

Building a Stable Future for the RIPE NCC

RIPE and RIPE NCC are over 30 years old.
Are we still fit for purpose?

Before we get started

Some Ground Rules

- 2 members of the program committee have volunteered to chair this session:
 - Jan Zorz and Franziska Lichtblau
- This is NOT the RIPE NCC General Meeting, and this is NOT about the 2025 Charging Scheme - that's on Wednesday.
- Time is limited, so please keep your contributions to 2 minutes maximum.
- At the discretion of the chairs, if your contribution is off-topic, you will be asked to stop.

The Story Until Now

There's a RIPE Labs article about this..

- Introduction:
“What we need to consider now is the bigger picture about how to move the RIPE NCC forward. The past several years have shown us that we have far outgrown the current structure of our organisation and governance. New pressures in the RIR system and new stakeholders we are accountable to have changed the landscape we operate in. On top of this, the current funding model of the NCC is not sustainable. We now have to sit down and do the hard work of completely reinventing how we manage our membership and our funding, while taking into account how we can mitigate current risks and future-proof the RIPE NCC.”
- Timeline for implementation: **2027 and onwards**

Agenda

1.The RIPE Compact

2.Structuring RIPE NCC

3.Funding

4.Next Steps

Not on the Agenda

Work for the Community

Doesn't need a BOF - we have a community plenary and chairs!

Examples of community topics:

- How does the community create output?
- What is the exact relationship between the community and RIPE NCC?

1. The RIPE Compact

The RIPE Compact

- A collaboration between the RIPE Community, RIPE NCC, the RIPE NCC membership, Community leadership and the RIPE NCC executive board
- Collaborative compacts focus on four areas of agreement:
 - How we work together
 - How we think together
 - How we work with conflicts
 - How we manage our own behaviour

RIPE NCC Strategic Goals 2022-2026

From the Activity Plan 2024

1	Support an open, inclusive and engaged RIPE community
2	Operate a trusted, efficient, accurate and resilient Registry
3	Enable our members and community to operate one secure, stable and resilient global Internet
4	Maintain a stable organisation with a robust governance structure
5	Attract engaged, competent and diverse staff

Our Objective

Not just RIPE NCC, but the whole collaboration!

Enable our Community to Operate One, Secure, Stable, Resilient, Global Internet

This requires:

- A Trusted, Efficient, Accurate, Resilient Registry
- An Open, Inclusive and Engaged RIPE Community
- Insightful, Reliable and Timely data about the Internet and its operations

For which we need:

- A Stable Organisation with Robust Governance and Diverse and Competent Staff

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Do we agree with this
objective?

2. Structuring RIPE NCC

The Current Structure

The highlights from RIPE-161 - 1997

- Good service, neutral, impartial.
- Non-exclusive, not-for-profit.
- An Executive committee which represents the various interests of the contributors.
- Resistent to hostile takeover or control by any single party.
- Subject to as little taxation as possible.
- Support the credible function as a industry self-regulation organisation.
- Employees should maintain their contractual and tax rights.

The Current Structure

Issues and Caveats

- The current legal structure is based on criteria that were relevant in 1997
 - low cost and limited tax exposure - RIPE-161
- Community policy enforces engagement structures that are outdated
 - Constraints: RFC7020 and ICP-2
- The focus has shifted from resource distribution to registry accuracy & compliance
- The current membership structure no longer allows room for growth
 - For the first time the number of paying members is decreasing

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What Criteria should a
restructured RIPE NCC meet?

3. Funding

Who pays and what for?

- No more free rides?
- Who should be contributing funds? In what structure?
- Who sets the budget?

4. Next Steps?