

# A Human Rights Assessment for Registrar and Hosting Services



THE DANISH  
INSTITUTE FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS



ARTICLE<sup>19</sup>



 **BLACKNIGHT**  
SOLUTIONS

presented by  
Collin Kurre and Michele Neylon

RIPE78 Reykjavik

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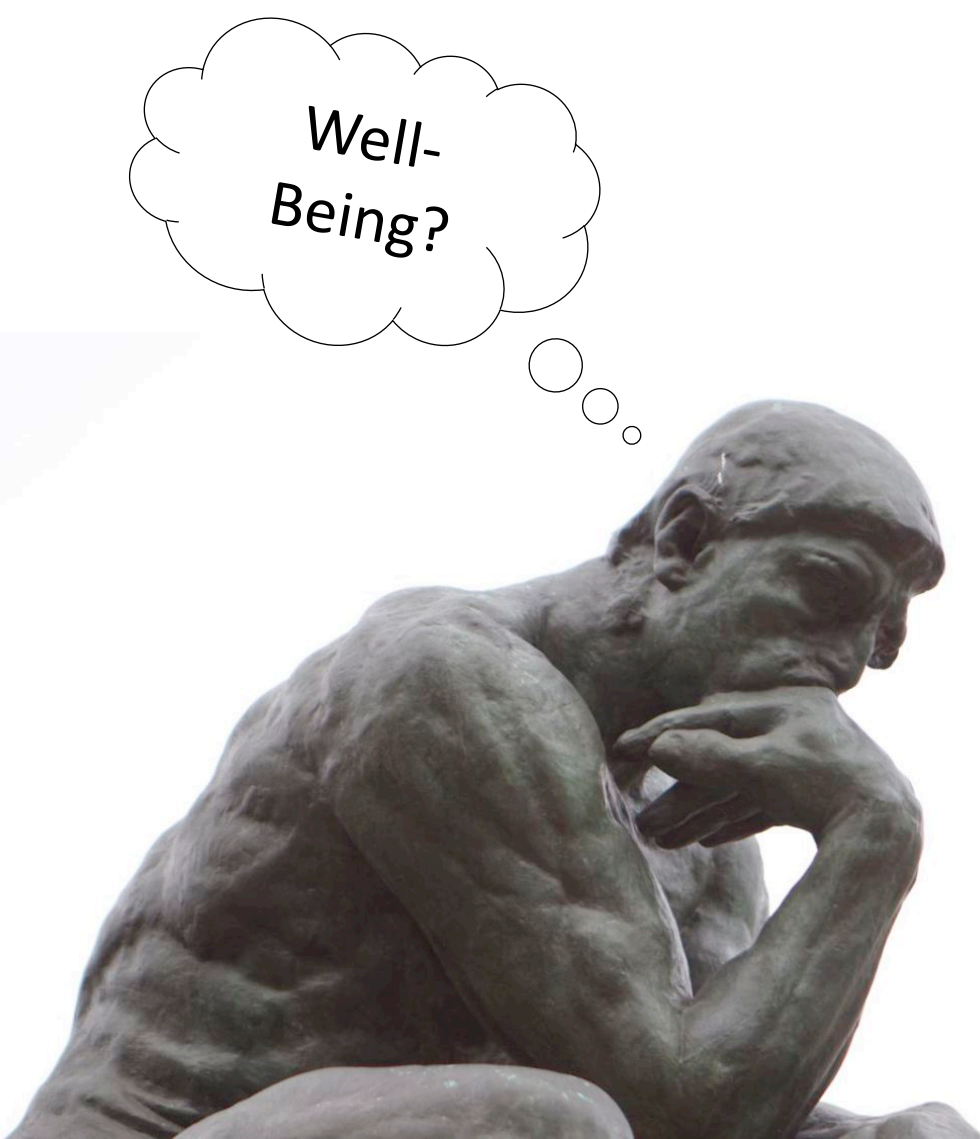
# Agenda

1. **Why should we care about human rights?**
  2. What does human rights due diligence look like?
  3. Cooperation to develop an HRIA for registrars
  4. Outcomes of the process
-

# Moving beyond “Netiquette”...

- Remember that the recipient is a human being whose culture, language, and humor have different points of reference from your own. Remember that date formats, measurements, and idioms may not travel well. Be especially careful with sarcasm.
- Use mixed case. UPPER CASE LOOKS AS IF YOU'RE SHOUTING.
- Use symbols for emphasis. That *\*is\** what I meant. Use underscores for underlining. \_War and Peace\_ is my favorite book.
- Use smileys to indicate tone of voice, but use them sparingly. :-) is an example of a smiley (Look sideways). Don't assume that the inclusion of a smiley will make the recipient happy with what you say or wipe out an otherwise insulting comment.
- Wait overnight to send emotional responses to messages. If you have really strong feelings about a subject, indicate it via FLAME ON/OFF enclosures. For example:  
FLAME ON: This type of argument is not worth the bandwidth it takes to send it. It's illogical and poorly reasoned. The rest of the world agrees with me.  
FLAME OFF

