
ICANN86 Seville | PF – ICANNWiki Edit-A-Thon
Wednesday, June 10, 2026 – 16:30 to 18:00 CEST

FERNANDA IUNES

Hello, and welcome to the ICANN Wiki Editathon session. My name is Fernanda Iunes, and I am participation manager for the 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. I'll also post them in the chat for your reference. During the session, questions will only be read aloud if submitted within the Q&A pod. If you'd like to speak during the session, please raise your hand in Zoom. When called upon, virtual participants will be given permission to unmute in Zoom. On-site participants will use a physical microphone to speak. Please state your name for the record, and speak clearly at a moderate pace. All right. With that, I will hand it over to Mark to introduce the session.

MARK DATYSGELD

And that's the last one. So welcome to the ICANN Wiki Editathon. There's a prize, and the only ones eligible for that prize are the people who... You're the last one. So that's the cutoff for the prize. So it's a smaller competition this time. It's a pretty good prize. It's arriving very soon. Olga wins by default. She runs the South School

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of Internet Governance and the Argentinian School of Internet Governance, and it's a pleasure to have her with us today. So get your computers, tablets, phones, or similar, and please log into icannwiki.org. What we're going to do today is we're going to provide free knowledge to the world. So ICANN Wiki is not ICANN itself, the organization. This is an NGO, and it has been for 20 years now, enhancing knowledge in the world. And basically, when you look up something in AI for your presentations that you ask ChatGPT to generate, the sources it used were basically ICANN Wiki. So all of that knowledge is basically coming from this database. And we try to keep it up-to-date and relevant so that we can actually keep the Internet going, even in the age of AI.

So what I'm going to ask you to do is at the main page, there is Request an Account in big letters, and I have it right here. Request an account today. And you're going to do me the favor of requesting your accounts so that we can approve them, simply because for the past few years, we have been fighting a lot of bots. Like I said, we are the source that AIs use for the data, which means that they crawl us at about the pace of once every second. So it's become a bit of a question. So please register your accounts, and I will give you a minute or something to do that, and I will be right back and approving your accounts, and we can get started with the fun. Maybe you have an account, Olga. It's possible. Or if you want to make a new one, just do it with a different email from the one that you used to have. Because I find it very likely that you have more than one account in ICANN Wiki. How are we all doing with

account creation? Are we good? Let me... Okay. Give me a hot second, and I'll put it back up. I'm just starting the account approval process. So I'll put it right back up on the screen. Here. So let me just do this live. So we have Salsa22 is not one of you. Chris Chaplow is one of you. Can you help me, Laura, approve as well?

LAURA

Yes.

MARK DATYSGELD

And creating account. Perfect. Account created. NextGen master student. Yep. Confirmed. Omar, are you online?

FERNANDA IUNES

I'm here.

MARK DATYSGELD

Perfect. Deanna. Confirmed. Salsabil? Salsabil. How do we pronounce your name? Salsabil. Salsabil. Welcome. Is anybody still requesting, or should we... Anybody missing?

UNIDENTIFIED PARTICIPANT

No, sir.

MARK DATYSGELD

Everybody has... You have one, yeah? You're logged in, yeah. So main page. If you can confirm accounts for me, icannwiki.org and

request an account today. And my good friend Laura here will approve you. So as we head towards getting started on this, here's our mission today. Everybody here comes from a different country, a different background. And what I want you guys to do is to look up here on the upper part of the website and just type in your country. For example, I'm from Brazil. And what we have, this is a new feature that we've had. I implemented it, I don't know, maybe a few months ago. It lists everything that already exists about Brazil in the database. So this is a way for you guys when you get back home and you want to get more people involved and tell them about what's going on in ICANN in your country, you can just go, type in your country name, and show this to them.

What we're going to do today is you're going to enhance articles about your own country. So you're going to have a look at your own country page and see what's there and can be improved, and at the same time, what is not there and can be created. And to help you do that, we have two wonderful people and one not so wonderful one. So the wonderful people are Laura right here. She is a very prestigious Brazilian academic. And we have Mohammad Atif here, a fellow and also a prestigious academic. And then there's me. So they will be walking around the room and helping you guys put these articles together. Right? Can you use AI to do it? Yes. But as you know, they use our sources. So not to make something very circular, you ideally would ask the AI to get you the sources so that we don't end up rewriting our own wiki, because it gets confusing very fast. Right? So, any other accounts still pending?

