## Thank you to everyone who helped us stop the sale

Joint Statement from NTEN and EFF, April 30 2020

We are thrilled to see <u>ICANN's leadership reject the sale</u> of Public Interest Registry (PIR) and the .Org top-level domain.

For 20 years, .Org has been the online home for nonprofits, NGOs, and community-based groups around the world. It serves both those organizations and the public, helping navigate and support trust, information and resource sharing, and advocacy.

The current global pandemic has further illustrated the importance of nonprofit websites, as most of the world's leading scientific and research institutions, health and safety resources, and educational services are on .Org websites. The need for reliability and security of the .Org domain is as high as it ever has been, and the proposal to convert PIR from a nonprofit to a for-profit entity and then sell it to private equity firm Ethos Capital would have jeopardized both.

We want to thank the nearly 900 organizations and the 64,000\* individuals from all over the world who joined us in calling for the sale to be stopped. The collective voices made a difference.

This is not the final step needed for protecting the .Org domain. ICANN must now open a public process for bids to find a new home for the .Org domain. ICANN has established processes and criteria that outline how to hold a reassignment process. We look forward to seeing a competitive process and are eager to support the participation in that process by the global nonprofit community.

The .Org domain, the third-largest top-level domain, needs a secure and reliable steward that can prove it has the public and nonprofit sector's interests at its core.

Additional SaveDotOrg coalition signers:
Access Now
Americans for Financial Reform Education Fund
Domain Name Rights Coalition
National Council of Nonprofits

\*The combined signatures from petitions hosted by EFF, Fight for the Future, and Open Media