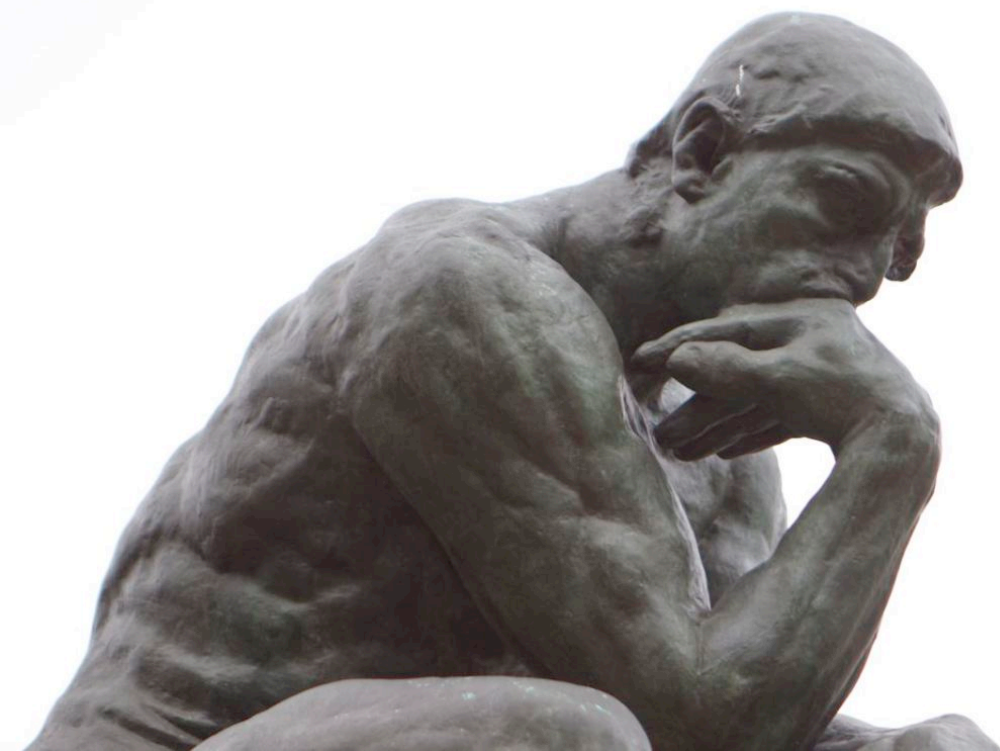
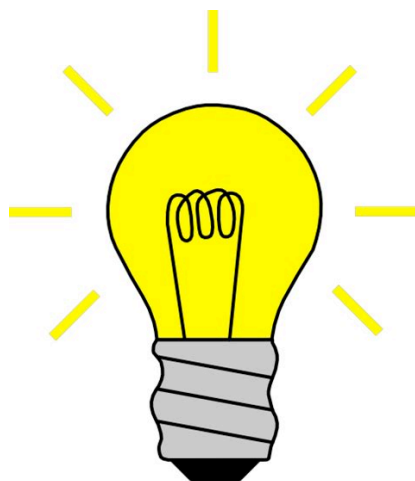
# But to what?



Well-Being?

Codes of conduct?

Ethics?

