
ICANN85 Mumbai | CF – NextGen@ICANN Presentations (1 of 2)
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FERNANDA IUNES

Hello and welcome to the first day of the NextGen at ICANN presentations. We are here with our first six lovely NextGen participants who will be sharing with us some of their research, some topics they're interested in. I'm very much looking forward to it. But before we get started, I'm going to hand it over to my colleague Siranush here for the remote participation.

SIRANUSH VARDANYAN

Thank you, Fernanda. Welcome, as Fernanda said, to the NextGen presentation session. My name is Siranush Vardanyan and I am the participation manager for this session. Please note that this session is being recorded and is governed by the ICANN Community Participant Code of Conduct, ICANN Expected Standards of Behavior, and the ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy.

Please observe the following guidelines to participate in this session, and I have also posted them in the chat for your reference. During this session, questions will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. Interpretation for this session will include English, Hindi, and French. If you would like to speak during this session, please raise your hand in Zoom.

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When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom. On-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Only questions posted in Q&A pod will be read aloud during the session as time permits and when directed by the Chair of the session.

Please state your name for the record and the language you will speak if speaking a language other than English and speak clearly at a moderate pace. And with that, I will hand over to Fernanda.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you, Siranush. With that, we'll get started with our first presenter here Rohan Sachdeva. Rohan on to you.

ROHAN SACHDEVA

Thank you, Fernanda. And [00:02:05 – foreign language]. What I just said is a greeting in my mother tongue Punjabi. Today, I'm going to present on a topic that's very close to my heart, and is partially the reason why I'm here today. I'm going to talk about universal acceptance from a first-hand perspective, and how it is shaping our digital future.

And before I start, I just want to thank with utmost humility, the ICANN NextGen Fellowship program for giving me the opportunity to be here today. Hello, my name is Rohan Sachdeva, and this is my name and email in Punjabi script. It looks nice and fancy, doesn't it? The only problem is that I can't use it everywhere. And why? That's what we will talk about today.

And as a disclaimer, I must say that I'm not in any capacity an expert on this topic and I'm here to learn. However, what I do bring to the discussion is my personal journey and challenges that me and my friends have faced in India and across the world who want to access system in their own way, but the systems don't support them.

A little bit about myself. I grew up in a very small village in the northern state of Punjab in India, and right now, I'm studying cybersecurity at La Trobe University in Australia. I also work as a compliance officer at .au domain administration. And through the past few years, I have had immense opportunities to participate in forums like ICANN and other programs where I've been able to bring my perspective into global discussions.

So, what does universal acceptance mean to me? It is not about technical elegance. For me, it's about equal digital identity. In layman terms, I would say, if you are allowed to use, or if you can use, non-Latin Roman domain names and new domain extensions and internationalized email addresses, but important of all, we have systems in place that don't discriminate.

And since we are in India, I want to talk a little bit about India's demographics. India is a country of 1.4 billion people, and 56% of people are connected with internet according to World Bank 2022 report. And according to 2011 census, only 10 to 15% of the population spoke English. I expect the figures are much higher now, but we see the gap.

Not everybody speaks English, but a large proportion of the people are online. And obviously, there are so many official languages of India. One case study that is well noted is the Rajasthan New Email Project, which is a state in India, and that helped brought millions of Hindi speakers online in 2018. It all sounds very nice, but in reality, there is a different picture.

Imagine, you create a domain in your local script, you set up an email address, and you try to access services online, and the system says invalid input. Not because you are wrong, but the system was not built for you. A report by the Ministry of Electronics and IT in India showcased this gap with numbers. But the main gap is actually a lot of the services that a lot of Indian population use, be it internet banking, e-commerce, or travel booking, they are not UA compliant.

So, if you try to use domains that are other than English, you won't be able to get through. And there's another DNS abuse and phishing that lies behind the Universal Acceptance and IDNs, and that's of the homography phishing. What you see on the screen is a letter or the word Eeshwar, and in Hindi script it can be written in different ways. What that means is it can be used for phishing purposes and it's an easy target to deceive people. And how is our discussion incomplete without discussing AI?

So, what I did was I experimented myself. I went on to AI website tool builders, which are on huge rise right now. What I did was in five minutes, I prompted the AI builder to build a website for me. It

looks fantastic to be honest, but the main problem is when I try to access it and I fill the form in my own language. And what it says is, a part followed by letter symbol @ should not contain the symbol R in Punjabi script.

And imagine if that's multiplied thousands of and millions of times, like a lot of people build websites using AI, and this will only exclude people more and more. And now looking forward to ICANN New gTLD Program. What I call for is new TLDs should be usable, not just registered, and UA readiness should be across all the systems, be it government, e-commerce, banking, and also the AI website builder tools and other emerging technologies that we may see in maybe two to three years from now.

Because language inclusion matters and there are many, many people across the world who are still excluded. And lastly, I want to remind each one of us that what we do really matters. And I would like to quote one of my greatest mentor quote Sri Sharad Vivek Sagar from a youth empowerment organization called Dexterity Global, "The next world leader is in your classroom," whether it be in India, Iran or Ukraine.

If I were to leave you with one thing today, I want to remind you getting people online doesn't solve the problem, because access alone doesn't guarantee participation. The internet has honestly changed my life, and I want to repeat it for millions and millions of people across the world. Thank you. I really appreciate your time

coming here. And this is thank you in 22 official languages of India. Thank you. And I appreciate any questions.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you so much, Rohan. Wonderful presentation and very relevant as well. If we have any questions in the room, I'll start with Suncica.

JOHN LEVINE

Hi, I'm John Levine. This was a nice talk, and I've known AJ for a while, and I was impressed when he went and he put so much, so much of his state online with email available to people. But I have bad news for you, which is all those problems you have enumerated, we've known about them for a decade.

And I've been scratching my head and many of us have been scratching our heads trying to figure out, okay, how to make web browsers support email addresses and the large mail systems support international addresses, except some of them don't. If you use Gmail, it works, and if you use Yahoo, it doesn't. So, perhaps we should talk about are there strategies to actually get people to address these problems that we have known about for a painfully long time?

ROHAN SACHDEVA

Yeah, I honestly truly agree. And yesterday we attended some sessions on universal acceptance. I actually, when there was the Q&A with the Board, I asked them this question about the same

thing, that what are ICANN strategy for the New gTLD Program? And they highlighted the same thing. So, I think now we need to go from discussion to actual work mode. And we are all here, so we need to get work together. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you, Rohan. Suncica, please.

