would encourage you to join us and to go through that and to learn.

And I think that yeah, the last part is just kind of like evangelism here. Where to find us and how to join us. So just to give you the steps. First, please feel free to attend our session this week, and particularly Tuesday. Tuesday, we have several sessions. We will meet with the Board, so you are welcome to join, us and after we will have an issue forum, which we will discuss about one specific

policy topic, which is the Applicant Support.

And then we will have our NCSG membership session, which is open to everyone. And we will have our policy committee session where it's also open to everyone, and we will discuss about policy matters. Just those are our contact. You can reach me anytime, but also you can contact or reach out to any NCSG member during this meeting or after. And you can find the links where to apply and also our website. Thanks.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Rafik. And actually, we have this PowerPoint presentation uploaded to the system with all the links, so you don't need to copy them to write them down, but you just download the PowerPoint from the schedule. And I will give the floor to NPOC chair, Non-for-Profit Organizations Constituency, Juan, who will tell us what they are doing and why they are different from NCSG.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Thank you very much, Siranush. Thank you, everyone. The first thing it's that we are not different from NCSG because we are part of it. So we are just one of the constituencies inside the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group. And before to start this slides the presentation, it's important to know that when you fill the application for NCSG, you can become a member from NCSG, NPOC, and NCUC, all of three for the price of one. So there is no price of course, but you can be joined three of us, or you can be in

each one.

So that said, I think that we are NPOC. NPOC is a Non-for-Profit Organizations Constituency according to our new charter. And in some places, still do you have the old name? The old name, it was operational concerns, but it was very confused, so now for us, it is easiest to explain that we have members that are non-for-profit organizations no matter what his size it is. Could be a small organization or could be a big organization.

The important thing is you should have only a domain name, an organization, of course register in your country, that's it. So this is the same that Rafik told us just a few minutes ago. We are the non-for-profit voice inside the NCSG, inside the GNSO. All of it are non-commercial interests. So we are representing the main interest.

This is in the map, old I think, that we are represented, we are in the green spot. You can see that they said non-commercial interests that's all because it says non-profit operational, but it is in the green spot. Go ahead. Next one. That is the same. Non-Commercial interest is closer look for the same.

And this is our mission, we are concerned about what policies can affect some non-for-profit organizations in some specific topics that you are going to-- in the policy development process that we set PDP as you maybe have heard before. So that our mission is represented the non-for-profit organizations. And what topics do we have in this constituency. So we can move it. Yeah. it's before the topics. We have this, as Rafik said, why you should join non-

commercial because you are an a non-for-profit organization. Remember, it doesn't matter that if you are big or you are small, you are not-for-profit.

You have your own domain on domain name, for example, your organization, that whatever, because we know that we have .net, .com, .org, .co, that we have. So several names, so you are the owner of your domain, and you are interested to learn how Rafik said, about the domain name system or even you are not even technical, but you have been affected for maybe any policy from ICANN, or your organization have been affected in any way talking about these domain names system.

This is our prior priority topics, we are talking about DNS abuse, of course, transparent domain registration, privacy, cybersecurity, and Intellectual property abuse. This is a small explanation about what the topics are, domain name fraud is when we are have a name and we are a scam or something like that to someone that want to buy or sell a domain name. Maybe it's not that we have here the scams from registration for renewal.

And in this case, we had something that it was named domain locking, and we had, now it's an IRT, RPM, Right Protection Mechanism, it's an IRT, Implementation Review Team. I'm sorry if I'm using the acronyms, we used to, to do it, so I'm sorry if I can do it, but I am trying to do not. RPM is Rights Protection Mechanism, it's something that trademark information, so it's not my main topic.

Yeah, please go ahead. This is our information about how the DNS

fraud happens in a graphic mode. Yeah, the same. Privacy, yeah, many not-for-profits have different privacy needs. And we also, sometimes we need protect the staff details, and now it's different because we have WHOIS and GDPR, so that information is not public anymore. But there is another one group that it's discussing that, it's the PPSAI Working Group, it's also a review team now. Sometimes it was called the 10 specific EPDP. PPSAI, it's Privacy and Proxy Services, I don't remember.

So move it to the next one. Transparent domain is when you are going to sell your domain and you are going to transfer to another registrant and you want to continue your ownership.

Intellectual property, it's the conjunction of this maybe graphical, it's a patent, it's a copyright, or it's a trademark, and where is the intellectual property there? So it's a lawyer. Okay, these are our question for you. Are you interested in shaping in these policies, things about DNS? You can come on and join us.