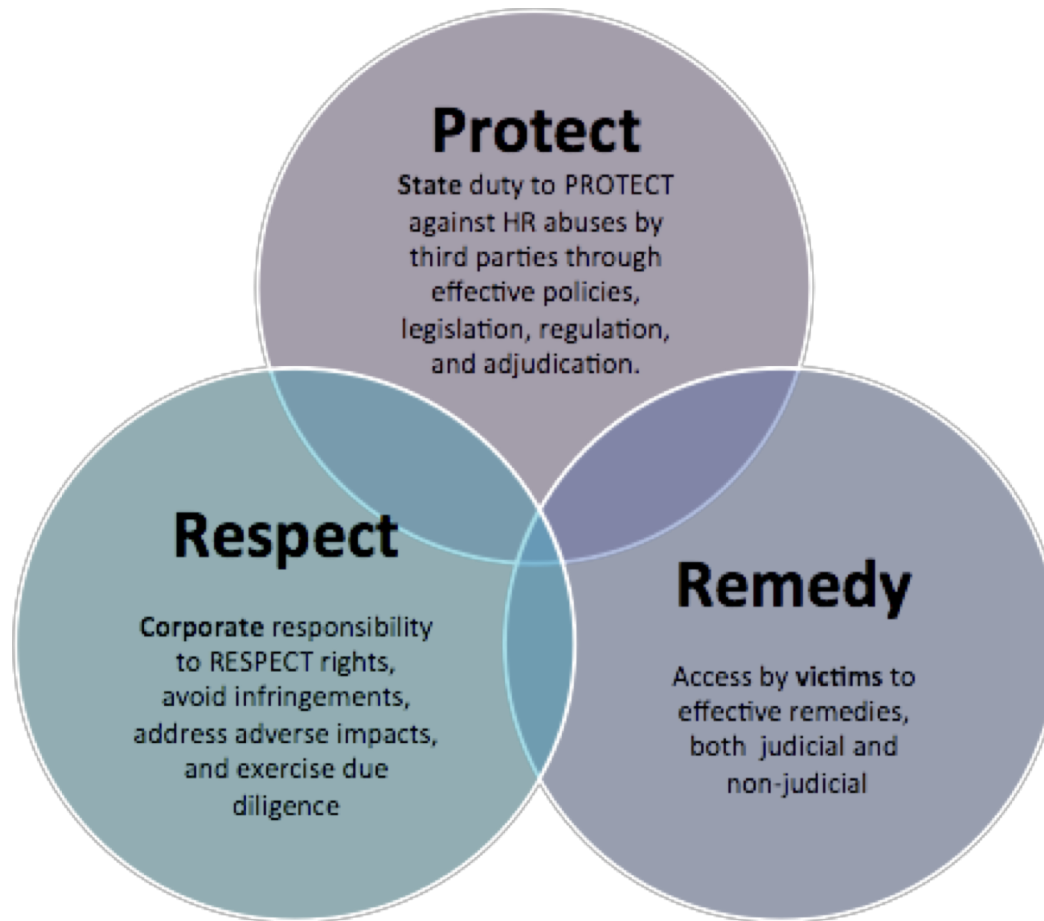


# Internationally recognized human rights frameworks



# UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

(UNGPs, 2011)