SUNCICA ROSIC

Thank you, Rohan, for your presentation. It's been very insightful and I find it very interesting how one can leverage universal acceptance to improve digital inclusion. You mentioned AI and I was wondering, is there a way to tweak AI search engines such that they prioritize domain names in local languages rather than the Latin ones.

So, basically if we have the same content written in a local language and local script and Latin script, ideally, we would want to prepare it as a local one. So, do you think there is a way for that in the future?

ROHAN SACHDEVA

I think there's a lot of potential in AI, to be honest. Imagine like the content that's in English at the moment on any website or domain, it can easily be translated in other languages. So, that actually I think is improving access in a way.

But the issue that I was highlighting was that the data maybe that the AI has been trained on is not UA compliant, because I'm not an expert, but I think when I asked my AI website builder to build a website for me, I gave it just simple description or build a website for me, and it came up with this.

But I did actually ask the AI to make it more UI compliant, and it was not able to do that. So, I think there's a lot of work to do for the AI companies as well. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you, Rohan. I think we have time for one, maybe two questions, and if we have time at the end, we can always come back as well. Please go ahead.

BRUCE TONKIN

Thank you, Rohan. Thank you for the presentation. I'm interested in how the different language scripts get used in other forms of delivery, if you like. So, can I write a letter and put an address on a letter in any of those 22 languages?

And if I was ordering something through e-commerce, say I wanted to get a pair of shoes delivered and I bought them online, do most delivery forms allow me to use different languages for my name and address? And the third part is you showed an AI web builder, did the AI web builders allow you to build websites in those local languages?

ROHAN SACHDEVA

With the content, yes, I was able to build in different languages, but I think the backend is still mostly dominated by ASCII characters. Because for the example of email, I tried, I registered .parath domain in Punjabi script, and I was trying to send it from my personal English email to my Punjabi email and it was unsuccessful. I don't know how that worked in backend, but that did not work for me. But yeah, for content wise, AI did a great job, to be honest. Like same content was translated in different scripts.

BRUCE TONKIN

And if you're delivering, doing electronic commerce orders here in India, are there restrictions on what languages you can use in the address? Can you write your name in your local script and your postal street address in the local address?

ROHAN SACHDEVA

Yes. In India, you can generally use your local script for e-commerce, where you get a parcel and you can have your name in your local script.

BRUCE TONKIN

Great. Thanks.

ROHAN SACHDEVA

Thank you for the question.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. Lars, please go ahead.

LARS-JOHAN LIMAN

Thank you. Lars Liman from Netnode in Sweden. While I wholeheartedly support what you're mentioning here, this is all good. Can we please shift from local language to preferred language? If I look up something here in India, I don't want it in a local language. I'm sorry, I don't speak any of the 22 languages you mentioned.

When I'm in Sweden, I actually, in many cases, don't want the Swedish version of something. I want the English version because that's how I work a lot. So, the user must be able to state a preference for which language to have things expressed in, and that's the thing that is important, I believe. Thank you.

ROHAN SACHDEVA

I think that's a really good call out. And honestly, for me as well, sometimes when I access Facebook, when I'm in India, it automatically comes in Punjabi script, but then I'm like, Oh, I can speak English as well. And I actually prefer English to be on Facebook, so I would change that. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you so much. And with that, we will move on to our next presenter, Taruna Bamrah. Please go ahead.

TARUNA KAUR BAMRAH

Thank you, Fernanda. Namaste. Good morning, afternoon, and evening, who've all joined us from all the places of the world. I'm Taruna Kaur Bamrah, final year BCA student from DAV College, a little place from Amritsar in the Northern India, Punjab, and I wear a few hats. I'm an admission ambassador 2026 and a WSIC cohort fellow. I'm honored to be here as a NextGen being a voice for my community.

With utmost appreciation, I thank ICANN for giving me this wonderful opportunity, and today, I want to talk about something urgent. How the digital divide is evolving into an AI divide, and why universal acceptance is the bridge we need. Let's dive in. We often talk about digital inclusion, but let me ground us in current reality.

2.2 staggering billion people remain offline, 96% of them in low and middle-income countries, infrastructure, and affordability barriers persist. But here's what concerns me more. Millions who are online still face systematic barriers. When platforms reject non-English identifiers, like my Punjabi Gurmukhi IDN emails, they're not just blocking access, they're locking users out of digital services and AI platforms entirely.

Connectivity is necessary, but it's no longer sufficient. Next slide, please. Let me show you what this looks like technically. Most websites and AI platforms reject IDN email addresses and domain names. Users with native script addresses like singh@bharat, which is basically in my Punjabi Gurmukhi script, or

ram@bharat.gov.in in Hindi script cannot register for major AI platforms and digital services.

And then why does this happen? Legacy validation code, ASCII only email parsers, systems built decades ago assuming everyone uses English characters. The impact? Hundreds of millions are excluded from AI services, e-learning platforms, the digital economy, not because they lack connectivity, but because of lack of universal acceptance. And this is a technical problem with a technical solution. ICANN has been leading this work through the UA steering group. And next slide, please.

AI infrastructure depends on inclusion internet protocols. And what are the major failures we can control and compound upon? There's an infrastructure gap. AI compute requires high bandwidth connectivity, regional infrastructure deficits, turn access gaps into capability gaps. Capability gaps are persistent because the training data sets remain English dominant. Regional language models are underrepresented, limiting AI utility for non-English speakers.

There's a governance gap because communities consume AI built elsewhere without participation in design or policy. UA sits at the protocol foundation of all three. Next slide, please. Let me show you a little about Punjab and tier two, tier three cities we have in the Northern India. India demonstrates this technical social barrier clearly. Punjab in tier two states face a 20 to 30% digital literacy gap from the ITU facts and figures despite national progress, but literacy isn't the only barrier.

This language barrier AI resources remain English first. Despite 22 constitutionally recognized languages like Punjabi, Hindi, Tamil speakers encounter limited local language tooling. This technical barrier. I tested registration on major AI platforms just like Rohan did in MyScript format all rejected at email validation. Either invalid email format because it's in punai root course because it's hard-coded ASCII-only rejects patterns in form validation.

The .bharat TLD is operational, but application layer reject persists. This pattern repeats across the global south. Next slide, please. And let's see who gets left behind in this era. Without IDN compliance, systematic exclusion affects rural communities. They have connectivity, but they face identifier rejection as a secondary barrier. Youth, us, we are the presenters of the next AI generation with the primary users with minimal governance pathways.

Non-English speakers underrepresented in training data and interface design. Women, us, and marginalized groups compound access barriers. Technical debt in legacy validation systems becomes structurally inequality in the AI era. Next slide, please. And I would like to think upon what the concrete solutions we have and what we can work upon. ICANN UA acceptance programs provide implementation resources.

