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# Related Organizations

## IETF

A large, open international community of network designers, operators, vendors, and researchers concerned with the evolution of the Internet architecture and the smooth operation of the Internet. Open to any interested individual, the actual technical work of the IETF is done in its working groups, organized by topic. The Internet Society is the organizational home for the IETF.

[www.ietf.org](http://www.ietf.org)

## IAB

The Internet Architecture Board is chartered as a committee of the IETF and as an advisory body of the Internet Society. Its responsibilities include oversight of the architectural aspects of the IETF's work, Internet standards-development process oversight and appeal, and appointment of the RFC Editor. It is also responsible for management of the IETF protocol parameter registries.

[www.iab.org](http://www.iab.org)

## W3C

An international consortium in which more than 350 organization members, a full-time staff, and the public collaborate to create Web standards and guidelines to ensure long-term growth of the Web. W3C is run jointly by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory in the United States, the European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics in France, and Keio University in Japan.

[www.w3.org](http://www.w3.org)

## ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a nonprofit that coordinates the system of unique names and numbers needed to keep the Internet secure, stable, and interoperable.

[www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org)

## Public Interest Registry

Created by the Internet Society in 2003, the Public Interest Registry is a nonprofit corporation charged with managing the .org domain space in the public interest. The Public Interest Registry's distributions to the Internet Society, which is its sole member, has enabled the Internet Society to extend its activities in all critical technology and policy development areas.

[www.pir.org](http://www.pir.org)

## ECOSOC

The United Nations Economic and Social Council was established under the United Nations Charter as the principal organ to coordinate economic, social, and related work of the 14 UN specialized agencies and commissions. As an accredited organization with Consultative Status, the Internet Society attends and submits statements at key United Nations meetings and conferences to share the vision and perspective of the global Internet Society community.

[www.un.org/en/ecosoc/](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/)

## IGF

The United Nations created the Internet Governance Forum to continue the work of the World Summit on the Information Society by bringing together stakeholders from government, industry, and civil society to discuss Internet governance issues at a series of annual meetings.

[www.intgovforum.org](http://www.intgovforum.org)

## NRO and RIRs

The Number Resource Organization (NRO) is the coordinating mechanism for the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs). The RIRs—AFRINIC, APNIC, ARIN, LACNIC, and the RIPE NCC—ensure the fair and equitable distribution of Internet number resources (IPv6, IPv4 addresses and Autonomous System (AS) numbers) in their respective regions. The NRO exists to protect the unallocated Internet number resource pool, foster open and consensus-based policy development, and provide a single point of contact for communication with the RIRs.

[www.nro.net](http://www.nro.net)

## OECD

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development is composed of 34 member states with a shared commitment to democratic government and a market economy. The Internet Society has a special interest in the OECD's Committee for Information, Computer, and Communications Policy, which deals with issues arising from the digital economy.

[www.oecd.org](http://www.oecd.org)

## WIPO

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is an agency of the United Nations dedicated to developing a balanced and accessible international intellectual property (IP) system. WIPO has granted the Internet Society Permanent Observer status, allowing the Society to be recognized as a participant by the organization's member states and to interact with WIPO staff on important intellectual property issues.

[www.wipo.int](http://www.wipo.int)