The next one. I think it's the last one. No, that one in the picture. With the picture. No, another one. Yeah, as Rafik said, also we can become a member of NPOC. If you are an organization, you can join one of the committees. We have a participation also as part of NCSG, we are part of several working groups, Implementation Review Teams, we have the Continuous Improvement Program, we have the Applicant Support Program, we have some people's around everywhere in those places.

Sometimes we are just identified ourselves as non-commercial, just is the easiest way to do it. So if you are interested in any of

these topics, you can join us and welcome to start with us this exciting travel. So this is our information, this is the membership, it's the same link of our membership application, you can apply everyone. We have email, we have X, Facebook, LinkedIn, and public mailing list that you can join if you want. I think that's it. Thank you very much.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Juan. We'll continue with NCUC and then give the time for questions, so whomever you would like to refer your question will then have time for it. And Wisdom will tell us about what is NCUC, Non-commercial Users.

WISDOM DONKOR

Thank you very much. My name is Wisdom Donkor, from the NCUC, I think Rafik and Juan have made my work easier for me, so I will quickly take through and then you see. So NCUC stands for Non-commercial Users Constituency, as you can see on the screen. Our mission and purpose, you have two bullet points there.

The first one, NCUC represents the interest of non-commercial users within ICANN. So if you fall within this category, you can start your journey within the NCUC by joining us. And then we will take you through most of the processes that we go through to prepare our members for policy discussions and all of that.

And next slide. So the NCUC position see, ICANN follows a multi-stakeholder model, meaning multiple groups work together to

make decision. So as part of the multi-stakeholder, we work with other consequences on the GNSO structure to discuss policy issues and try to address them. And then, as they mentioned, most of these issues sometimes got to do with domain name registrations, the human rights part of it, cybersecurity, intellectual property, as was said by Juan, and we discuss all of this issue, DNS abuse, and all of that.

Next slide. And then how to join NCUC, we have the eligibility criteria. NCUC is open to individuals, and then organizations, non-governmental organizations. So if you fall within this category, you can just go to the NCUC website, all the details are there, and then you'll be able to join.

And then some of the benefits that you as a fellow coming up will benefit from NCUC, you get to understand how to contribute to some of the policy discussions that are going on, and also you learn how to participate in working groups and forums and also network with like-minded individual and organizations. And there are several opportunities as well when you come.

One such opportunity is you becoming a community leader, just as I, sitting here being the chair of NCUC, and there are other avenues, other benefits that you can as well benefit. Become a chair of working groups and all of that. Next slide, please. No, let's go back a bit. Yes. So currently, this is how some of the positions are within NCUC. The first one being the chair, which is an elected position.

And then we have the EC, Executive Committee. Currently, we

have five regional reps that forms the EC on the GNSO. And then outside that we have appointed officers, the first one being the treasurer, and then we also have an NCUC rep to the NCSG EC, and we also have NCUC rep to the NCSG PC, which is the Policy Committee, NCUC rep to the NCSG Financial Committee. So if you have a finance background, you know that this is something that you might think of. We also have NCUC rep to the NomCom, NomCom, Nomination Committee, where some of the community members are being elected to that come board and all of that. And also represented in many of the working groups.

So this is how the structure is, when you become a member to NCUC, and then it depends on how your interest level is and then how you collaborate with others, and then how you contribute to some of the policy discussion. Colleagues might even try to push you further by making sure that you sign on to some of the working groups, and then out on that, you might have the chance of also going for any of this position list.

So currently this is how the EC is formed, the regional representation. Currently we have Africa, we have the five regional groups, and then the first one being Africa. Currently, that position is being held by Sara Ali from Sudan, and then we have the Asia Pacific which is Mili Semlani. I think Mili is sitting behind there. So if you are here and then you are from Asia Pacific, and then you want to engage more, you can get in touch with Mili. She's sitting behind waving her hand. So you need to contact her and explore further.

And then we have Europe which is being represented by Amin Hacha, and then the Latin America and the Caribbean which is Pedro. I saw him in the room. Pedro is behind. So if you are from this region, you need to look out for him to guide you more.

And then we have the North America which is represented by Namra Naseer, and she's not here, but the past EC for North America is Ken. Ken is sitting behind. So if you are from this region, he can as well assist you with further information. Next slide, please.

