







## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Workshop: Domain names and the Internet What does the future behold?

Did you find out about the new Internet top-level domain names? Are you interested in what are the best practices when it comes to country code top-level domain administration? Do you want to know what people from all over the world have to say about the new generic top-level domain names program launched by ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers)? Join us at the workshop organized by ICANN and ApTI (The Association for Technology and Internet) at the Sponge experimental media lab.

**BUCHAREST**, **Friday**, **March 13**, starting from **14:00** at Impact Hub, San Francisco room: 5, Halelor street, we are organizing a workshop with speakers from all over the world (the proceedings will be in English). The discussion will be about the advantages of the new generic top-level domains (gTLD) program launched by ICANN and about the best practices in the field of country-code top-level domain name (ccTLD) administration. The full workshop agenda is available below. Registration is free but there is a limited number of seats. In order to register, you can do it by email at <a href="matei.vasile@apti.ro">matei.vasile@apti.ro</a> or you can register <a href="matei.HERE">HERE</a> directly.

On top of generic domains like .com or .org, the new generic top-level domain name (gTLD) program will also bring domains like .berlin, .ventures, .hotel, .car or .sport. Country-code top-level domains (ccTLD) are those delegated to various countries: .uk, .fr or .ro.

More information about what the .com, .org, .net, .us, .de, nl, .se, .ir or .ru domain names are can be found on the <u>TheSponge</u> website in the <u>Topic of the month</u> section, where Internet Governance has been discussed in a series of introductory articles.

Asociația pentru Tehnologie și Internet is a non-governmental organization bringing together people interested about and involved in the Romanian Internet environment, which has as main goals promoting and supporting a free and open Internet based on respect for fundamental human rights. A free Internet is an environment in which freedom of expression and privacy are respected and guaranteed. An open Internet represents a guarantee for legal and safe access to the benefits of information technology.

**Sponge** is an experimental media lab which connects organizations from multiple fields, such as media, IT and transparency. We are experimenting with new digital tools for releasing public interest information. We are promoting free, relevant and verifiable information in the form of articles and tools. We are organizing workshops, hackathons, courses and conferences. The Sponge partners are CRJI, Active Watch, Ceata, Geo-spațial, ApTI and Facultatea de Științe Politice - Universitatea București.

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The SPONGE community:  $\underline{\text{here}}$ .

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