

5 December 2025

Comment on ICANN Public Meeting Proposed Dates for 2029–2033

Introduction

The Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC) is one of the stakeholder groups and constituencies of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) charged with the responsibility of advising the ICANN Board, Organization, and other stakeholders on policy issues relating to the management of the domain name system (DNS), particularly on matters pertaining to intellectual property and consumer protection. The IPC represents the views and interests of owners of intellectual property worldwide, with a particular emphasis on trademark, copyright, and related intellectual property rights and their impact on and interaction with the DNS.

We also represent the interests and concerns of consumers who depend on strong intellectual property protections as an essential element of consumer confidence, consumer trust and consumer protection. Our members include individuals, companies, law firms, and intellectual property organizations from around the world.

On 13 October 2025, the ICANN Meetings and Global Stakeholder Engagement team published for public comment a list of [preliminary dates ICANN Public Meetings for 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, and 2033](#).

According to the Meeting Strategy Working group recommendations adopted by the ICANN Board in June 2014, the triannual meetings should, *among other goals*, be scheduled, as much as possible, on recognized working days (Monday through Thursday) and avoid conflicts with community events and globally recognized nonworking or religious observance days.

Suggested next steps within ICANN

The IPC holds the opinion that the proposed meeting dates are largely in line with the main goals of the Meeting Strategy Working group recommendations of 2014.

In particular, no direct overlap with other community events could be detected. Apart from the [RIPE meetings](#) scheduled already until May 2030, none of the other communities that have been considered for this comment (*inter alia*, the International Trademark Association, the Pharmaceutical Trademarks Group, the European Communities Trade Mark Association, the European Copyright Society, MARQUES) announce their meetings so far in advance. There are also no apparent conflicts with other major events of global interest such as the FIFA World Cup, the Summer Olympics or the Cricket World Cup.

However, apart from the conflicts already outlined in the [prior submission of Nitin Walia](#) (*i.e.*, Ramadan in 2029 and 2033, Diwali in 2029, 2032 and 2033 as well as Holi in 2031) there are some further potential conflicts with globally recognized religious observance days that could be problematic.

The IPC recommends consulting members of the respective religious groups in order to check the correctness of the actual dates (may vary, *particularly*, in Islam and Hinduism) and clarify the actual importance of the potentially conflicting feasts and holidays within the respective communities.

Specific comments on potential conflicts

ICANN94 - ICANN99

The proposed dates for the ICANN96 Annual General Meeting (27 October - 1 November 2029) conflict with the **Reformation Day** (31 October 2029) which is a national holiday in many countries with a protestant community, *inter alia*, in Slovenia, Switzerland and some German states. The same applies to the proposed dates for the ICANN99 Annual General Meeting (26 October - 31 October 2030).

Given the same date (31. October) there is also a conflict between the proposed dates for these two Annual General Meetings with **Halloween** which is only a holiday in Ireland but a very much celebrated non-holiday in many other countries worldwide.

ICANN100 - ICANN105

There is also a potential conflict between proposed dates for the ICANN100 Community Forum (8-13 March 2031) and the **Jewish Purim feast** (9 March 2031; Commemoration of the saving of the Jewish people from annihilation of the Achaemenid Empire) as well as the **Isra Miraj in Islam** (10 March 2031; Commemoration of the miraculous night journey and spiritual ascension of the prophet Muhammad). The potential conflict with **Isra Miraj in Islam** (10 March 2032) also exists for the proposed dates for the ICANN103 Community Forum (6-11 March 2032).

The proposed dates for the ICANN101 Policy Forum are in conflict with the Christian **Whit Monday (Pentecost)** (2 June 2031) which is a public holiday in many European countries, *including*, Greece, Romania, Germany, France, Ukraine and Ireland.

There are also two other feasts in Judaism that could be potentially conflicting with the proposed dates for the ICANN104 Policy Forum (7-10 June 2032) and the ICANN105 Annual General Meeting (23-28 October 2032), namely the **Schawuot feast** (6-7 June 2032) and the **Sukkot feast** (25-31 October 2032).

ICANN106 - ICANN108

Further potential conflicts arise in relation to the proposed dates for the ICANN107 Policy Forum (6-9 June 2033) with **Whit Monday (Pentecost)** in Christianity (6 June 2033) which is a public holiday in many countries.

Conclusion

The IPC strongly supports ICANN's efforts to avoiding conflicts with community events and globally recognized nonworking or religious observance days wherever possible and largely agrees with the proposed dates for the ICANN Public Meetings between 2029 and 2032.

However, as mentioned, there are some globally recognized religious observance days that could potentially be more problematic than others, *namely*,

- Reformation Day and Halloween on 31 October 2029 and 2030
- Diwali on 26 October 2030 and 22 October 2033
- Purim festival on 9 March 2031
- Isra Miraj on 10 March 2031 **and**
- Whit Monday on 2 June 2031 and 6 June 2033.

We look forward to continuing to engage on this issue.