.kp

.kp is the Internet country code top-level domain (ccTLD) for North Korea; it was created on 24 September 2007.[2]

Contents

History

North Korea applied for the `.kp` Internet country code top-level domain (ccTLD) in 2004. ICANN, however, refused because North Korea did not meet some of the requirements. Another attempt was made via Korea Computer Center (KCC) Europe in 2006. Later, the main body of KCC and the North Korean Ambassador to the United Nations petitioned ICANN again. They were refused again for providing insufficient information. A new application was sent in January 2007 and an ICANN delegation visited the country in May. This time ICANN agreed to assign `.kp` to North Korea.[3]

One of the first organizations to adopt a `.kp` domain was the Korean Central News Agency in 2009.[4]

Previously, the `.kp` domain was managed by Korea Computer Center (KCC) Europe. A large number of `.kp` websites were also hosted by KCC Europe in Germany. However, in 2011, management was transferred to the Pyongyang-based Star Joint Venture.[5]

Second-level domains

Neither the North Korea government agencies nor the central registry have published the second-level domain registration rules. However, according to the using practices shown by the currently existing and accessible North Korea domains and websites, while

.kp

Introduced	24 September 2007
TLD type	Country code top-level domain
Status	Active
Registry	Star Joint Venture
Sponsor	Star Joint Venture (Korea Computer Center until 2011)
Intended use	Entities connected with 🇰🇵 North Korea
Actual use	Used mainly by the North Korean government
Registered domains	38 (As of 14 November 2021)[1]
Registration restrictions	Must be a company, organization, or government entity based in North Korea
Structure	Names can be registered directly at the second level, or at the third level within generic

regarding the worldwide country-code second-level domain distribution rules, the second-level domain rules in North Korea can be interpreted as below.

- *aca.kp* : Academic and research institutes
- *com.kp* : Generally commercial organizations and sometimes government information agencies as well
- *edu.kp* : Institutions of higher education
- *law.kp* : Legal firms
- *org.kp* : Industrial associations, civil organizations, and public funds
- *gov.kp* : Government departments
- *rep.kp* : the Party's information agencies
- *net.kp* : Internet service providers and email service providers
- *sca.kp* : Affiliated institutes under the Ministry of Culture

	second-level domains
Registry website	Registry website address published on IANA Delegation Record is no longer accessible *(Archive page) (https://web.archive.org/web/20110615025207/http://www.star.co.kp/)*

The following are externally accessible domain name examples of the use of second-level domain names:

- *aca.kp* : mirae.aca.kp,
- *com.kp* : airkoryo.com.kp, knic.com.kp, friend.com.kp
- *edu.kp* : ryongnamsan.edu.kp, kut.edu.kp, gpsh.edu.kp
- *law.kp* : fia.law.kp
- *org.kp* : cooks.org.kp, koredufund.org.kp, kass.org.kp
- *gov.kp* : mfa.gov.kp, moph.gov.kp, tourismdprk.gov.kp
- *rep.kp* : rodong.rep.kp, vok.rep.kp, gnu.rep.kp
- *net.kp* : [Usually appears as the extension for email addresses published elsewhere on other North Korean websites: e.g. *@star-co.net.kp*]
- *sca.kp* : korart.sca.kp

Existing and externally accessible domain list

As of 2017, at least nine `.kp` top level domains[6] and more than 30 domains are accessible to the global Internet. These are as follows:[7]

- airkoryo.com.kp
- cooks.org.kp
- dprkportal.kp
- friend.com.kp
- gnu.rep.kp
- kass.org.kp
- kcna.kp
- kiyctc.com.kp
- knic.com.kp
- korart.sca.kp
- korean-books.com.kp[8]
- koredufund.org.kp

- korelcfund.org.kp
- korfilm.com.kp
- kut.edu.kp[9]
- ma.gov.kp
- manmulsang.com.kp[10]
- masikryong.com.kp
- mediaryugyong.com.kp
- mfa.gov.kp[11]
- naenara.com.kp
- portal.net.kp
- pyongyangtimes.com.kp[12]
- rodong.rep.kp
- ryongnamsan.edu.kp
- sdprk.org.kp
- tourismdprk.gov.kp[13]
- vok.rep.kp
- youth.rep.kp