Building on the UASG foundation, which has been dissolved, ICANN's UA program steering group and EWG is working providing technical tools and global coordination. What can be done is we can use technical tools like free UA readiness testing at uasg.tech,

EA compliant validation libraries, persisting of Python, JavaScript, and Java. Measurement frameworks can be done.

Quarterly UA readiness evaluations and platform compliance scoring can be done because they offer open-source and what's happening in the real world can be seen by communities online. Capacity building can be done, and we could have developer workshops, technical documentation in regional languages. Registry and registrar compliance programs could be also indicated.

These resources exist today. The gap is mandatory adoption and transparent accountability. Let's see what the call to action can be. Looking at those action points on screen, let me highlight the most urgent ones we can tackle right now. First and most immediate, I request ICANN organization could add on to major AI platforms like ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, and more to the existing quarterly UA evaluations. Imagine public AI platform readiness scores that could create instant accountability.

Second, developers in this room, before your next project launch, integrate the first EAI libraries using the tools that we have today. It's one line of code that opens access to the hundreds of millions. For NextGen like me, let's push for a dedicated UA technical track. We need policy people who understand the regex patterns causing these failures. These aren't distant dreams, they're the technical fixes with immediate impact. I've tested the tools myself. They work.

Now we need adoption at scale. Next slide, please. And with my guiding principle from my Punjab, it says, Sarbat Da Bhala. It stands for well-being for all. The seva community Bhavana of serving the community without expecting anything in return. Let's build inclusive AI that serves every community, language, and persons.

The standards exist, the tools exist, what we need is implementation accountability. And thank you, I would love to hear your thoughts and experiences with that one world, one internet stands with the global inclusivity. And maybe we have digital future where digital inclusion is the utmost important and forward-looking perspective. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Wonderful job, Taruna. Two very important presentations about universal acceptance. Do we have any questions in the room? Yes, go ahead, please. Joysa.

JOYSA KAUSHIK

Thank you, Rohan and Taruna. Myself, Joy Sakashik for the record. So, while they mentioned a lot of insights about the current and the past situations of India, I would like to add upon the initiatives which are already going on in India for UA.

So, there's Bhashini, and it enables real-time translation into most of the Indian languages, and still, it is improving day by day. Apart from that, we have Vani, and that is like it provides open data sets

in most of the languages, Indian languages. So, yeah, apart from that, everything, it was very amazing. Nicely covered. Thank you.

TARUN KAUR BAMRAH

Thank you, Joysa. I totally agree with you. We have Servum AI, which is covering every dialect and it's translating in real time, and it's covering almost all the languages we have in India without the connectivity issue. We don't need Internet access even. So, it can be used anytime, anywhere. And I totally agree with you, Joysa, and I would love any questions we have.

FERNANDA IUNES

Any other questions in the room? Alfredo, please go ahead.

ALFREDO CALDERON

I do actually have a question for both of you, Rohan and Taruna. So, basically, if you recall, ICANN works on a policy basis process and development process, so with which community you think, and I'm actually asking you to do a presentation to that community in particular and see how your ideas could be incorporated as an issue to see if we can resolve the issue of universal acceptance from a technical point of view, because that's the biggest issue.

As was mentioned, in every nation, in every country, they are working internally. with their languages and their dialects. Now, how do we make that universal? That's the big issue.

TARUNA KAUR BAMRAH

Okay, thank you, Alfredo, for this input. I think UAWG and RSSAC could do a wonderful collaboration on to working on to this because the data centers as we see are ASCII coded, and we need the Puneri codes to be done, because I attended the ccNSO UA session yesterday, had a talk with Edmon, Sameer Gehlot, and we were talking about how the communities are accepting onto and how it's getting UA compliance.

So, I look forward to the ICANN organization, ACs and SOs that we could collaborate onto and work onto and contribute into any municipal way, and yeah, thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. Any other question? Oh did you have something to say, Rohan? Please.

ROMAN SACHDEVA

Yeah, because the question was addressed to both of us. I was thinking because it's also a technical issue, maybe we need to go into the rooms where the technical people are. So, I'm thinking in the GNSO where we have um the web companies, maybe we can work with them. And yeah, to be honest, I really need to think about it more. Like, how do we actually work on it? But yeah, I would really like to go into the technical rooms for this discussion. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you, Rohan. Any other questions for Taruna while we're here? I don't see any in the room. All right. Thank you so much, Taruna. And with that, we will move on to our third presenter, Aung Si Kyaw. Please.

AUNG SI KYAW

Okay. Good morning, everyone. So, my name is on Aung Si Kyaw, I'm a NextGen fellow from Myanmar, and I'm currently studying in Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in Japan, specializing on global economics. And I also work for yIGF in Myanmar since 2021. And today, I would like to talk about a topic that connect digital infrastructure and data governance and also economic fairness.

My presentation is about Surveillance Pricing and Accessibility. And the central question I want us to reflect on today is very simple. Are digital markets truly fair if the prices are determined by how much corporations and companies know about our data and about us, basically? So, more importantly, what role does Internet infrastructure governance play in shaping that reality? Let me start with another question.

Have you ever wondered why the price of a flight ticket or hotel sometimes changes within minutes? Or why your friends see a cheaper price for the exact same product that you're buying online? So, research has shown that online platforms sometimes display different prices for different people, and that may be based

on things like your locations and your browsing history, and also the device that you're using.

So, for example, A Wenung study in 2012 found that the MacBook users sometimes shown higher prices, hotter prices, compared to other users. So, this is not actually a supply and demand issues. It's about like it reflect how corporations and companies use our personal data to predict how much we are willing to pay. And this brings us to the concept of surveillance pricing.

Surveillance pricing is referred to a pricing strategy where companies analyze the users, our data, in order to personalize the prices. The data also include, as I mentioned, browsing history, location data, device type, and purchasing behavior. And also, algorithm process the information to estimate a person's willingness to pay. And if the system believes someone is able or willing to pay, the price we're shown to the person may be increased.

And what makes this concerning is the process is very invisible to the consumer. It's very untransparent to the consumer by the corporation and they don't inform us how our data are being used. So, the issue is not only like personalization data, it's about transparency and also economic fairness and also accessibility to the digital markets. So, why am I talking about this and why this is matter beyond shopping?

So, at the first glance this might sound like it's just an e-commerce issue, like it doesn't need to do anything with ICANN or internet

governance, but the implications are actually much broader. When the pricing is shaped by the personal data and digital market also begin to behave differently, personalization can intentionally create hidden economic discrimination and accessibility to the digital markets by the underrepresented communities.