Yes, I think with the GNSO, Rafik did explain this, so the GNSO is a policy making body responsible for the General Top Level Domain, such as .com, .net, and so on. And then there are two houses when it comes to the GNSO, which is a Contracted Party House. And then under that, we have the Registrar Stakeholder Group, and then we have the registries, and then we have the non-contracted parties you can see there. But the focus here is a NonCommercial Stakeholder Group.

So now collaboration with the ICANN Fellowship Program. So the previous engagement, past collaboration between NCUC and ICANN Fellows, such as a joint sessions and then presentations. We've done it over the years, so opportunities for fellows, you can attend NCUC sessions. If you go on the schedule, you'll see some sessions for NCUC. I think we have an upcoming session on a Tuesday, membership session on Tuesday, I think at 3:00 PM.

So you can look out for this session and then attend, and then you can learn more about NCUC, and we can take you through how to

join and you can meet some of the leaders within the NCUC at the membership session. That will take you through all of the things that we do. Next slide, please.

Okay, so resources and further information. The NCUC websites as you see here is ncuc.org, www.ncun.org. And then if you need to contact us, all the contact information details on the website. You can also see my personal email there. You can take note of it, and then the WhatsApp numbers. If you need to get in touch for you to engage more or for me to take you through most of the things that we do, you can as well reach out and then we can discuss more. Next slide. I think that's the last one. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. I think this was the coverage of this NonCommercial Stakeholder Group, what they are doing. And so there is an application form as was mentioned, which you can submit to apply for all three. But if you are an organization, you can be part of NPOC, so no individuals can be a part of NPOC.

But the individuals can be part of NCUC and NCSG. And now we can talk those abbreviations, we already know what they mean. NCUC, organizations can also join NCUC, so both organizations and individuals can join NCUC.

Only organizations can join NPOC, and individuals and organizations can join NCSG. Correct.? Okay, so now the questions to our NonCommercial Stakeholder Group leaders. Yes, please. Vinny Adjibi.

VINNY ADJIBI

Thank you very much for the presentation. My name is Vinny Adjibi for the record, I'm a NextGen participant. And I do research on topics related to cybersquatting. So how to help companies better defend their brands online while being fair to people who are trying to just express themselves online. And I think the NCSG, you talked about I guess due diligence and stuff like that.

So I'm sure you heard about the Netbeacon platform, which allows people to submit queries to take down like domain names that are abusive. And one of the statistics is that those type of abuse are handled like in minutes or hours. So have you looked into how those processes are actually following due diligence so that people who are trying to just share their views online, their domain names are not taken out from them, like abusively?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Can you repeat the last part of your question so Rafik can get back to you?

VINNY ADJIBI

So the short version of it is domain names are being taken down in minutes or less than hours, so in doing that, do you have any insight on how that process is following due diligence so that people are not abusively deprived of their domain names?

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay, you are meaning like registrars taking down domain names. So for that area, what we are trying to do is that we talked about the human rights and we are advocating to have that framework of human rights impact assessment about the policy. But we are trying to work with the contracted party, the registrar and registries, they can have a guideline and how to deal with what we call the DNS abuse.

So when we discuss with them in term of how they are in operation, they tell also their side, when they get to request and they have to deal with many claims. And also, they expand kind of the different steps they have to go through. So what we are trying to do with them is to provide this human rights impact assessment on DNS in this case, to provide the guidelines and principles they can use in such situations.

So when they get this request to take down how they should deal, and they will have a checklist to go through, and then they can decide to see the impact, and so they can make a proper decision. But you are right, because they have a lot of the escalation or claims about abuse and they deal with many, the easiest way is just to take down probably.

But we know that at the end, registrars less the registries because they are not directly impacted, they don't want really to get into that that much because for them it just is kind of a burden, it's a cost, but they have to deal with that. So we are working on this, and then we have this ongoing activities, and yeah, you will be welcome to join and to know more.

So yesterday, we had that session. If you could not attend, you can listen to the recording. And we tried to be more practical and we went through case studies just like, but to explain also from the registrant standpoint and try to give another perspective. Because if you hear a lot about DNS abuse and ICANN, you can have a kind of beautiful that point of view that everything is doomed, we are doomed, but we are trying to balance here that we understand there are risk, but you need to balance that with the human rights and to find that, as you say, that due diligent, that due process and how to deal with that without impacting the rights. Does it respond to our question?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

And actually, Andrea, the support staff posted the link to the session on human rights impact assessment which was conducted by the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group yesterday. So if you want to, there is a link and you can listen to the recordings or you can go through the ICANN main schedule, ICANN82 schedule. Yes, Songo, please go ahead.