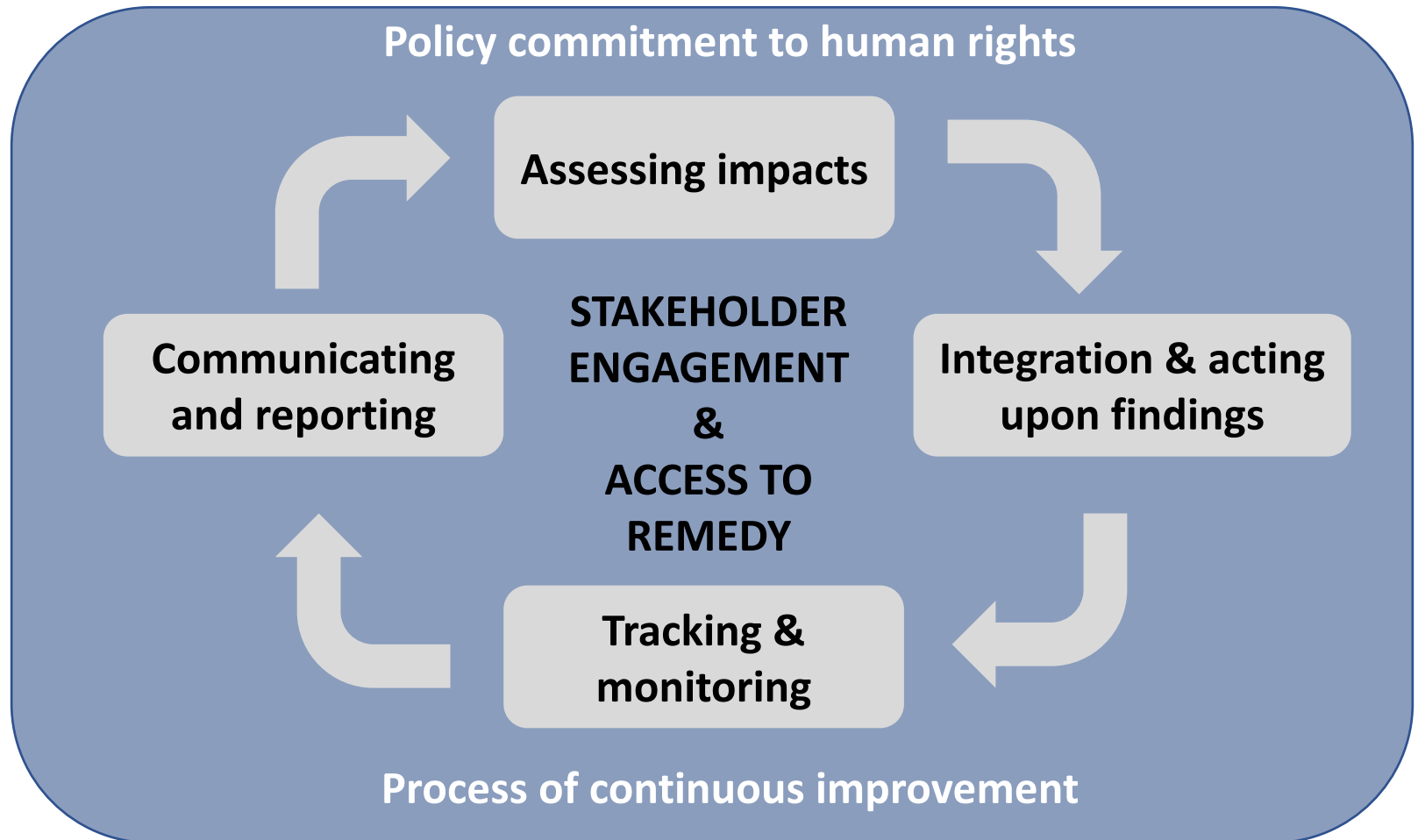


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# Human Rights Due Diligence in practice



# Types of Human Rights Impact Assessments

## Integrated HRIAs

*Human rights integrated into Regulatory, Environmental, Social and/or Health Impact Assessments*

## Stand-alone HRIAs

*Company-led HRIAs*

*Community-led HRIAs*

*Issue-based HRIAs*

*Product-based HRIAs*

## Sector-Wide Impact Assessments

*Looking at an entire sector rather than a project*

## Multi-stakeholder HRIAs

*Do not exist yet – could this be the way forward?*



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# Process Overview

Identify appropriate points of contact

- 3 months

Review policies and procedures; modify tool

- 2 months

Share final tool outline with points of contact

- 1 week

Assessment workshops + all staff presentation

*(July 2018)*

Observations, recs, and tailored action plan shared

+ 1 month

Follow up on implementing changes

+3 months

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# Assessment Components

## Registrar Human Rights Scoping Tool

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### Introduction to the Tool

This Human Rights Assessment Tool contains a range of scenarios and questions related to Human Rights relevant to an Internet registrar's operations, including hosting services. The tool covers the following issue areas:

Issue Areas
A. Registrars as Employers
B. Registrars as Procurers of Goods and Services
C. Registrars, the Environment, and Local Communities
D. Registrars as Providers of Domain and Web Hosting Services (in-house or outsourced)
E. Due Diligence

# Elements of the Tool

## D. Registrars as Providers of TLD and Other Domain Services (in-house or outsourced)

### D.1 Acquiring Domains

Right to freedom of expression; Right to privacy; Freedom of association; Freedom from discrimination

#### D.1.1 Agreements with ICANN

Human rights impact scenario

The agreement between the registrar and ICANN negatively impacts human rights, particularly right to privacy and freedom of expression.

Probability (choose)	Describe key impacts and who is impacted (write text)	Assess numbers impacted (click to choose option)				Severity of consequences for impacted people (click to choose option)	
Indicators		YES	NO	F/A	N/A	COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTATION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
a	Information added to publicly available databases (such as WHOIS) is in line with local and international law.						
b	Information added to any publicly available databases (such as WHOIS) is minimized to safeguard registrants' privacy.						
c	The agreement with ICANN includes a commitment to respect the right to privacy of registrants.						
d	The agreement with ICANN includes a commitment to respect the right to freedom of expression of registrants.						
e	The agreement with ICANN includes a commitment to respect the right to freedom of association of registrants.						
f	The agreement with ICANN includes a commitment to ensure the right to freedom from discrimination of registrants.						
Human rights compliance question		YES	NO	F/A	N/A	COMMENTS AND DOCUMENTATION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
Are relevant human rights issues a part of the agreement between the registrar and ICANN?							



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# Outcomes

- Blacknight Internal policies reviewed
- Blacknight External policies review
- Additional policies created
- Transparency report planned – still work in progress



# Questions or Comments?

[collin@article19.org](mailto:collin@article19.org)

[michele@blacknight.com](mailto:michele@blacknight.com)