For example, people from certain location, income groups, and also digital behavior profile may constantly face higher prices or fewer choices. Over time, this can affect the access to services including DNS services and also participation in digital markets and also even economic opportunities. So, the conversations about civilian pricing is also conversation about digital inequalities and also accessibility to the digital markets.

So, that's why when we think about digital markets, we also focus on platforms or companies. But under these platforms, there is something more fundamental which is Domain Name System or DNS. So, domain names are much more than a website address. These enable online businesses and also digital speech and also innovations and also participation in the global digital economy.

So, in many ways, domain names function as a digital identity infrastructure. Without them, websites, services, and also digital platforms simply would not operate. So, when we discover digital markets and accessibility, we also need to consider the infrastructure that support them. So, basically this brings us to the ICANN's role in the DNS ecosystem. As we all know, ICANN does not regulate retail prices for the digital services or the platforms.

So, ICANN cannot directly control how companies price their product online. But that does not mean infrastructure governance is irrelevant to this surveillance pricing and how our data are misused by the corporations and companies. ICANN shape the elements of infrastructure ecosystem that contract with the registry and register and also compliant mechanisms and also data governance framework.

This infrastructure influence how information flows within the domain systems, and increasingly data governance affects how digital markets function as well. So, let's look at the infrastructure governance and market behaviors. So, digital infrastructure rules can influence market behaviors in several ways. The first one is data governance affect the personalization capacity by the corporations and companies.

And the way the registration data is collected, stored, and also accessed can shape how companies and corporations build data-driven systems. Second, market concentration in infrastructure services can directly influence pricing strategies across the digital economy that we are living in. And also, the last but not least, is the rules that govern infrastructure create incentives for the commercial practices as well for the corporations and companies. In other words, Infrastructure governance may not determine prices directly, but it has checked the environment in which the digital markets are operating.

So, this means that discussions about digital markets cannot ignore the governance layer of the internet which ICANN is mainly focusing on. So, I have some general recommendations. This is a broader scope, not only specific to ICANN. Given these challenges, several broader policy recommendations I have are, the first one is there should be greater transparency in the logarithmic pricings by the corporation and company.

They should let the user know how our data are being used and how these data are determined for the prices that we are paying online as well. And also, the second one is company could be required to disclose when the personalized pricing is being used. For example, when we are paying more online, we should have some information on why we are paying more.

And then third, stronger data minimization principle could have reduced access data collection as well. And the final one is independence algorithmic audit could improve also accountability of the corporations and companies. So, next one is recommendation within the ICANN mandate that I think of before I join in this one. So, it might not be sometimes in relevance to some of the, how can I say, constituency as well, but I try my best for this.

So, within the ICANN scope, there are some stay meaningful ways to engage as well within this concern. One possibility is to integrate accessibility considerations into CCT reviews. This is competition and consumer trust reviews. And also, another one is transparency around registrar data practices. When we set the domains and

when we work with the registrar, we should have more like strengthening transparency. around the register data practices, especially how user data is handled within the domain systems.

And also, ICANN code also assesses the equality implication of registration data practices, particularly for users in developing countries and underrepresented regions. And also, importantly, increasing participation from the underrepresented region can also help the global internet governance reflect diverse experience and also concerns. So, as shown in my presentation topic, I will talk about accessibility as a public interest concern. Domain services are entry points for the digital economy.

So, policy could be consider monitoring how renewal pricings affect small actors such as like small business and also civil society group. And also, we should encourage clear disclosures when DNS services are bundled with the other digital services as well. And also, we should consider equity impact during the policy deployments within ICANN mandates. Yes, as we all know, there is some of the supporting groups that we can work with.

The first one is ALAC Advisory Group and also NCSG, GAC, and also CCT Reviews. And after I joined several sessions, I think Business and Commercial Constituency also can also work with on this issue. So, yeah, let me conclude, surveillance pricing is a really important questions about fairness and accessibility to the digital markets.

So, I will just leave with the question, can Internet infrastructure governance truly remain neutral in a word where data increasingly

determines economic fairness and also accessibility issues to the digital markets? Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you so much, Aung Si. It's a great presentation and honestly a little terrifying. Do we have any questions in the room? All right, Bern, please go ahead.

BERNHART FARRAS SUKANDAR

Hello. Hi, I'm Bern. I'm a fellow NextGen as well. So, this is a really interesting topic because you discussed about the personalization of data and also the pricing, and we all know that basically ICANN have registries, they define the pricing to the registrar and also the registrar to end users. So, I would like to see it from a different perspective.

You see it like if there is a personalization of data, then there is someone who pays more. That's a simple thing to see. But what if someone can pay for less? That's one of the accessibility issues that I'm thinking because many people want their own name or their own future business name or future initiatives name to be registered as a domain.

The thing is, not everybody can afford \$11 per year. Well, when they're still thinking about buying food and buying domain, of course they will buy food, right? So, if people don't have that much money, do you want to advocate to ICANN to have like a policy to use the personalization of data to make it free for some years,

maybe. Or maybe there is a personalized pricing for rural communities, affected people from conflicts and the others.

And also, as we know that if you register a domain and then you don't use it again or you don't extend the domain, then you can lose the domain. So, basically, maybe people don't have money to extend. Do you have any suggestion how it would like to do for the transparency and also the others? Thank you.

AUNG SI KYAW

Thank you, Bern, for the questions, and this is a really interesting perspective. And in my opinion, personalization data is not a problem. But when it comes, the users and the consumers have better information on how our data is being used. So, as you mentioned, ICANN can use the personalization data to reduce some prices for the people who cannot afford. I think the data cannot determine how we can afford the prices or not.

I think that shouldn't be the only factor to determine. So, I think it's really difficult for ICANN as well to personalize data for those people who cannot afford. Or like, oh, so this person can give a higher price, so I will give higher prices for them. I think it shouldn't be worked that way at the beginning. I think the price should be fair and also similar to those everyone.

But for those like who cannot afford and underrepresented community, except data, there should be other consideration to assess how they cannot afford this kind of prices and stuff. I'm not

sure data can be the only determination factor, I guess, because it's really hard to tell. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. I'll go to Alfredo first and then I'll --

ALFREDO CALDERON

Thank you. I forgot to introduce myself at the beginning for the first two presenters, but everybody knows me. So, I'm sorry for that, but I'm Alfredo Calderon. I'm a mentor for the NextGen program. So, my concern is from the end user perspective, since I'm a member of the At-Large community. Don't you think there's an awareness issue to educating an individual when he decides to create an account in a particular service instead of another?