LAURA Yes. Do we have an Omran here? Yes. Okay. I will approve you.

FERNANDA IUNES And Laura too. And then Maria.

LAURA Omran's in.

MARK DATYSGELD Maria. It's right here. And all I have to say is good luck, enjoy. Remember, there's quite a bit of chocolate at stake for the ones who arrived on time. Unfortunately for the ones that didn't arrive on time, I'm so sorry. You're out of this particular running, but maybe next time. And I will just leave on the screen. It's a few basic rules. It's nothing too complicated. Okay? It's nothing too exotic. It's just that we have a way of doing things. Articles in English, please. Doesn't have to be perfect. Just any English will do. Keep it neutral. We're not trying to sell products. We're trying to spread knowledge. Yeah. Do it like you would in an article or in your papers. Please try to use references. We'll help you put those in place. And the articles start with bold letters, and then you describe them. Yeah. So that's three, two, one. About your country, or if you don't particularly care about your country, about any topic. It's a guideline, not an obligation. So I will-

FERNANDA IUNES

You started, so how do they, where do they go to-

MARK DATYSGELD

So if the article already exists, you go here on the main page, and you just search for it, and it will come up. If it does not exist, there's this button here on the main page, Create a New Page About, and you can create it from there. So it depends on what you're trying to achieve.

LAURA

Sorry, does everybody have an account now? Everybody in? Okay.

MARK DATYSGELD

There's a beautiful button here with a little person.

LAURA

No, but it-

MARK DATYSGELD

Yeah.

FERNANDA IUNES

Like we didn't set a password.

MARK DATYSGELD

It goes to your email.

LAURA

Yes.

FERNANDA IUNES

You need to reset your password.

MARK DATYSGELD

You need to reset your password. Yeah. We'll help you guys with that.

LAURA

I'll show you. Yes, I'll show you.

MARK DATYSGELD

So that's three, two, one. Questions with us starting from now. We'll go around and you guys raise hands.

FERNANDA IUNES

I'm super confused.

MARK DATYSGELD

Am I playing this incorrectly or am I just stupid?

FERNANDA IUNES

Also running out of power. Yes, kind of. But I don't have to show my-

LAURA Yes.

FERNANDA IUNES Okay. So I need to...

LAURA Yeah.

FERNANDA IUNES Like that.

MARK DATYSGELD So Fernanda did ask a question. So when you create the article, you see that it has a template, right? So for example, if I go to .com, it has a template here on the side. Yeah? And whatever information you add on the template, like this, for example, whatever you add here gets aggregated by our semantic system. So you don't need to manually add anything about your country in that sense. As long as you fill the template, it will go to the country hub. So it's more about filling the template that comes with the Create a Page, or if one does not exist, we'll help you create one.

Wow. All of this Lindt chocolate looks so delicious. I wonder who's going to get to eat it, though. So for example, say I want to edit my profile. The easiest way to do it is to click Edit and go to the visual editing mode, except for the hackers among you who would rather

use the source mode, which is pretty much like a simplified markdown. But otherwise, you go in visual mode. And to edit the template is actually pretty simple. You just click on top of it, and it will come up like this, and you click Edit, and every field that's available will be listed on the screen, and we have suggestions for all the different fields and the things that can go into them. And if something is potentially missing, you can have a look here. For example, if it's your profile, you can toggle what social media you want. However, I would say in terms of building your own profile, do it as a second activity. Finish the article that you want submitted for our little contest, and then move on to a personal profile if you want. You can edit my profile and please make it good.

