

Chapter Advisory Council (ChAC)

Report to the Board of Trustees

April 18, 2026



Flávio R. Wagner
Chair of the ChAC Steering Committee

2026 ChAC Steering Committee Members

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ChAC Action Plan for 2026

Strengthening What's Already in Motion

- The Chapter Content Archive – A Global Knowledge Hub
- Updating ChAC's Governance for the Future
- Better Onboarding for Chapters and Leaders

New Activities for 2026: Building Capacity, Striving for Impact

- Rethinking Chapter Evaluation for Fairness & Inclusion
- Improving ChAC Communications
- Expanding Collaboration & Peer Mentorship
- Supporting the revision of the Internet Society Code of Conduct

Additional Activities

- Deepening Involvement in Mobilization

SC members as leads / liaisons in all activities

Most initiatives led by the ISOC staff or developed with support from the staff



Chapter Content Archive Project

Repository to preserve chapter-generated content under library standards

- Chapter-led project
- Global chapter community's permanent knowledge library
- Implementation in charge of a project team – US New York and Mexico Chapters
- Grant from the ISOC Foundation already committed
- Pilot phase – proof of concept – 3 to 4 months
- Estimated rollout timeline until December 2026
- Governance structure under the ChAC
 - Operational committee, led by the US NY and Mexico chapters
 - Steering committee for overall advice and supervision



Updating ChAC Governance for the Future

Updating both charter and rules & procedures

- Team of 6 chapter representatives from various regions
- Examples of aspects to be revised
 - Majority criteria for approving formal advice to the BoT
 - Extending ChAC SC terms and partial annual renewal
 - More detailed procedures for electing ChAC SC members



Better Onboarding for Chapters and Leaders

- Improved onboarding materials
- Lower barriers for new chapters in formation
- Support to new chapter leaders
- Joint co-design effort with the ISOC staff



Rethinking Chapter Evaluation for Fairness & Inclusion

Rethink current set of annual evaluation criteria

- Focus on qualitative measures
- Recognition of different chapter profiles and realities
- Assessment system must recognize impact, effort, innovation, and context—not just volume
- Review of criteria shall also impact the Chapter Charter Agreements
- First draft of a “Chapter DNA” document already prepared. Concept of a “healthy chapter”:
 - Shifts away from an assessment model that is only compliance-focused
 - Members are active, its governance is transparent, and the chapter builds a network of local peers



Improving ChAC Communications

- Effective information sharing and engagement requires clear and timely communication
- Design new methods and channels to:
 - Strengthen the connection between the ChAC SC and chapter representatives
 - Bring real community input into ChAC decisions in a more effective and engaging way



Expanding Collaboration & Peer Mentorship

- Pool of chapter peer mentors, from different chapters and regions
- Facilitate inter-chapter collaboration and leverage the experience of seasoned chapter members to support and guide others, for instance through knowledge sharing and capacity building
- 2026: extend pool, with new mentors and modalities of support



Supporting the revision of the ISOC Code of Conduct

Current ISOC and ISOC Foundation Code of Conduct is extremely high level

- mainly focuses on online interactions
- lacks clear guidance as to what happens in the case of a breach

ISOC staff has launched a revision project

- community input, feedback and guidance will be critical



Deepening ChAC involvement in ISOC mobilization priorities

ChAC concrete role still to be defined

- Giving input on mobilization priorities
- Presenting priorities to Chapters
- Fostering regional engagement and outreach approaches
- Contributing directly to policy- or advocacy-focused efforts
- Guiding partnerships and grassroots action



Sharpening the ChAC value proposition

- ChAC's relevance to the chapters remains a core challenge
- Most of the activities of the 2026 Action Plan are of administrative nature and do not engage most chapters
 - Even if they are relevant for ChAC and chapters' operation
- ChAC also needs to focus on 2-3 high-impact priorities that clearly demonstrate value to the chapters
- This requires better alignment between chapter needs, staff priorities, and the ChAC mission



Report from Q1 Full ChAC Call – Feb 17, 2026

Agenda:

- Presentation of the ChAC Action Plan
- Update on the Chapter Content Archival Project
- Update on the Governance Review
- Presentation of the Community Mobilization Campaigns

Chapters represented in the call: 25 (out of 97 with a ChAC rep appointed)

- 32 chapters reps had attended the previous November call, plus 1 observer from SIGs

ISOC staff attending the call:

- Christine Saegesser Baethge, Stine Gaba Gomez, Sebastián Bellagamba, Rama Rejman



ChAC and ChAC SC Activities

ChAC Steering Committee holds monthly calls

ChAC Steering Committee leadership holds monthly calls

Full ChAC holds quarterly calls – Feb 17, May 19, Sep 22, Nov 17

Quarterly calls between ChAC SC and ISOC staff leaderships



Chapter Health Update

Number of current (full) chapters: 118 (122 in Nov 2025)

Number of chapters in rejuvenation: 13 (9 in Nov 2025)

Recent Chapter Status Changes:

In formation:

- Laos Chapter
- Mauritania Chapter

From pre-rejuvenation to rejuvenation:

- Estonia Chapter
- Montenegro Chapter
- Morocco Chapter
- Poland Chapter
- Spain Chapter
- Türkiye Chapter

From in rejuvenation to closed

- Dominica Chapter



Thank you!



Flávio R. Wagner
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