



85 | COMMUNITY
FORUM



Universal Acceptance (UA) Community Update

Agenda

Updates

- UA Global Outreach and Adoption - *Seda Akbulut*
 - UA Day
 - UA Local Initiatives
- Open Source Remediation - *Arnt Gulbrandsen*
- UA Curriculum Integration - *Geraldo Ferreira*
- ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) - *Abdalmonem Galila*
- ICANN85 IDN/UA-Related Sessions - *Sarmad Hussain*

UA Day

UA Day 2026

UA Day 2026: Fourth Annual UA Day



UA Day aims to create global awareness and build capacity for UA adoption



Received 70 proposals from 45 countries and territories, and community-based team shortlisted 30 events from 30 countries and territories



Organized in collaboration with UNESCO and the community.



<https://www.icann.org/ua-day-en>

UA Day 2026 Shortlisted Events

Region	Awareness	Curriculum	Adoption/ Demonstration	Regional Strategy	Total
Africa	1	1	10	1	13
Asia Pacific			6	1	7
Europe	1		1	1	3
Latin America and Caribbean		2	2	1	5
North America		1		1	2
Total	2	4	19	5	30

See the details of the shortlisted events on <https://www.icann.org/ua-day-2026-events-en>.

UA Day 2026 Plans

- Focusing on UA adoption and demonstration events.
- UA Day Adoption and Demonstration event organizers receiving training and technical support to meet the [specific requirements for UA Adoption](#).
- UA Day materials available on universalacceptance.day.



UA Day
#Internet4All



Events to be held
**25 March - 30 May
2026**

UA Day Adoption and Demo Events Scope

UA Day 2026 has specific requirements for UA Day Adoption and Demonstration event organizers. Here are the main requirements to be able to host these events:

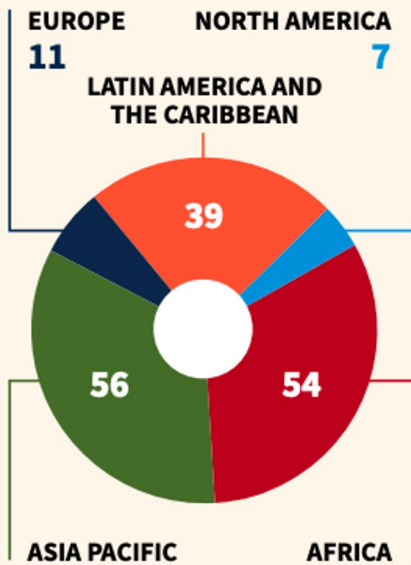
- A. Register an Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) or use an existing IDN domain name that is already registered.
- B. Set up a web space online that is able to input and process all domain names and email addresses, including those in local languages.
- C. Set up an email server which supports Email Address Internationalization (EAI) using the EAI self hosting script published by ICANN.
 - a. Create Unicode based internationalized mailboxes/email addresses using the IDN registered.

<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/specific-requirements-ua-adoption-demonstration-events-08oct25-en.pdf>

UA Days 2023-2025: At a Glance

167 UA Day Events

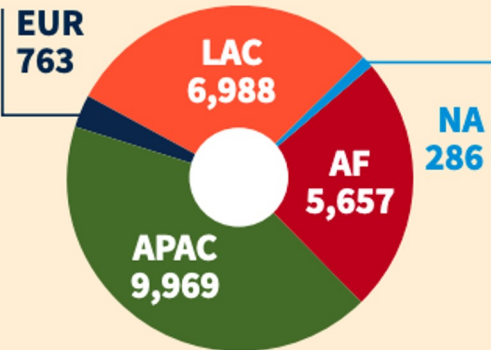
- 3 years
- 82 countries
- 39 languages



23,663 Participants Total Across All Regions

PARTICIPANTS

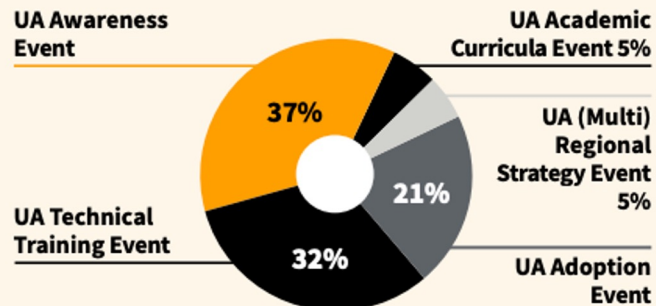
2023	9,424
2024	6,544
2025	7,695



UA Day Event Dates

Organized on or around
28 March annually,
with events between
1 March and 30 May.

