

# Responsible Bridging of the Web2/Web3 Namespace

Paul Hoffman



Michael Palage



Rick Wilhelm



Jim Galvin



Francisco Arias



# *Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem*

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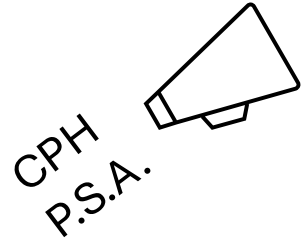


Jim Galvin

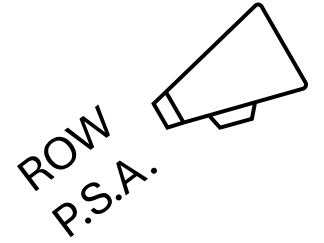
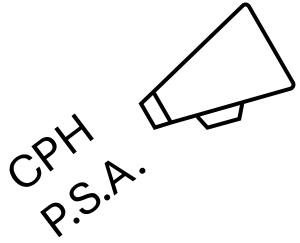


Francisco Arias



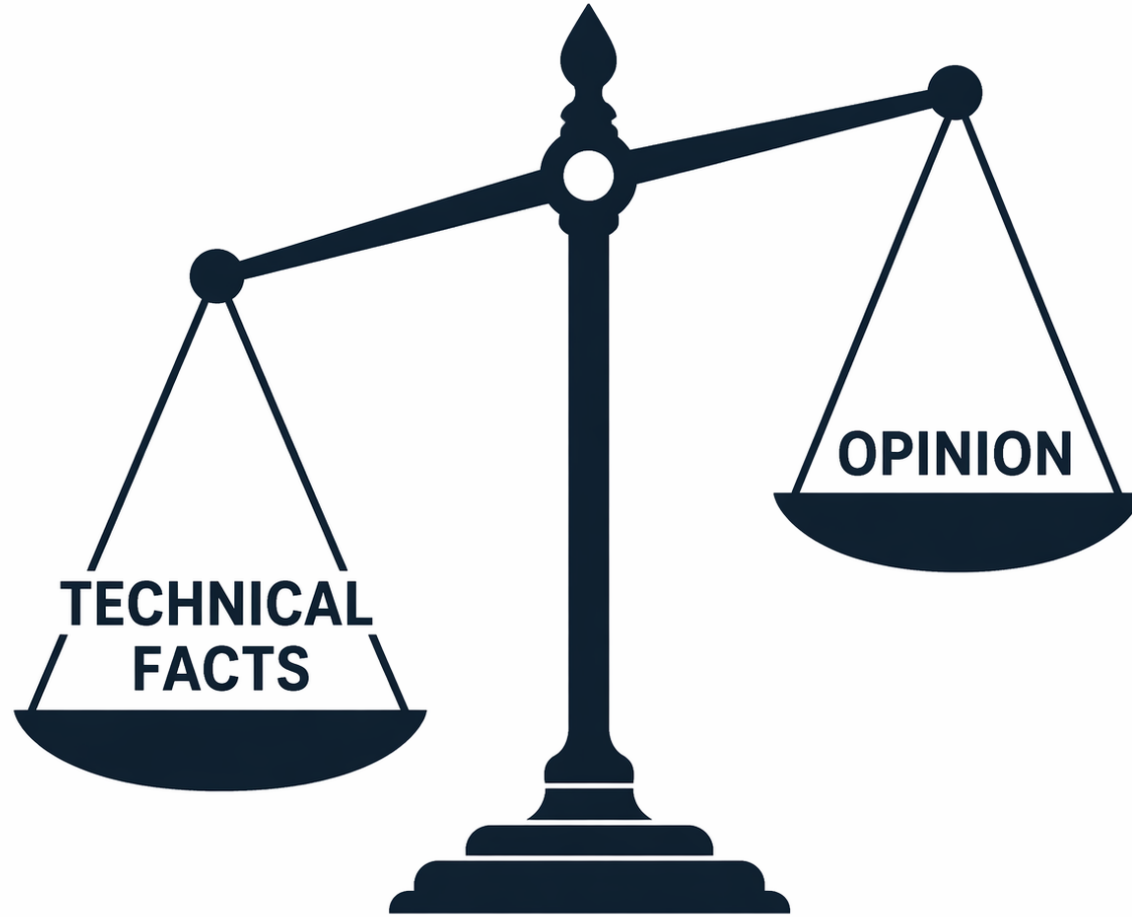


# Why / How

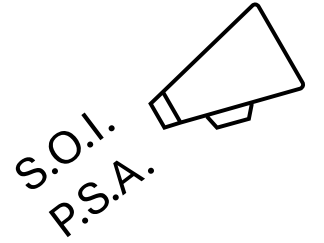


ROW15 Call for Proposals  
Closes August 14<sup>th</sup>  
[HTTPS://REGIOPS.NET](https://regiops.net)  
ROW@COFOMU.COM

# Why / How



# Panel



- Michael Palage

<https://icann-community.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/gnsosoi/pages/106791701/Michael+D.+Palage+SOI>

- Paul Hoffman

<https://www.icann.org/profiles/28869>

- Jim Galvin

<https://icann-community.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/gnsosoi/pages/106796981/James+M+Galvin+SOI>

- Rick Wilhelm

<https://icann-community.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/gnsosoi/pages/106811517/Rick+Wilhelm+SOI>

- Francisco Arias

<https://www.icann.org/profiles/139>

# R.I.P Web3 Domains

## Web3 "domains" are dead

 [Andrew Allemann](#) [17 Comments](#) March 19, 2026

The web3 domain experiment was a failure.



 **Matthew Gould**    
@mattgould

DNS domains now compose 90%+ of our business, and as we move to get several of our TLDs also listed in ICANN over the next few years our focus will continue to grow on the DNS and traditional internet market. We expect that 2-3 years from now DNS and the traditional web will be 99%+ of our business.

For this reason you'll see updates on our site to reflect our new focus on traditional web2 domains. This is intentional.

Web3 only domains were part of the crypto craze in 2021 but did not cross the chasm into mainstream usage. And for a while now we have believed they will remain a niche market now and into the future.

They were a great place to start our journey into domains, but going forward our focus will be even more on the traditional market as it's the market that has crossed the chasm and is seeing mainstream usage.

