MANRS Update

One Year Under GCA

January 2025

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Introduction

Since taking on the secretariat functions of MANRS in January 2024, the Global Cyber Alliance (GCA) has successfully transitioned all functions in-house, streamlining operations and enhancing our capacity to deliver on our mission. We've continued MANRS' growth with an 12.5% increase in participant numbers and maintained an active presence within the Internet community to support a stronger, more secure routing system.

This report dives into our top internal and external accomplishments from our first year as MANRS Secretariat, and touches on GCA's plans for the coming years.

Operational Updates

This year saw important operational improvements, including the successful transition of hosting services, mailing lists, and election infrastructure from the Internet Society's platforms into GCA's.

Additionally, we improved the MANRS Observatory by incorporating the [ROA Stats (ROAST)](#) tool, which showcases which autonomous systems (ASes) are announcing valid ROAs, and which are not.

Initially developed as a standalone tool in May 2023, we rebuilt this functionality from the ground up within the bounds of the MANRS Observatory. Doing so enabled us to further improve the usefulness of the tool, providing better functionality to all Observatory visitors.

We also released a new feature for the public API: the [ROA History](#) API endpoint. This endpoint provides a convenient filterable view of historic information for known ROAs, obtained from RIPE's public RPKI archive.

Governance Updates

The MANRS Steering Committee held five meetings throughout 2024, providing essential support for governance and strategic planning. Meeting minutes are available here.

GCA held elections for the Steering Committee in November, with the community electing three new candidates:

- Douglas Fischer, Peering Latam
- Erika Vega, LACNOG
- Steven Wallace, Internet2

Andrew Gallo, Flavio Luciani, and Warrick Mitchell have officially ended their time on the Steering Committee but will remain part of the MANRS community.

Participant Growth

From November 2023 to 2024, participant numbers experienced growth across most categories. NetOps participants increased from 904 to 1,012, while IXPs grew from 28 to 31. The CDN and Cloud category also saw an uptick, rising from 133 to 141 participants. Vendors, however, remained steady at 6 participants. Overall, total participation grew by 12.5%, expanding from 1,071 to 1,190 participants.

MANRS Program	November 2023	December 2024
Network Operators	904	1023
CDN & Cloud Providers	28	32
IXPs	133	144
Vendors	6	6
Total	**1,071**	**1,205**
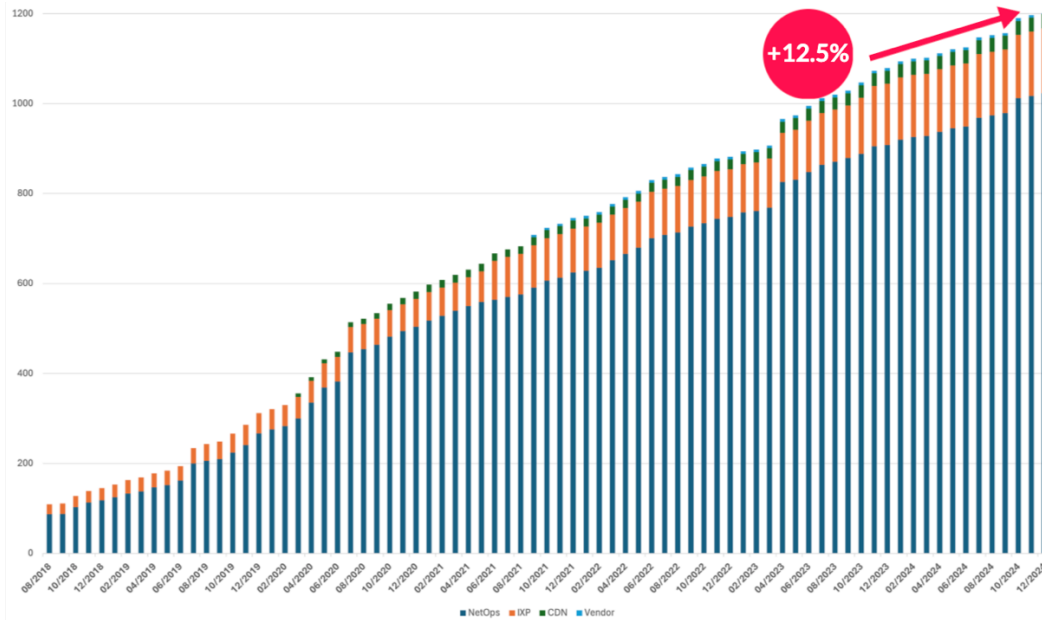
Community Activity Highlights

We organized two community meetings, held on May 15 and November 13, to enhance awareness and engagement across the MANRS and routing security community.

The first meeting of the year focused on introducing GCA and recent trends in policymaking, particularly within the US Government. The second meeting of the year featured remarks from outgoing MANRS Steering Committee members and technical topics from MANRS participants.