167 UA Day Events by Type



UA Local Initiatives



UA Local Initiatives

- UA Local Initiatives Scope: Develop local awareness and capacity as well as promote UA adoption on the ground.
- Supporting the UA Local Initiatives in **Africa, China, Commonwealth of Independent States and Eastern Europe, Europe, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand.**
- Activities include:
 - IDN registration and hosting journey with local hosting providers.
 - Make its existing website UA-ready, and document the experience.
 - Deploy EAI ready email server to offer test email addresses.
 - Develop a case study on IDN and EAI deployment.
 - Collaborate with a university to adopt the UA curriculum.
 - Use EAI to test websites of businesses, government systems, and report the issues.

Updates from the Open Source Remediation

Open Source Remediation Standards Contribution

UA Standards Contributions

- Unicode:
 - Contributed to UTS58 on recognizing links (see www.unicode.org/reports/tr58/).
- IETF
 - Key work: two RFC drafts about email address syntax:
 - [Interoperable-addresses](#).
 - [smtputf8-syntax](#).
 - Additional contributions to: [DNS domain variants](#), [mail client autoconfig](#), [trusting links etc. in email](#), [domain connect](#), [client authentication](#), [embedded systems URLs](#).
- Other:
 - Participated in the “modern email” informal group of email client maintainers.
 - Helped run the email track at the FOSDEM conference and hosted a side meeting.

UA Open Source Software Remediation

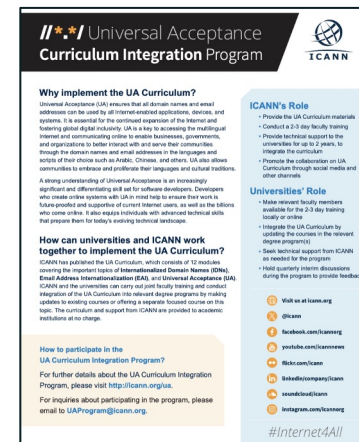
- Testing/retesting:
 - One regression identified in an email client; outreach ongoing to solve it.
- CMSes:
 - Wordpress UA now rescheduled to 7.0, with minor progress in 6.9.
 - No regressions or bugs seen in other UA-ready CMSes such as Drupal and Joomla.
 - cPanel retested; outreach ongoing.
- Email:
 - Thunderbird/Android now completely UA-ready on Google Play.
 - UA-readiness for the Go language being contributed.

UA Curriculum Integration

How Can You Participate: UA Curriculum Integration Program

- ICANN and the universities conduct faculty training and conduct integration of the curriculum into degree programs. Achieved by making upgrades to courses or offering a separate course.
- *ICANN's Role*
 - Provide the UA Curriculum materials.
 - Conduct a 2-3 days faculty training (online, whenever possible).
 - Provide technical support to the universities for up to 2 years.
 - Promote UA Curriculum collaboration in social media channels.
- *Universities' Role*
 - Make relevant faculty members available for the 2-3 days training.
 - Integrate the curriculum by updating the courses in their program(s).
 - Seek technical support from ICANN as needed for the program.
 - Hold quarterly discussions during the program to provide feedback.