Oh, wow. There are such good contributions coming in. For example, Domain Name System Security Extensions by team@redhat, The Cooperative, right there. We also have South School of Internet Governance. Who is Olga Cavalli? Congratulations on that one. APTLD 91. We do need articles about events, and we're missing a lot of them. So I wonder who's going to be the winner. Oh, my. There are 10 minutes to go and so many good articles. I wonder who the winner is. In three minutes, we'll close submissions for judging, and I will give you guys a little talk about how to be successful in the Internet governance environment and try to sell you a course in the end that you can pay for in Bitcoin. You're all looking at me so seriously. This was a joke. And we are done. Hands off your keyboards. Pow. Successful music

plays. We don't have any, so I'll do it. Don't look at me like that. I'm trying, okay?

So, let's talk about the exercise we did today. As you're currently in the NextGen program, hands off your keyboards, girls. Click Save. Here's the thing. In ICANN, you have been learning during this week about how it works, what people do, but what really matters is what do you contribute to the process, right? That's how you eventually get evaluated. You can go so far with different things, but what you contribute is the most important thing. So for example, how I started out, I was a NextGen, just like you, and this was 10 years ago. I would say it's a moment. And then from NextGen, I became a Fellow, and from Fellow, I became Fellow Coach, and then I was contributing a lot, and I joined the GNSO Council. I was there for four years, and now I basically do consultancy for the industry. So that's the 10-year timeline of how my particular journey went. And how does that happen? How do you go from being NextGen to being a consultant in this space? It's simple. You show the work that you're doing, and you try to get people to give value to the thing that you're doing. So it's not so much that you need to rub it in people's faces. It's not that. It's just that when you do something good, you go and you announce it, and you tell people, "Hey, I'm doing the hard work." Because there's two different cases. There's one case where people don't do the work and want to be praised. That doesn't really work here. It's a lot of people who really put in many hours in this, and they don't take too kindly to that. And then there's the other side, is the

people that do a lot of hard work but don't say anything about it and expect that somebody will find out. That doesn't work out either, because it's a lot of people. In any given day, the ICANN community is active with upwards of 1,000 people. We have 650 parallel work streams, more or less. So to get noticed in that, you need to have some amplification for what you're doing.

So what this exercise was meant to show to you guys is that you can produce content that's relevant, that has a footprint, and you can show it to people. When you go apply for a fellowship, you can put in your application, "Hey, here are my contributions to ICANN Wiki." And that counts. Everything that you do for the community is something that someone who's on a selection panel, like me, I was there for three years or something, that's the thing that we're going to be looking into, not how fancy ChatGPT made your CV sound like. That is irrelevant nowadays. Everybody is a king and a queen nowadays, so it doesn't really matter. It is what did you set out to do, and how did you manage to present it in a way that was beneficial to the community? So as your week goes on and you guys continue to learn about this process, the real question that you have to ask is, okay, what am I good at, and where would that thing that I can do shine? So in my case, personally, I was pretty good at languages. I was pretty decent at languages. So I started working with IDNs, and then I led a group about linguistics, and then things happened. And nowadays, I'm vice chair of the working group for Latin diacritics. Basically, we're trying to decide how to make accented characters in Latin languages work on the Internet. The

answer to that is it's hard. But the real thing is you don't magically get teleported to the space. I proved that I knew about languages, and I invested into that, and people started to notice, and I advertised, I published articles, I did things. I came to the fellowship. I talked. And eventually people go like, "Oh, by the way, you're good at languages, right? Come do this thing."

So what are you good at, and how are you going to use that in your favor? That is the question. So think about what you produced today. Think about what you could have contributed differently. Where is your strength? And when you know that, don't let people fool you into thinking that you need to do everything. Because Internet governance is like that. It doesn't need to be ICANN. It can be wherever you are. The IGF, the IETF, ISOC. It doesn't matter. They want to convince you that you need to do everything, and that's not true. You have probably something that you're very good at and that you can invest in to be able to get noticed. And therefore, before we announce the big prize that is being calculated back there, and I hope you guys understand that this is partially symbolic. It is just a way for you to be very special and be featured in a photo that we'll post to our social media and send to ICANN org, so you can be very famous with your chocolate. So before I go on, does anybody have any questions? And now it doesn't need to be about the content. It can be about what you guys are doing right now, where you want to go, and things like that. Because even if I can't answer, we have veteran community member Chris Chaplow here. We have very prominent members from the ICANN

community over there. We have Olga Cavalli that runs an Internet governance school. So this would be a fair time to ask any questions that you have, or not. Anyone? No pressure at all. But my friend over there at the end seems like you have a burning question inside you. Damn it. My friend here, though, very burning question. Olga, you seem like you have a very burning question.