SONGO NORE

My name is Songo, I'm from Papua New Guinea. In your presentation, you made mention that the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group stands for privacy, provision of data protection, regulations. So can you just give just one instance where the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group works with the GAC or any third world government to provide the protection of data? Coming from a third world country, I don't think we have the

mechanisms in place to protect our online data.

There was a case in the US in which Google was using the Android system to track the location of its users, and that was brought up to the courts and Google has to pay a compensation for that. So I just want to ask, since you made mention that the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group stands for privacy. So can you just give one instance in which in your work related duties you have collaborated with any third world governments to promote the protection of data? Thank you.

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay, thanks. So just to be clear, I cannot pretend that we are the only ones defending privacy and the environment. There are many organizations, some of them, they are a member of our stakeholder group.

The other point to clarify is that our scope is within the GNSO, within ICANN. And so when we are advocating about privacy, it's about the domain names, saying that what we work lately in the last years is about when there was that GDPR, that European Union, regulation regarding data protection. And we saw that the people find out lately, after many years of telling them they should care about that the ICANN policy has to be compliant to GDPR, and then we participated in the working groups.

To respond to your question, working with governments or others about data protection or privacy in general. We don't, because that's not our scope, but we have organizations that they do that

they try to help. And just personally, if I can speak, what many countries are trying to do in terms of the regulations regarding data protection, privacy, they're trying to follow. I mean, even what GDPR has, it's really kind of a lot what the Council of Europe did with their convention. I hope I'm not mistaken. I think it's 108. I'm not pretty sure.

But in terms of principles about data protection and privacy, they follow with that. In many countries, they are just really trying to apply some form of that. So I think that many countries, even mine, Tunisia, they try to follow that convention, even if it's the Council of Europe, but it's open to other countries and just they try to implement that.

But in term of organizations or how, there are others, the organizations maybe we can put in there, they can help on those activities because that's their area of expertise to work more in the local level to advocate for data protection and privacy. I hope that respond to your inquiry. Thank you.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. Yes, please. Khadija.

KHADIJA MIAN

Thank you so much for your time. So I'm part of the NextGen program. I'm Khadija for the record. And I'm still trying to find a way to differentiate between some of the organizations here. So I was hoping for a little bit more clarity on how the NCUC in particular differs from the At-Large community and things that

they're speaking about there and ALAC in general.

And then as a second point, I did also want to ask, since there's such a focus on human rights, are the companies that you're working with, the non-commercial entities, do they have to then follow the same human rights themselves? Like is there a vetting process in terms of alignment with ICANN's values?

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay, so I try to respond, I think after maybe about NCUC, I will leave Wisdom to add more, but what's the difference between ALAC and NCSG? We are part of GNSO, so our focus is really about gTLD. The ALAC is an advisory committee, so they can cover whatever they want really in ICANN from like domain names, either ccTLD, gTLD, they can cover up IP addressing. And also, they are an advisory committee.

So we are part of the GNSO, meaning we're kind of, it's the supporting organization. It's more the place where policy is discussed and made. So we participate directly in the advisory committee because there are like the SSAC, the GAC, and so on, they can give advice to the board to tell them, not to tell them what to do, but they can raise concerns and so on. So there are different kind of mechanism and roles.

The other point is that the ALAC is for all users. Users can be commercial, business, or non-commercial. So that's the kind of difference. So you can find people, we have members. In NCSG, they are also members of the ALAC, but the ALAC also, they

represent all the user. So they can clarify more, but that's what they are for. We were kind of specific scope about gTLD and for the non-commercial interest. The second question, I'm trying to remember about the-- sorry, about the business.

KHADIJA MIAN

I just wanted to know.

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay, yeah. So in ICANN, we talk about a lot about the multi-stakeholder model and so on, and we have those different supporting organizations and advisory committees. But even within themselves, they have a different structure. Most of them like the ALAC or like ccTLD, it's kind of based on the geographical part. Like the ALAC, they have the different travel. ccTLD is by default, they are countries. We have ccTLD in one by country.

So we have different things. The GNSO is quite particular. We are not based on geography. It's not a regional distribution. It's really kind of a miniature multi-stakeholder model. And so that we have the contracted party because those have a contractual relation to ICANN, it's quite different, it's a different relation compared to anyone else. In the

Non-Contracted Party House, we don't have any contractual relation with ICANN for domain name. However, we have interest about domain names because we have users. We have the business, the Commercial Stakeholder Group, and they represent different interests from trademark like the IPC, Intellectual

Property Constituency.