UA Curriculum Integration Program Flyer



The flyer is titled "Universal Acceptance Curriculum Integration Program" and features the ICANN logo. It is divided into several sections: "Why implement the UA Curriculum?", "ICANN's Role", "Universities' Role", "How can universities and ICANN work together to implement the UA Curriculum?", and "How to participate in the UA Curriculum Integration Program?". The "ICANN's Role" section lists: "Provide the UA Curriculum materials", "Conduct a 2-3 day faculty training", "Provide technical support to the universities for up to 2 years, to integrate the curriculum", and "Promote the collaboration on UA Curriculum through social media and other channels". The "Universities' Role" section lists: "Make relevant faculty members available for the 2-3 day training locally or online", "Integrate the UA Curriculum by updating the courses in the relevant degree programs", "Seek technical support from ICANN as needed for the program", and "Hold quarterly discussion documents during the program to provide feedback". The "How can universities and ICANN work together to implement the UA Curriculum?" section explains that ICANN has published the UA Curriculum, which consists of 12 modules covering the report topics of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), Email Address Internationalization (EAI), and Universal Acceptance (UA). ICANN and the universities can carry out joint faculty training and conduct integration of the UA Curriculum into relevant degree programs by making updates to existing courses or offering a separate focused course on this topic. The curriculum and support from ICANN are provided to academic institutions at no charge. The "How to participate in the UA Curriculum Integration Program?" section provides further details about the program and a link to the program page. It also includes a list of social media links: "Follow us at @icann.org", "LinkedIn", "Facebook.com/ICANNorg", "YouTube.com/ICANNorg", "Slack.com/ICANN", "Twitter.com/ICANNorg", "Instagram.com/ICANNorg", and "Weibo.com/ICANNorg". The flyer ends with the hashtag #Internet4All.

Universal Acceptance Curriculum Integration Program

Why implement the UA Curriculum?

Universal Acceptance (UA) ensures that all domain names and email addresses can be used by all internet-enabled applications, devices, and systems. It is essential for the continued expansion of the Internet and fostering global digital industry. UA is a key to addressing the multilingual Internet and countering cyber crime to enable businesses, governments, and organizations to better interact with and serve their communities through the diverse names and email addresses in the languages and scripts of their choice such as Arabic, Chinese, and others. UA also allows universities to enhance and professionalize their languages and cultural traditions.

A strong understanding of Universal Acceptance is an increasingly significant and differentiating skill set for software developers, designers who create online systems with UA in mind help to ensure their work is future-proofed and supported by current Internet users, as well as the visitors who come online. It also equips individuals with advanced technical skills that prepare them for today's evolving technical landscape.

How can universities and ICANN work together to implement the UA Curriculum?

ICANN has published the UA Curriculum, which consists of 12 modules covering the report topics of Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs), Email Address Internationalization (EAI), and Universal Acceptance (UA). ICANN and the universities can carry out joint faculty training and conduct integration of the UA Curriculum into relevant degree programs by making updates to existing courses or offering a separate focused course on this topic. The curriculum and support from ICANN are provided to academic institutions at no charge.

ICANN's Role

- Provide the UA Curriculum materials
- Conduct a 2-3 day faculty training
- Provide technical support to the universities for up to 2 years, to integrate the curriculum
- Promote the collaboration on UA Curriculum through social media and other channels

Universities' Role

- Make relevant faculty members available for the 2-3 day training locally or online
- Integrate the UA Curriculum by updating the courses in the relevant degree programs
- Seek technical support from ICANN as needed for the program
- Hold quarterly discussion documents during the program to provide feedback

How to participate in the UA Curriculum Integration Program?

For further details about the UA Curriculum Integration Program, please visit <http://icann.org/ua>.

For inquiries about participating in the program, please email to UAProgram@icann.org.

Social Media Links:

- Follow us at [@icannorg](https://twitter.com/icannorg)
- [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/icann/)
- [Facebook.com/ICANNorg](https://www.facebook.com/ICANNorg/)
- [YouTube.com/ICANNorg](https://www.youtube.com/ICANNorg/)
- [Slack.com/ICANN](https://slack.com/ICANN)
- [Twitter.com/ICANNorg](https://twitter.com/ICANNorg)
- [Instagram.com/ICANNorg](https://www.instagram.com/ICANNorg/)
- [Weibo.com/ICANNorg](https://weibo.com/ICANNorg)

#Internet4All

Updates on UA Curriculum Engagements

- ICANN has [launched](#) the UA Curriculum Program in collaboration with three universities.
- American University of Bahrain – AUBH (Bahrain)
 - Sustained collaboration on UA initiatives, including 3 hackathons and workshops.
 - Attended the faculty training organized by TRA Bahrain and ICANN in October 2024.
 - Started the UA curriculum integration in September 2025.
 - A recent graduate of AUBH has completed a six-month internship with ICANN, developing programming exercises and assignments for UA Curriculum.
- Modelo University (Mexico)
 - Hosted and attended the faculty training in May 2025.
 - Started the UA Curriculum integration in September 2025.
- Sri Ramakrishna Institute of Technology – SRIT (Coimbatore, India)
 - Joined the program in October 2025.
 - Will attend the faculty training in March and offer a UA course starting in July 2026.



ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee (UAC) Update

Abdalmonem Galila, UAC Chair | مصر.

Purpose ccNSO UA Committee (UAC)



Focus on topics related to UA and
IDNs



Share information by and for
ccTLDs



Liaise with other groups under the
ICANN umbrella

Looking back at 2025 ccNSO UAC sessions (1/1)

Report: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SIz2t8B5KDuNarQb9Uw3fgzU10-PIGEluCMtY3FJ3gk/edit?usp=sharing>

ICANN82

Drivers for UA readiness

Incentives, alignment of stakeholder interests,
regulatory pressure, ecosystem benefits

Consultation on key drivers for UA readiness

Wednesday, 12 March 2025 | 16:30-17:30 local (UTC -7)

Session Chair: Abdalmonem Galila (مصر)

- Coalition for Digital Inclusion, Ram Mohan (CODI)
- Keynote presentation, Jaco Du Toit (UNESCO)
- What is the role of ccTLDs in supporting local language communities?
 - Andrew Lewela (.ke)
 - Maria Kolesnikova (.RU/.PΦ)



ICANN83

Breaking Barriers

Legacy systems, resourcing, cost, skills, etc.

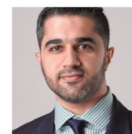
Breaking Barriers: how governments and ccTLDs advance UA

Tuesday, 10 June 2025 (13:45-15:00 local, UTC +2)

Session chair: Abdalmomen Galila | ccNSO UAC Chair, مصر.

- Looking back at ICANN82: drivers for UA Acceptance
Regina Fuchsová, ccNSO UAC Vice Chair, .eu, .eio and .eu
- Barriers to UA Readiness | Bart Boswinkel, ccNSO
- Breaking barriers
 - Sami Mohamed Ali (.bh)
 - Gudrun Poulsen (.fo)

We will use Mentimeter for live audience input during the session, so keep your phone or laptop handy to take part.



Looking back at 2025 ccNSO UAC sessions (2/2)

ICANN84

Joint session GAC UA-IDN WG

UA is no longer a technical problem:
Solutions already exist.

The challenge is coordination and
motivation:

- Incentives through policy
- Capacity building at scale
- Action at key leverage points

Interested in UA and/or UAC?

1

Become a UAC member

Join the ccNSO Universal Acceptance Committee and be an active part of this effort. The committee is open to ccTLD representatives globally.

ccnsoscretariat@icann.org

2

Use the UAC library

Consult the library and/or suggest content to be included.

<https://www.icann.org/en/ccns/o/resources/libraries>

3

Stay informed

Subscribe to the dedicated ccNSO UA email list.

<https://community.icann.org/x/gYFREw>

Thank you



Abdalmonem Galila

ccNSO UAC Chair | مصر.



Regina Fuchsová

ccNSO UAC Vice Chair | .eu, .eu and .eu

ICANN | ccNSO

Country Code Names Supporting Organization

ccNSO UAC at ICANN85

7
MARCH

SATURDAY
UAC working session
15:00-16:00 (UTC+05:30)

9
MARCH

MONDAY
Tech Day & UAC
13:15-14:30 (UTC+05:30)

ICANN85 IDN-UA-Related Sessions



ICANN85 IDN/UA-Related Sessions

For more sessions and discussions related to IDNs and UA, please join ICANN85:

Saturday, 7 March 2026

1. [GAC Discussion on Universal Acceptance](#)
2. [ccNSO: Universal Acceptance Committee Work Session](#)

Sunday, 8 March 2026

3. [Guiding ICANN's Work on Universal Acceptance](#)
4. [2026 Round: 2026 Round Internationalized Domain Name and Variant Applicant Journeys with Q & A](#)

Monday, 9 March 2026

5. [ccNSO: Tech Day & UAC \(2 of 4 \)](#)

Tuesday, 10 March 2026

6. [How it Works: Internationalized Domain Names](#)

Wednesday, 11 March
2026

7. [Enabling Universal Acceptance Adoption](#)

ICANN Webpage and Social Media Links



icann.org/ua



[@icann](https://twitter.com/icann)



facebook.com/icannorg



youtube.com/icannnews



flickr.com/icann



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