Last edited 7:20 PM · Mar 16, 2026 · **65K** Views


 88

 73

 117

 44



 [Read 88 replies](#)

# That's All Folks



# The End / Thank You

# Terminology for Namespace Discussions

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Paul Hoffman, ICANN  
Contracted Parties Summit  
April 2026

# The definition of “Web2” and “Web3”

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- There are no definitions widely agreed on
- ...and this is about the **global DNS**, not just the Web
- The definition of “Web3” changes depending on whom you are talking with
- Most definitions of “Web3” involve “blockchains”

# The definition of “blockchains”

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- There are many
- They especially change when you are talking about integration of **alternative name systems** with the global DNS
- [OCTO-040](#), “Introduction to Blockchain Technologies”, makes a stab at defining them, but it really depends on whom you are talking with

# Blockchains are public ledgers

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- A **ledger** is a database where entries can only be added at the end, and never changed at all after they are added
- A **public** ledger is one that anyone can view
- **Cryptocurrency blockchains** are public ledgers that anyone with enough money can add to the ledger
  - Different blockchains have different rules for who can add and how much they have to pay

# The definition of “Web3 namespaces”

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- The definition changes depending on whom you are talking to
- The **data** for a “Web3 namespace” might be written into:
  - a public ledger
  - a cryptocurrency blockchain
  - something else
- Namespaces are only useful when you know how to **resolve** the names into useful data
  - Each Web3 namespace has its own resolution mechanism

# The definition of a “bridge”

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- In software, a bridge is a mechanism that is designed to **lose data**
  - If it didn't lose data, it would be just be an exact copy in the exact format, not a bridge
- Bridges convert from one set of data to another, maybe losing data, maybe imperfectly converting data, maybe both