In continued partnership with the Internet Society, together we had a presence at many industry events, covering seventeen (17) countries in every RIR region at several of the biggest Network Operator Group (NOG) events and several smaller, regional events.

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Highlights include:

- NANOG 90: 'Have You Been Minding MANRS Lately?'

- APRICOT 2024: 'Routing Security @APRICOT'

- GÉANT's 31st STF gathering

- RIPE 88: 'Strengthening the Business Case for Routing Security'

- M3AAWG's 61st General Meeting: Internet Integrity Program

- IETF 120: MANRS Update to ISOC's policy guests

- PhNOG: "Enhancing Internet Security: Implementing MANRS to Strengthen Routing Resilience"

- African Peering and Interconnection Forum (AfPIF)

- GFCE Internet Infrastructure Initiative (Triple-I) workshops in the Caribbean and in India

- East African Communications Organisation (EACO): online training on Peering and Interconnection in the East African region

- LACNIC-LACNOG conference: MANRS Update (English) and MANRS Update (Spanish).

- NANOG 92: 'Routing Security: Fostering continuous improvement'

- LINX 123: 'Routing Security and Regulatory Interest'

Our communication efforts also evolved in 2024. We maintain the MANRS social media accounts on LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, and YouTube. We added an account on Bluesky late in the year, as the audience on X continues to dwindle.

Our quarterly newsletter continues to go to email subscribers first, and then is recreated on LinkedIn. We've seen our LinkedIn followers grow to over 3,000 as we continue to

strengthen that community. In total, we have 9,882 followers across platforms as of December 20, 2024.

Regulatory Outreach

Several high-profile Internet routing incidents have caused some governments to investigate how they can clean up their networks and the global routing system, including in the United States. Working in close coordination with the Internet Society, GCA has been following, analyzing, and commenting as necessary on activities around the world.

In the United States:

- **4 April 2024** – In a '[Declaratory Ruling](#),' the FCC implied its intention to regulate BGP.
- **17 April 2024** – GCA and ISOC filed a [joint response](#), and [MANRS](#), [GCA](#), and [ISOC](#) each highlighted why regulating BGP is not helpful.
- **13 May 2024** – the [US Department of Commerce](#) held a 'Route Signing Day' highlighting the renewed effort to implement RPKI in response to the National Cybersecurity Strategy. [ISOC summarized](#) this major milestone well.
- **15 May 2024** – the FCC filed a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on Routing Security Reporting Requirements.](#)
- **3 September 24** - The White House's Office of the National Cyber Director released the [White House's Roadmap to Enhancing Routing Security](#).

We also wrote a short ['explainer' document to help the MANRS community.](#)

We continue to monitor activities in Latin America, where MANRS has been adopted as a key guideline for all new IXPs wishing to join the regional industry association, [LAC-IX](#), and in the United Kingdom and the European Union.

MANRS+ Development

The MANRS+ Working Group, comprising 78 participants with approximately 10 active members, made significant progress by outlining steps to increase MANRS adoption. We are piloting a self-assessment survey to support conformance efforts and taking significant steps toward forming a founding group for MANRS+ adoption. Additionally, we worked to promote MANRS+ standards within information security frameworks and procurement processes, further embedding these principles into industry best practices.

Integration with GCA Initiatives

MANRS aligns closely with GCA's efforts focused on collaboration and data-driven action under GCA's Internet Integrity Program. In addition to our MANRS work, we seek to reduce malicious domain names through our Domain Trust project and reduce unwanted malicious Internet traffic via AIDE. Together, the three components comprise our 'Names, Numbers, and Routes' approach to improving Internet Integrity.

Plans for 2025 and Beyond

2024 was a building year as GCA took the reins of the MANRS Secretariat. Still, we managed to make significant advancements. From 2025 onward, we expect to continue strengthening MANRS and the routing security community.

We will enhance the MANRS Observatory with improved data and incident feeds, providing greater insights for action. We will update the MANRS Charter to better align with current governance realities. We are developing a MANRS Development Process (MDP) to enable consensus-driven updates. Additionally, we will explore revisions to the Ambassadors program and regional partnerships to broaden engagement and collaboration worldwide.

Conclusion

This has been an extraordinary year for MANRS, marked by significant growth and meaningful advancements in our mission to strengthen the routing system's resilience and security. Our accomplishments reflect the dedication and collaboration of our community, and they set a strong foundation for the exciting plans we have for the future.

We are especially grateful to the Internet Society for its generous financial support, which has been instrumental in driving our success. Together, we look forward to building on this momentum and continuing to make a positive impact in the year ahead.

New York

31 Tech Valley Drive
East Greenbush, NY
12061
UNITED STATES

London

City of London Police
3rd Floor
Guildhall Yard East
London
EC2V 5AE
UNITED KINGDOM

Brussels

Scotland House
City Office in Brussels
(c/o Global Cyber Alliance)
Rond Point Schuman 6
1040 Brussels
BELGIUM

www.globalcyberalliance.org