You have the ISPCP, that's the internet service provider, kind of the infrastructure side about internet, and then they have the Commercial Stakeholder Group. But all those, they either they are doing business or having businesses using the domain names or DNS.

NCSG is just about non-commercial usage of the domain names, which means it can be a lot of people, like all the individuals, also the civil society, the organizations, they're using the domain names. So that's kind of the difference back to the human rights, we're advocating because this is kind of our mission and we believe on that.

Other groups, I cannot speak for them. They can have different perspective because it's kind of, let's say, business interest, and they can have a different interpretation or how they see priority for like how interpret human rights. So it's kind of core value even within, let's say, the ICANN bylaws.

But how the different groups see that, interpret that, or operate that, can be quite different. So we, we advocate because that's really in our mission, that's what we believe, and also because the organization that we are part of. So maybe, sorry, Wisdom or to clarify more about NCUC?

WISDOM DONKOR

I think you said it all, but then what I'll add is, NCUC is a sort of a watchdog kind of to serve the interest of non-commercial users

when it comes to the domain names. So we actually listen to discussions or discussions that are going on, and then we pick out the interests of the non-commercial and then make sure that those interests, our interests are being heard, and then also factor in some of the policies that are going on. So basically, we watch out and then we promote the interest of the non-commercial with regards to the privacy aspect, the human rights, cyber security, and then all of that, as mentioned by Rafik.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER

Sorry, Khadija, correct me if I'm wrong. I think she was asking whether the organizations or individuals that are a part of NCSG, if they are vetted for the same human rights values as your group has. Is that correct? As in if the people, the organizations and the people who are part of NCSG, are they vetted for the human rights values, the same human rights values that the NCSG, NCUC uphold.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS

Okay. just to add something that maybe it's important, you know that At-Large, they identify themselves about internet users, they are internet user representatives and all of them are internet users. We are more like a civil society. We have academic, we have organization, we have according to human rights here, we have Article 19, some are human rights are very known organization, it's part of NCSG and it's work with us in this topic.

So I think that yeah, we are aligned with some organization that

work specifically on those topics as Article 19 and another ones, because it's not the only one to represent the voice or civil society and our organization inside the DNS system in ICANN. So I think yes.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Glenn posted in the chat that if you would like to learn more about NPOC, there will be NPOC volunteers also at the ICANN engagement booth during this week. So feel free to reach them. Mabda, please.

MABDA HAERUNNISA

Well, thank you for your presentation. This is Mabda for the record. I have the questions. The first one, I'm building upon the previous question on the difference between At-Large and NCSG and NCUC, but my question would be more from the sort of cooperation approaches to how you interact with At-Large, because I think it's pretty intuitive to think that given you have a similar focus in terms of who you represent, I was wondering if there are any sort of like interactions between At-Large and maybe NCUC particularly.

And second, I was wondering about, you mentioned about all of the constituencies that are presented today, you have representatives within different working groups, and particularly, I've been thinking about being more active within the NCUC, I was wondering what are the focuses that you guys have in terms of which working groups you are focusing on that are currently

active within the GNSO? Thank you.

RAFIK DAMMAK

Okay. What the difference with between ALAC and NCSG? So as I try to explain, they have different scope, first place. There are different scope. So the ALAC is as an advisory committee, they cover in different area, like I said, from IP addressing, domain name, and so on.

We as NCSG as part of GNSO, we focus on gTLD policy. It can look narrow, but that's a lot of work because basically most of the policy development in ICANN is about gTLD domain, the gTLD, generic domain. That's most where really all the discussion and interest is. We work with them, I mean, we work with the ALAC, I mean the ALAC and the NCSG. In fact, just before coming here, we had a session with them, and we try to go through different topics to see where there is some alignment or common interest.

But again, in term of their composition and the topic they cover, there is some interest. Having them both, it's not a problem. And I understand there's some confusion. People can see some overlap, but we have kind of really different role and mission. We work with them on several topic before, we also try to discuss with them on other, and we disagree on other too.

So the reality is we're not aligned in everything, but we have several issues where we have common interest and we agree on, but for other, we disagree because we don't have, again, the same mission. And as I explained it, they represent all internet user, and

that's include business. We don't, and that can give a different perspective. I'm not saying it's right or wrong, but that also a kind of diversity that is not just about geographical diversity.