# Responsible Bridging of Namespaces: IETF Work in Progress

James Galvin, Identity Digital  
28 April 2026  
CP Summit 2026 - Manchester UK

# Internet Drafts Are Works In Progress

- IETF publishes RFCs that represent the consensus of those in the room that the specification is important to interoperability.
- Internet drafts are documented ideas from individual(s) that may or may not achieve consensus to be published as an IETF work product.
- IRTF is the Internet Research Task Force.
- Research Groups review new and emerging technologies and ideas, particularly when they can not be reasonably scoped for IETF work.

# The .alt Special-Use Top-Level Domain

- IETF [RFC9476](#) - Standards Track  
Draft-ietf-dnsop-alt-tld
- Abstract

This document reserves a Top-Level Domain (TLD) label “alt” to be used in non-DNS contexts. It also provides advice and guidance to developers creating alternative namespaces.

# DNS to Web3 Wallet Mapping

- Expired Internet Draft - not currently in a working group
- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-chins-dnsop-web3-wallet-mapping/>
- Abstract:

Proposes an implementation standard for mapping wallets to domain names using the new WALLET RRType, allowing for TXT record fallback while the WALLET RRType propagates through DNS providers.

# A Distributed DNS Based on the Blockchain UTXO Model

- Internet draft - not part of any working group
- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-guorong-utxo-dns/>
- Abstract:

This protocol extends the traditional DNS protocol by introducing a blockchain-based domain name ownership verification mechanism, supporting internationalized domain names, digital currency address records, and decentralized identity records, among other new features.

# Developing Working Group

- Proposed Name: AI Agent Protocols (aiprotocol) Working Group
- Proposed Purpose:  
Defining protocols enabling interoperability for AI Agent applications on the Internet
- Not in scope: naming
  - [WIMSE Applicability for AI Agents](#)
  - [Vorim Agent Identity Protocol \(VAIP\)](#)
- Mailing list: <https://mailman3.ietf.org/mailman3/lists/agent2agent.ietf.org/>

# AIPREF Working Group

- [AI Preferences \(aipref\)](#)
- About:

The AI Preferences Working Group will standardize building blocks that allow for the expression of preferences about how content is collected and processed for Artificial Intelligence (AI) model development, deployment, and use.

# DNS for AI Discovery

- Internet draft - not part of any working group
- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-mozleywilliams-dnsop-dnsaid/>
- Abstract:

This document specifies a method for utilizing the Domain Name System (DNS) to facilitate scalable and interoperable discovery between AI agents. The proposed mechanism, referred to as "DNS AI agent Discovery (DNS-AID)", defines a structured DNS namespace and record usage model to support metadata exchange and capability advertisement.

...This document does not define how the published agent information is accessed or the exact structure of that information.

# Security and Stability Advisory Committee

## Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem (RIDE)

Rick Wilhelm

28 April 2026

CP Summit 2026 - Manchester UK

# Responsible Integration into the DNS Ecosystem

## *Keeping the DNS Safe as Technology Evolves*

### **OUR GOAL**

Develop clear guidelines to enable new technologies like blockchain and Web3 integrate responsibly with the DNS while protecting security, stability, and user trust.

### **KEY AREAS OF STUDY**

#### **Domain Lifecycle**

Managing synchronization when domains expire or transfer while still linked to new services.

#### **User Confusion**

Preventing fraud when similar names exist in DNS and new systems.

#### **Security & Stability**

Analyzing potential risks that could be introduced to the DNS.

Francisco Arias  
28 April 2026  
CP Summit 2026 - Manchester UK

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## Technical Study Group Forming: gTLD Integrations with Alternative Naming Systems

27 April 2026

By [John Crain](#) and [Theresa Swinehart](#)

<https://www.icann.org/en/blogs/details/technical-study-group-forming-gtld-integrations-with-alternative-naming-systems-27-04-2026-en>