

# ISOC-IL annual report 2018 now available online

Israel Internet Association ("ISOC-IL") has published its annual report for 2018.

In the past four years, ISOC-IL has been publishing a detailed annual report, providing the Israeli public full transparency regarding its operations. The report includes an extensive, in-depth overview of ISOC-IL's major activities, data, and information regarding innovations and various projects that have taken place throughout the year.

The report is submitted to ISOC-IL members at the annual general meeting and to Israeli decision makers, and available online for the public.

## [Executive summary](#)

The following report reviews the main activities of Israel Internet Association (nonprofit organization; "ISOC-IL") in 2018.

In mid-2018, ISOC-IL was officially added into the Fifth appendix to the Law Regulating Security in Public Institutions - 1998, as an operator of an "Essential Computers Systems".

ISOC-IL has also made significant investments in improving the systems and the operations of the internet infrastructure services it manages for the Israeli public: The national ccTLD (.IL) and the Israeli Internet eXchange (IIX). It has implemented a Disaster Recovery (DR) system of the .il ccTLD registry management systems and significantly upgraded the technological infrastructure of the operations and distribution of information to DNS. At the same time, steps were taken to improve ISOC-IL's cyber protection mechanisms in coordination with the Israel National Cyber Directorate.

ISOC-IL has also added the technological-administrative mechanism of Transfer Authorization Code to the process of transferring a domain name from one authorized registrar to another.

At the beginning of 2018, ISOC-IL launched the seventh generation of the IIX, based on an Arista Network switch. The new switch supports transfer speeds of up to 100 GigaBit/sec, and the first Israeli Internet Service Provider (ISP) has already connected at that speed. In just a few months, the increased bandwidth resulted in a five-fold rise in the volume of traffic handled by the IIX.

In 2018, the number of .il domain names grew moderately by 1.2%, from about 245,000 domain names at the beginning of the year to approximately 248,000 domain names at year-end. Towards the end of 2018, as recommended by ISOC-IL professional staff based on the major growth in operations costs, ISOC-IL Board decided to raise the annual fee of a domain name from 34 ILS to 44 ILS (~8.5 Euro to 11 Euro).

Another step taken by ISOC-IL Board during 2018, adopted ISOC-IL's Infrastructure Steering Committee regarding domain names that were registered before the year 1999. This decision concluded the position on domain names that were registered according to registration rules that were set by the IUCC (Inter-University Computation Center) prior to ISOC-IL establishment (aka Pre-1999 Domains). The decision conclude pre-1999 domains will continue to operate under the former fee-free rules, but will not benefit from the new services ISOC-IL provides to the Israeli internet community.

During 2018, ISOC-IL continued to support Israel's national cyber-security bodies in projects related to its profound knowledge of DNS and domain names.

Considerable activity has been made this year in regard to regulation and public policy. ISOC-IL completed three policy papers (IPv6 protocol deployment policy in Israel; Digital memories - a policy regulating postmortem digital content; Policy promoting internet deployment in Israeli Arab society) and actively promoted its recommendations.

ISOC-IL was involved in Internet-related legislation and the implementation of new laws. It participated in early discussions regarding the State's requests to block websites based on the Powers to Prevent Offenses Through an Internet Site Law - 2017, gaining the court's recognition of ISOC-IL legal standing in court as an organization that protects the general public right in the Internet. ISOC-IL partnered with civil society organizations in an effort to prevent the enactment of the Content Removal Law (aka the Facebook Law), eventually dismissed by the Prime Minister.

Also, ISOC-IL successfully convinced decision-makers that the proposed changes to the default clauses related to filtering offensive content in the Telecommunications Law (Telecommunications and Broadcasts) – 1982, were dangerous and ineffective, resulting in preliminary voting on a significantly moderated version.

In mid-2018, ISOC-IL submitted its detailed criticizing insights on the memorandum of the Cyber Defense and the National Cyber Directorate Act – 2018, to Israel National Cyber Directorate.

During the year, ISOC-IL promoted implementing Hebrew in the domain names system. It coordinated an ICANN committee that recommended how to implement Hebrew in the Top-Level Domain (TLD) system, and took steps to implement Hebrew into the .il ccTLD space.

ISOC-IL organized various community activities for its members: Public lectures and conferences, integrating new communities, and conducted a cooperation with Israel National Student Union's "Israel 2050" leadership project for the digital future of Israel.

Development of Cyber Defense Center for Citizens and Small Businesses, named Block (block.org.il), was completed by the end of 2018, and it launched at the beginning of 2019. At the same time, the Internet Safety Center (safe.org.il) was rebranded and renamed NETICA, focusing on adult internet users and privacy issues, preventing cyberbullying, promoting respectful discourse, and establishing Netica as a national knowledge center. Arabic support has been added to the Netica call center.

Following the change of its internal regulations in 2017, ISOC-IL Board acted with six members. The Board initiated a strategic review process of its structure, management, and goals, which will continue in 2019.