It's really about that interest, that diversity of perspective and the background and where we are coming from and what we are defending. And also in the ALAC, you can find that diversity and the opinion and so on, the same in in NCSG. So what I would say is we are different, but we work together. We agree on some topics, but we disagree on other. And that's kind of let's say the beauty of the multi stakeholder model. And I see that Roberto, he wants to jump in.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Yes. Roberto, please if you can add to this.

ROBERTO GAETANO

Yes, Roberto Gaetano, I've been part of ALAC. I think everything is clear if we make one example. Although I fully agree that we collaborate on most issues, we make common front. For instance, in certain situations, we find that ALAC is more on the side of the considering the point of view of the user, the plain user, whereas by its nature, within the GNSO, the NCUC tends to consider to give more weight to the problems and the point of views of the domain name owners, in particular NPOC.

But also, this is not a hundred percent true, but some of the difference happen when there's a different point of view, for instance with the owners of the domain name, I have a different

point of view with respect to the users of the-- these are the situation in which we still have collaboration, but we need to find a compromise. Whereas for the rest of the cases, we are aligned.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Roberto. And I think the second part of the question was, the second question actually was what are the working groups you are active and what topics you are discussing, right?

RAFIK DAMMAK

Yeah. We participate in several working groups. Hopefully, I'm not going to try to list all of them, but basically when there is any GNSO working group, we will participate. And other than that, there are also like the ICANN review teams. It's slightly different because there is some selection in the appointment, but we nominate people to join. But myself, for example, I am in the review team for the IANA function.

So that's where participate, we don't have that kind of direct impact, but we participate to have our voice there. So whenever there is a committee, depending on also the membership, because it's not that always open to, like, to all groups. It can be at for example, in supporting organization level, so not everyone can participate. But when it's working group, we have representation, we join, we participate.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. I have Ashirwad over there, and we have one remote

question.

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY

Thank you Siranush. Ashirwad for the record, ICANN fellow. One of my questions has already been answered because it was related to At-Large and NCSG, so I'll park that. Another one is simple. I've got an NGO college degree in Nepal, and I've got an NGO and a website as well.

So what are the things that I should consider to decide if I want to join NPOC or NCUC? Is it the objective, the mission, or is it the working group that they're active on? So what is the thing that I should kind of look to decide which belong to?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Can you repeat? What kind of NGO are you from?

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY

So basically, we are currently working on digital education.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Digital education.

ASHIRWAD TRIPATHY

So what are the things that I should consider to decide which group I want to join? NPOC or NCSG?

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN Okay. So being an organization representative dealing with digital education, where do you think he will best fit and why?

RAFIK DAMMAK Okay, so I will give a go and I think Wisdom and Juan will-

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN We have only one minute to respond, and we'll close the session.

RAFIK DAMMAK First, you will have to join NCSG, and then you can select to one of them both. Both. Yes, you are right. And I think you can check their mission and to see if what your interest is if you think you are, like, maybe one more develop more, like if you are impacted probably, NPOC, but if you have other interest, it will be in NCSG, but I will leave that to Juan and to Wisdom to elaborate more.

JUAN MANUEL ROJAS I think that the decision is maybe it's yours, I mean, about if you are taking that decision, you can maybe decide where you are feeling you fit in because we share some topics and we were together some many topics inside the stakeholder group.

So I think that we think, or I think that you could join to a NonCommercial Stakeholder Group and see what maybe fit better for your organization and your focus. For myself, I am part of organization that do capacity building.

So also, but in local level, so I get more fit or more identified in

NPOC, in non-for-profit organization, but I am also part of the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group, but it was the decision that we take in the organization. But some others organization similar like me they have, they take the decision to be being part of, of all. So it depends what you want.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Wisdom. 10 seconds.

WISDOM DONKOR

Thank you. So I think as Rafik said, you join us NCSG, and then you look through NCUC, NPOC, and then decide. You can join as a user through NCUC and then maybe as some an NGO with NPOC and as well as civil society or NGO with NCUC.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you. I would like to thank our presenters, and if you want to learn more about the NonCommercial Stakeholder Group, participate in their constituency day, Tuesday meeting, membership meetings.

And feel free to reach out to their members, and many of them are here, and these guys are here available for you as well. And to join during lunchtime to learn more about NPOC to the engagement booth. With that, thank you very much, and we appreciate your presence here. Our meeting is adjourned.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]