Because, for example, if you're traveling, there's a lot of groups or organizations that offer different prices, but it's based on the algorithms they use, and some are better than others. So, isn't the awareness from the end user perspective important in what you're talking about, pricing surveillance and so forth.

AUNG SI KYAW

Thank you for the question, Alfredo. I think the awareness issue is really also a bit dear as well, but at the same time even though the end user, the consumers know how they're being priced. I think they cannot do much about it because for example, the data sometimes does not determine just... how can I say it? They also

sometimes can track your email data and stuff and you are in urgency.

For example, you got an email about welcome to Mumbai and something, and you will definitely have to book the flight. And at the time, when you go to [00:45:12 – inaudible] or some other travel platforms, you will see higher prices than other normal people. That is definitely where gold happens. So, I think the end user also is not aware of much happening, most of the majority.

But yeah, the awareness is the issue as well. And even though, I think that we should educate more the end users, how they're being charged and how they should be careful about the data that we are giving to the companies and corporations. But at the other end as well, the big corporations and the companies are the one that we should blame. Because sometimes, they're misusing the data that we are giving in the scope as well, and they're sharing the data across the app and stuff.

So, I think the corporations are the one we can blame, but the end users should also have awareness about how they are being charged. Then can find another alternative as well. Sometimes, for me, when I look up for the flighttrade.com, I search for, like, for example, I asked my sister to look for the prices and I also check the prices because we are different locations and we're using different devices and we are different data and stuff. So, yeah, that's how we do that. So, I think the end user can do that much, not that much, yeah. So yeah, thank you for the question.

FERNANDA IUNES

Jeff, please go ahead.

JEFF OSBORN

I had to really stop and think about whether I wanted to say something. My name is Jeff Osborn, I represent the RSSAC. I'm the Chair. Policy, regulation, legislation, and profit are sort of the things that drive how the internet has developed over the years, and I've been really fortunate to be there through most of it. Privacy concerns are a huge problem, and I just want to throw the interesting thought out there.

I can't imagine how much legislative work it would take to create a system where people who couldn't afford it paid less and people who could afford it paid more. I would consider that a really social good, that if that had cost a billion dollars and taken 10 years, we'd be having parades about it and building statues of the people who did it.

So, it's an interesting thought that while the privacy issues are true, the end result of people who can afford less paying less and the people who can afford more paying more, it's kind of good. Just a thought.

AUNG SI KYAW

Okay. Thank you for the really great talk as well. I think that could be a good perspective to look at on this issue, but for example, okay, I'm using MacBook, but that doesn't really mean I can afford

something in higher prices on the flight. But on the data, they determine on the devices that I'm using.

The location might be, I'm living in Japan, but originally from Myanmar, so, there is a consequence of misjudgment from the data. So, that is the issue. I'm from Myanmar, but I live in Japan and the data consider I'm rich and I can afford that.

JEFF OSBORN

The argument you're making is that they need more data to be better at this.

AUNG SI KYAW

Maybe.

FERNANDA IUNES

Okay, thank you. Unfortunately, we don't have time for any more questions for him, but if we have time at the end we can come back. All right. And with that, I'll hand it over to our next presenter, Purnika. Go ahead, please, the floor is yours.

PURNIKA KHANAL

Good morning, everyone, and namaste. Thank you everyone for joining me, and thank you ICANN, for giving me this wonderful opportunity. My name is Purnika Khanal from Tribhuvan University representing Nepal as a NextGen in ICANN85 program. My topic for today's presentation is Internet Shutdowns, Network Stability, and

the Role of ICANN. We'll be looking at this through a data-driven perspective.

So, internet as a critical infrastructure. Let's start with something we all know but sometimes take for granted. The internet has become an essential infrastructure for modern society. It supports financial systems, healthcare, education, and governance. Billions of people rely on it daily for essential services. Yet global stability index is rarely measured in real time. This gap creates blind spots with serious consequences.

So, what happens when the internet goes down? In 2020, 29 countries intentionally shut down or slowed the internet. Over 180 shutdowns were recorded globally. For example, India had 109 shutdowns, Yemen had 6, Ethiopia had 4, and so on. The effects of these shutdowns include economic loss and service disruption. Millions of people were affected who depend on the connectivity for daily activities.

In a technical perspective, these events leave measurable signatures. We can detect DNS anomalies and routing changes. So, what we can understand is when we understand patterns, we can improve global monitoring for DNS and internet shutdowns. Let me show you what a shutdown looks like from a technical standpoint. This chart shows DNS query traffic over time. Three observable technical events during a shutdown. First, there's a sudden drop in DNS queries.

That's the first indicator that something is wrong. Second, there's a loss of reachability to root and TLD servers. That's when the foundation of internet naming stops responding. Third, abnormal routing changes are detected. Traffic tries to find alternative paths. These technical signatures are vital signs for internet monitoring.

By monitoring them, we can detect disruptions as they happen. Let me share a specific example to illustrate this. In January 2026, Iran experienced a nationwide shutdown. There was around 3 weeks and a near total internet blackout. We can see what happens to DNS queries. Previously, the traffic was normal. During the shutdown, the traffic dropped nearly to zero, and afterwards there was gradual recovery.

The key takeaway is this, shutdowns leave clear, measurable DNS and traffic signatures. With right monitoring systems, we don't have to guess. We can know when and where disruptions occur as the data tells the story. So, why is DNS so important for monitoring internet stability? We can think of DNS as the internet's vital signs.

Every internet request begins with DNS. When we type a website address, DNS is what happens first in the background. Because of this, DNS reflects real user activity across the globe. When there is a disruption in a region, DNS data reveals it immediately. We can observe in the diagram, the query goes from client to DNS service provider and then to the server.

This entire resolution path is a global observation standpoint. This also detects regional disruptions. This is why DNS data is so

valuable for understanding internet health. This brings us to ICANN's role in all of this. ICANN is a technical coordinator for global DNS infrastructure. It oversees the root server system and is the foundation that makes the entire internet naming structure work. Because of this position, ICANN has a unique visibility across the entire naming infrastructure.

So, what does this practically mean? ICANN can observe global DNS stability in real time. This capability is unique and extremely valuable as it identifies exactly when and where the disruptions occur. This positions ICANN to contribute meaningfully to Internet Stability Monitoring. Based on these observations, this is the proposal for Global Internet Stability Index. This would track four key metrics.

DNS Query Success Rate are DNS requests being answered successfully? Root Server Reachability, can users reach the foundational infrastructure? Latency to TLD servers, how quickly is the system responding? And sudden regional traffic drops. Are there unexpected disruptions? The example of healthy infrastructure is in the visual towards the right. There is 97% DNS success rate, 99.8% root server reachability, and so on.