OLGA CAVALLI Yeah. But it's a frightening question.

MARK DATYSGELD Please.

OLGA CAVALLI How many pictures can I upload to my...

MARK DATYSGELD I would like to say-

OLGA CAVALLI I did two, and then the third one is like, eh.

MARK DATYSGELD So I ran a test for that, and so far, I think at 999, it breaks. At 1,000, I think that our code stops tracking it. I think it's meant to track three numbers. So you can upload 999 pictures.

OLGA CAVALLI But I couldn't upload three. I did two.

MARK DATYSGELD Is that less than 999?

OLGA CAVALLI This is a very stupid question, but that's what I need to know.

MARK DATYSGELD Do you know how you can fix that? ICANN Wiki has a very convenient booth right below us on the main floor.

OLGA CAVALLI I know. Tomorrow.

MARK DATYSGELD And Laura is there. Chris is there. Mohammad is there.

OLGA CAVALLI I know. I know.

MARK DATYSGELD And you guys can ask questions of them and help enhance your profiles and your content.

FERNANDA IUNES

Maybe it's better to investigate. Maybe there is a cyberattack.

MARK DATYSGELD

Fortunately, we got over that one two days ago. There was a cyber attack. Because we have ICANN in our name, and the hackers think that when they hack us, they're attacking ICANN and they're being super evil. But we're a small NGO that has very limited resources, so their win, at least what I feel in my heart is, I laugh at the fact that they wasted their time hacking us. So it is what it is. But we're over that one already. That was fast. Yeah. Chris?

CHRIS CHAPLOW

Yeah. Am I right to assume that you encourage us now to keep going, updating pages, and...?

MARK DATYSGELD

So hopefully. Hopefully, what we're trying to do now that we are very stable again, we'll continue to add new features and different things. So for example, there's a sneak peek of what is coming up for next meeting. So I just finished this real-time tool for researching TLDs. Since our database spans 20 years of Internet governance, we have information about every TLD there ever was, including the ones that didn't happen. So there are some TLDs that, for example, were removed. And we have their history from the perspective of when they were applied. So for people who research Internet governance and domain names, I think that's pretty interesting. And you can sort by their type, you can sort by where

they are, for example, and of course, we'll have a tracker for the new round of TLDs. So anybody who's doing any research that involves domain names and Internet governance in general, this is a good tracker. So what we're doing is we're keeping adding new tools to make things more interesting. And I think my team knows the winner. Do you know the winner?

LAURA

We think so. We think so, yes.

MARK DATYSGELD

I will blindly trust you with all of my heart, and-

LAURA

As you always do.

MARK DATYSGELD

Please do. Who is the winner, Laura?

LAURA

So the winner in our assessment of the best page created or updated in terms of quality, in terms of everything we were assessing. As you see, the ICANN Wiki has features for creating headings, for sourcing things. So our winner is the person who created the article about the G20 event of digital governance. This person, this user, congrats, it's Ana Macau.

MARK DATYSGELD

Ana.

LAURA

Can you show the...

MARK DATYSGELD

Let's put the page up.

LAURA

Yes, put the page up, please.

MARK DATYSGELD

Oh, you want proof?

LAURA

Yeah. No, we want to just maybe take a look at the work, but we can maybe understand a little bit of the components. Of course, there are improvements to be made in this page, but you see Ana filled in the template and did some headings, and was able to create good quality content with sources as well. And then that's why we assessed her page as the best one in these terms. But we have some great pages and some great contests right here, so thank you, everybody.

MARK DATYSGELD

Thank you so much. If you do want chocolates too, you can just ask her though.

LAURA

Yeah, she has lots of it. Thank you, everybody.

[END OF TRANSCRIPTION]