Some `.kp` addresses are used by the North Korean Internet only.[14]

See also

- Communications in North Korea
- Internet censorship in North Korea
- Internet in North Korea
- List of North Korean websites banned in South Korea
- List of North Korea-related topics
- .kr (top-level domain for South Korea)

References

1. Coldewey, Devin (20 September 2016). "North Korea accidentally lets slip all its .KP domains — and there aren't many" (https://techcrunch.com/2016/09/20/north-korea-accidentally-lets-slip-all-its-kp-domains-and-there-arent-many/). *TechCrunch*. Retrieved 21 September 2016.
2. "Preliminary Report for Special Meeting of the ICANN Board of Directors" (https://www.icann.org/minutes/prelim-report-11sep07.htm). 11 September 2007.
3. Seliger, Bernhard; Schmidt, Stefan (2010). *The Hermit Kingdom Goes Online: Information Technology, Internet Use and Communication Policy in North Korea* (https://books.google.com/books?id=qKhDAwAAQBAJ&pg=PP9). Jefferson: McFarland. p. 9. ISBN 978-1-4766-1770-1.
4. Hoare, James E. (2012). "Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)" (https://books.google.com/books?id=rh5h4bZgkhEC&pg=PA231). *Historical Dictionary of Democratic People's Republic of Korea*. London: Scarecrow Press. p. 231. ISBN 978-0-8108-7987-4.
5. ".kp domain assigned to Star JV" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2011/05/03/dot-kp-domain-assigned-to-star/). North Korea Tech. 3 May 2011.

6. "North Korea's DNS files reveal few Internet websites" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2016/09/21/north-koreas-dns-files-reveal-internet-websites/). North Korea Tech. September 2016.

7. Bryant, Matthew (21 September 2016). "NorthKoreaDNSLeak" (https://github.com/mandatoryprogrammer/NorthKoreaDNSLeak). *GitHub*. TL;DR Project. Retrieved 21 September 2016.

8. Williams, Martyn (13 September 2017). "North Korean cultural websites" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/the-north-korean-website-list/north-korean-cultural-websites/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 21 September 2017.

9. Williams, Martyn (9 August 2018). "Kim Chaek University of Technology launches Internet web site" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2018/08/09/kim-chaek-university-of-technology-launches-internet-web-site/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 11 September 2018.

10. Williams, Martyn (27 September 2018). "Manmusang website appears on the Internet" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2018/09/27/manmusang-website-appears-on-the-internet/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 27 September 2018.

11. Williams, Martyn (13 September 2017). "North Korean government and NGO websites" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/the-north-korean-website-list/north-korean-government-ngo-websites/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 21 September 2017.

12. Williams, Martyn (14 September 2017). "The Pyongyang Times has a new address" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2017/09/14/pyongyang-times-new-address/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 16 September 2017.

13. Williams, Martyn (19 July 2017). "North Korea's tourism agency is online" (http://www.northkoreatech.org/2017/07/19/north-koreas-tourism-agency-online/). *North Korea Tech*. Retrieved 30 July 2017.

14. Kyungmin Ko; Seungkwon Jang; Heejin Lee (2008). ".kp North Korea" (https://books.google.com/books?id=wSlOkuwWKo4C&pg=PA246). *Digital Review of Asia Pacific 2007/2008*. IDRC. p. 246. ISBN 978-0-7619-3674-9.

External links

- Registration website (https://web.archive.org/web/20110504022245/http://www.star.co.kp/) at Star Joint Venture
- IANA — .kp Domain Delegation Data (https://www.iana.org/domains/root/db/kp.html)
- ICANN 2007 announcement of a request to delegate .kp domain (https://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-2-17aug07.htm)
- 北 'kp' 도메인 사용 홈페이지 속속 개설 (http://www.etnews.com/200307270031) [North Korean homepages with 'kp' domain name open]. *Junja Shinmun* (in Korean). 28 July 2003.
- The North Korean Website List (https://www.northkoreatech.org/the-north-korean-website-list/) at *North Korea Tech*