These metrics tracked over time gives us a comprehensive view of global internet health. This helps identify problems early before severe disruptions. This transparency could improve resilience across entire internet ecosystem. Let me summarize the key findings. First, shutdowns are measurable at DNS layer. Technical

signatures are clear and detectable. Second, ICANN is uniquely positioned to observe stability.

Because of its role in coordinating the global DNS infrastructure, ICANN can help us observe the stability of the Internet health. Third, DNS data acts as early warning signals for Internet disruptions, and Global Stability Index improves resilience by making Internet health transparent and measurable. So, in the bottom, there's a well-known principle, you cannot protect what you cannot measure.

So, through this research, I've become deeply interested in how we can measure and protect our global internet stability. This is an area I am eager to explore further and contribute to in meaningful ways. So, thank you. Thank you so much for your time and attention.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you very much, Purnika. Wonderful presentation. Any questions in the room? Yes, please. Go ahead.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER

Hi. Thank you for that wonderful presentation. Purnika, my 92-year-old doctor and neuroscience friend says, human beings for the last few hundred years, we've been great at observation. Causation, not so much. But I understand your solution that you're proposing this measurement is observation, which we're good at.

Do you think it should go as far as to say what the causation is? And or do you think it should go even further, having determined what the causation might be of different things that are observed? Should ICANN, for example, do anything about that, either alerting someone or is just observation enough? Thank you. I should say I'm outside counsel in ICANN.

PURNIKA KHANAL

Thank you for your question. So, I don't think it's in ICANN's remit to actually be involved in the actual causation. Like, for example, the Iran internet shutdown. I don't think it's in ICANN's remit to be involved in that. So, what it can do is just measure the actual internet health so that the people who actually can get involved in it will get involved in it.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER

But assuming it knows, like, so for example, what an observation leads you to say, to speculate about causation, are you saying it shouldn't speculate at all, no further action, just this is what we've observed? And I guess someone else can tell me, but doesn't ICANN already do that?

PURNIKA KHANAL

Maybe I am not very familiar with this area, but I don't think ICANN exactly go towards causation, because the reason for which the event has occurred, I don't think ICANN actually get involved in it. So, I think the proposal that I have made, let's just say it's like a

concept, so it can be implemented and who can get involved could get involved.

UNKNOWN SPEAKER

Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

We have time for maybe one quick, quick question. I'll go to you here closer to me, and then if we have time at the end, is that okay? Thank you.

DANA CRAMER

Dana Cramer, Toronto Metropolitan University. First, I want to say this was an excellent presentation. You did a really great job, and I understand like with NextGen, sometimes it can be a bit worrying because I actually had a similar presentation too when I was in this program two years ago presenting some of my PhD research.

One thing this might get a little bit of frustration around the room to potentially take into consideration with internet shutdowns. In the next decade, it is possible that there might be concurrent internets, and that countries will connect one internet to their critical infrastructure and another internet to their citizen bodies.

It's also not an obtuse idea because over the 20th century, this happened exactly with video tech systems. Canada was actually a leading example in that. In that context, your components about measurement would be very difficult to fully assess. Because if you

have just one DNS for one internet and potentially different internets, you might not have all that data that's open to you.

And so, I was wondering if you could expand out a bit more in potential ideas. And this might get to my roles in the room. But what types of work in multilateralism might be needed then in the context of internet shutdowns, either through treaties to make sure that there is open data repositories so that there can be measurement assessments?

Does there need to be a new iteration of the Global Digital Compact as a means to ensure that member nations are identifying these contacts? Does there need to be a new treaty overall? Because if ICANN essentially gets iced out of one internet per country, then how does that work for ensuring that there can at least be connectivity by citizens of the world? Thank you.

PURNIKA KHANAL

So, thank you for the question. It was a really interesting perspective. So, this concept is for the current internet ecosystem, like a single internet, so a single DNS all over the world. So, I haven't really thought about what would happen if every country gets a separate internet. So, yeah, I'm sorry.

DANA CRAMER

It's a depressing thought, so I don't blame you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. Unfortunately, we don't have any more time for questions for now, but again, we can come back at the end. With that, I will hand it to our next presenter. Huy Nguyen, please go ahead.

HUY NHAT NGUYEN

Good morning, everyone, and thank you for coming. First, I would like to say thank you for giving me the opportunity to be here for presentation for the NextGen. My name is Huy, and I'm from Vietnam. Today I want to be talking about what happened last year, and the topic about around like about like the WHOIS and the RDAP, and what is the challenge effect. Many people work in the Internet security team and develop people who are caring about the privacy.

Let me tell you about a story. In January 2025, a security person has a company checking a subcarrier domain and they open their WHOIS, and simply they see the warning message the data is not going to be correct anymore. So, it's a mistake. On this day ICANN make important announcement, they said RDAP is not be official way as the domain information.

So, you can see right there, before we're talking about RDAP. Let me explain the ICANN job. We can see ICANN help the coordination of internet technical thing, not controlled, content. It can be seen right there. ICANN have three names, DNS coordination, IANA

function, registration data. RDAP is a part of this. It is about how we can get the domain information, make sure it is stable.

So, what is the challenge? Let me show you the three different. First, the formal. WHOIS give you the plain text. This means like every company has to write the special program to read it, and their program just break easily. RDAP gives you the JSON, and the JSON makes it easy for the computer to read much better to automation. The second is finding the right server. With WHOIS, you can know which server to ask this time. RDAP use something called like Bootstrap.

So, you ask the Bootstrap and it tell you the right server and it's easy. First, access level. WHOIS assemble everything in public, RDAP is the [01:05:35 – inaudible] public researcher gets information, but people with good reason like policy law can request more detail for the format process. So, let me give you the real example. Before the security team gets the alarm about best domain they use, we get to get the message back, then get you to compare to take the partner to try it.

Sometimes it works, sometimes it breaks. Then have many manually file to the contact for more information. After that, sometimes they use the RDAP, they get the clean organization data. It's JSON format, easy to read and easy to use. And they can see the link to read with more information or one of less. Now, let's be realistic. What the RDAP actually gives you.

What you will get [01:06:53 – inaudible] organization JSON data stand tied to the information, linked to the related resource, clean up when something hiding for privacy, standardized codes, and they will tell you about the data. And what you will not get, like full registrant details, what will be hiding for privacy, old history data depend on the registrar research [01:07:26 -inaudible] real-time updates can be delayed. Here's something important.

I can say there are more than 10 million RDAP reversed every month. So, how to actually use RDAP? They have two ways. One is like public access. If you just want a weak request, checking who owns the domain, you can go to the ICANN look up website, it's lookup.icann.org. No need to log in, but personal detail will be hidden for privacy.

The second, the format request. If you need like full detail, the personal email and the phone, you need to go to [01:08:27 – inaudible] system or you can explain why you need it. Okay, that's enough for the background. What should we actually do? One's a technical side to challenge the WHOIS tune and the RDAP tune. Most program language have RDAP library, things like Python, Java, and others can change the text to JSON reading using the INR bootstrap to finding the server automatically.

On this the team side, training your security team on how to use RDAP, find if the data is really good, and if you need to provide information, apply the RDRS account. For Vietnam, the .vn domain is actually not using like RDAP. So, if you work in the Vietnamese

domains, use a VNIC website like tracuutenmien.gov for now and keep waiting for .vn as for RDAP. Let me finish with the three successes.

First, start now. Don't wait, start using RDAP while you have time for learning about the practice. The second, expect the personal detail will be high. Build your system with your mind on privacy for protection, if it's not a problem. [01:10:18 – inaudible] GDPR. The third is talking with the local domain operator. If you work with company in like Vietnam, talk with them, tell them why RDAP is important.

Share your needs. Be part of the conversation. So, all of my source right there, I use ICANN official announcement and RDAP document. Everything is from January 2026 and is currently announced. And thank you for attending the presentation.

FERNANDA IUNES

Wonderful job Huy. Thank you very much for your presentation. We have time for one maybe two questions. So, let's see if we have anything in the room. Oh okay. I'll go behind me first.

JOHN LEVINE

It's John Levine, again. Thank you for this, for the for this. This, this piece. Having written who is parsers and RDAP parsers, I can confirm that RDAP is way better and it's much more consistent and it's also something that people don't appreciate. It's much easier

to tell whether an element is actually present or not so you know what's been redacted.

Unfortunately, you have also stepped into what in English, we call a can of worms, the whole issue of RDRs and what's available, and how quickly it's available, and who it's available to, is something that has been debated at enormous length, and it's continuing to be debated now. And in fact, if you can find Steve Crocker, who is the elderly fellow with the scooter, he will tell you in great detail about his project to improve RDRS, which is quite interesting.

You should talk to him about it. But I guess that my takeaway is, I would really like to encourage more country code TLDs to implement RDRs both for selfish reasons, because it makes my job easier, but also because I think, as you suggested, making stuff available in a more consistent way is good for accessibility everywhere.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. And I think we have time for one other quick question, if we have any others in the room. No? Oh, Maarten. Go ahead, please.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN

Hi there, Maarten Botterman here. Thank you for that and thanks for all the excellent presentations. John made a good point. Overall, many of these subjects are tackled on other platforms. Look at that and refer to that. Specifically for this one, you have the

green box of the unredacted data and the RDAP box which is, of course, a way to go and we invest a lot in. What do you think about moving more towards legal entity identities rather than personal identities? Would that allow the green box to be better?

HUY NHAT NGUYEN

So, for my knowledge, when I want to make it for the topic, I just know about WHOIS and the RDAP. So, if you give the lingo after the presentation, I will find it may be good lingo for maybe the next research about us. Thank you for your question.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN

Just this remark comes not as a tech as you take it up as well. One of the things you guys do so well, you're fresh perspectives, use that opportunity. Thank you very much for that.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you, Maarten. All right. And with that, last but not least, I'll hand it over to Srijan Rai, please.

SRIJAN RAI

Hi, everyone. My name is Srijan. I'm an NextGen. I'm from India, but currently pursuing my master's in public policy at the Lee Kuan Yew School at the National University of Singapore. My topic is trust and end-to-end encryption. Why weakening of end-to-end encryption threatens the global internet identifier system? ICANN's main slogan is one world, one internet.

But that is based on the trust built into the end-to-end encryption system itself. And often it is seen as a thing that only privacy advocates talk about, but I feel it should be seen more as a bedrock of the DNS system itself. And my presentation today essentially focuses on why the issue needs to be a more key part of the ICANN mandate? And what are some emerging risks to it?

And I would like to categorize this into two major risks. One is the political pressures of weakening the end-to-end encryption. The second is looking at some emerging technologies, such as AI and quantum that can dilute end-to-end encryption and affect the promise of a unified internet. Going to the first political challenge. We're sort of seeing governments move away from asking for a backdoor to something which is called the client-side scanning, which is instead of trying to break the encryption tunnel while the data is moving, they're mandating scanning on the device itself right at the source.

And this creates something which people call Dual-DNS Reality, because if a domain resolves the content but it is blocked at the jurisdictional level, then even before it leaves the phone or the device that you're using, it affects the universal reachability. Quoting a civil society, which is well known, which is AccessNow, they basically said how CSS undermines the privacy and security, which is enabled by all A2E platforms. And essentially, it affects the trustworthiness of the channels itself.

And some of the recent examples of this can be seen in the United Kingdom, Online Safety Bill and the EU Chat Control, that's just to name a few. So, we are therefore seeing this movement and we are seeing a world where there's incentives for the government to ask for something like this. Coming to the second challenge, as there are a lot of digital sovereignty debates, and I think one of the previous questions also alluded to it, wherein there's this risk as governments are essentially pushing for, say, more sovereignty.

Ultimately, it risks having multiple splinter nets, as the term is, and ultimately, if there's less trust in the ecosystem, there's a movement towards that. So, I wanted to essentially flag that risk. And coming to the technical risk, and AI is the hot topic right now, but it does have a lot of security concerns. Even like I think yesterday's plenary session talked about it, how it has changed the incentive structures as well as scale and speed of how things happen.

And here, ultimately, earlier, as in Gen Z slang, it was a skill issue. Right now, it has become just a difference of intent. If you want to, you can instead, you do not even have to be a coder, essentially, you can run AI orchestrators to deploy autonomous bots which scan the DNS for various weaknesses and vulnerabilities. Secondly, there's also a second risk wherein the AI malware stays in the DNS resolvers, and this can be seen as establishment bots which live within the resolver's infrastructure, and they learn the traffic patterns and essentially redirect queries.

Secondly, there's this risk of AI-enhanced metadata analysis, and while I was doing this research, an interesting risk that I came across was traffic fingerprinting, wherein hackers or attackers wouldn't even need to know, they don't need to break the encryption layer, they just need to know what is the packet size, and how frequently it's moving to identify what is the data within itself. And essentially, this creates problems of mass surveillance, and you can basically look at a lot of data and you can try to de-anonymize users.

And there's also some interesting research coming out of it, because it's also a problem that's there on social media widely, wherein there are challenges of de-anonymization of anonymous users. But it's also a challenge to the Internet ecosystem because if the shape of the traffic itself revealed so much, then the end-to-end encryption promise can be broken.

Then going to a third sort of technical risk, which deals more with quantum computing itself, wherein there's incentives right now for attackers to harvest the data at the present and wait for a movement or a moment where quantum computing can essentially break the encryption layer. And ultimately, I've been in some sessions where there's already some research going on it. I think the IETF is kind of working on how we can make it quantum proof and how we can basically change the encryption to make it something which is post quantum.

So, that's like an essential emerging risk that we do need to look at. And highlighting why it impacts ICANN's mission again is firstly, there's this issue of mission creep wherein, say, the registries and registrars over a period of time, through repeated requests, forced to become tools of surveillance, and the technical mandate of ICANN itself becomes politicized. So, the risk here is not losing sight of the mission exactly, but constant pressures that can chisel away the core mandate.

Secondly, a weakening of encryption, ultimately, as some of the governments are asking, should be done. And sometimes they are well intentioned. The idea is to create a backdoor so that they can look at some attackers and bad actors. But the problem is it also creates a door for a hacker or an attacker. So, it affects the security, stability and resiliency of the DNS system overall. And I think the most important, at least what I feel, is the trust deficit overall, because if you just Looking at internet access, we also need to look at more meaningful access.

So, if the trust in the ecosystem erodes, essentially, the promise of internet as we all believe in it, and the amazing things that it can do, can be affected, can be impacted, and this global interoperable system is ultimately impacted. So, I did bring a long list of problems and that leads to the question, where are the solutions. And here are some points that I wanted to focus on.

Firstly, I wanted to say that while there are specific technical solutions to each of the problems, we need to focus on socio-

technical solutions and it's an academic term, so I'll break it down. Sometimes there's this, as it was mentioned in an earlier presentation as well that sometimes you find a nail and you find a hammer and you just hit it. Whereas there's a need to consult with the community as well, not just look at what is the best technical solution. So, here I believe there is a need to also do more consultation, bring in the policy stakeholders as well.

And secondly, I wanted to highlight that while I was attending some sessions, I realized some of these problems are being talked about, but in different silos. To give an example, particularly for this problem, I think the IETF is working quite actively on it and there are some concerns within ISPCP as well. But I do feel ultimately, ICANN can serve as this broader domain where these discussions can happen. Also, going to specific solutions, we also need to open it up for the broader community here, not just have that conversation in silos.

So, going to specific recommendations here, the first one is bringing the multi-stakeholder model and fully utilizing it. It's one of the best things I can write. So, firstly, bringing the GAC together on this issue, not just the technical folks, because as we saw, they are part of some of the political problems that are there right now as well. But removing them from the discussion won't help. Actually, bringing them to the technical nuances of it would be a better way to solve the problem.

The second suggestion is to mobilize the At-Large community, because as we know, it is a primary voice for the individual internet users. So, that would be a good step to take, and ultimately, this can bring in technical and political synergy together. Second was, there's also a lot of technical risks here. So, one of the ideas was to have an emerging risk mapping unit. AI is one bit of it, quantum is also upcoming, there can be some other risks in the future.

So the idea is to have an emerging risk mapping unit housed here, which can essentially look at what are these emerging risks. And this is, I think, important when we see internet as we've been talking as essential commodity and resource for everyone. And the infrastructure resilience of internet as well. So, this is something that needs to be focused.

And finally, as I started and I said something about this, that we need to bring it as a more core mandate within ICANN, because there are people who do realize the importance of end-to-end encryption, and there is a whole vibrant ICANN community that can work much more on this. They can serve as local champions within their own context as well. So, that's why I put the term as external multi-stakeholderism as well, because while we're having these discussions, we can take these discussions to other forums as well. And similarly, youth and talent pipelines help in that way.

And I think lastly, there's, I think, a lot of scope of supporting the country level and regional initiatives. Because I'm from India, I

know of a lot of organizations that are well placed or already doing this work. So, more support there from ICANN can really help.

And finally, just to reiterate both political pressures and technical emerging risks are creating a lot of problems within the end-to-end encryption and the promise of the global internet. And what is needed is technical expertise, wider engagement with the community and political stakeholders, and ultimately mobilizing the ICANN community so that they can be champions of E2E. Thank you.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you very much, Srijan. Wonderful job. We are running a little short on time, so we'll have time for one, maybe two questions. Any in the room here? Joysa, please go ahead, and then I'll come to you.

JOYSA KAUSHIK

Hi. Thank you for the presentations by all the NextGens. So, my question is for Aung on the topic surveillance pricing. So, I was just curious to understand if the data breaches or the data theft plays a role for the same, and if it does, what are the few recommendations from your end which can be incorporated in order to make a more secure and less surveillance prized system? Yeah, thanks.

AUNG SI KYAW

Thank you for the questions. And I think that's the recommendations that I include also addressed your question as

well. I think it would be um better if the corporation and company have a better accountability and policy to disclose how our data is being used and there is an information mechanism to this to the consumer how our data is being used as well.

So, I think that would be the best way that can influence. And other things can include like legislations by the national level, how the corporations can utilize our data to things, how can I say, to determine the prices and stuff. Yeah, I think that would be the recommendation that I can think of.

JOYS KAUSHIK

Just a very brief follow-up. So, what about if the legislation itself is involved in it? We've known cases where the government was itself responsible for the data breaches. So, what if the data was leaked from the end of the government itself? Who will govern it or who will look at it?

AUNG SI KYAW

Interesting. I will give it.

FERNANDA IUNES

Srijan, please.

SRIJAN RAI

So for example, the data protection laws do state that even, say, government bodies have to inform if there's been a breach. Basically, people can take steps to protect their data, but that really

usually is dependent on the data protection legislation which can then vary from country to country. The safeguards are very much diverse there.

AUNG SI KYAW

Thank you, Srijan.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you. We are out of time. Well, go ahead.

MAARTEN BOTTERMAN

Thank you, and thank you for allowing me. Just to keep it very short, excellent presentations. Keep on coming. Don't make this your last intervention.

Second thing, overall, the higher goal that you all touched upon without mentioning it explicitly is, and this is where all ICANN is for, increase justifiable trust in the use of the internet and keep it high. Because if that drops, we're all in trouble. And many of your contributions add to that. So, congratulations. Please take that higher goal that we all share, governments, businesses, users, also in mind.

FERNANDA IUNES

Thank you so much. That's a very good point. Wonderful job, guys. Wonderful presentations, really. Thank you so much. And with

that, we can stop the recording. And thank you to our interpreters as well for all their hard work. Thank you.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]