

**The Policy and Regulatory Impact of
Covid-19 on ISPs:
Argentina's case**

ICANN 69 ISPCP Outreach session

Argentina's ISPs figures

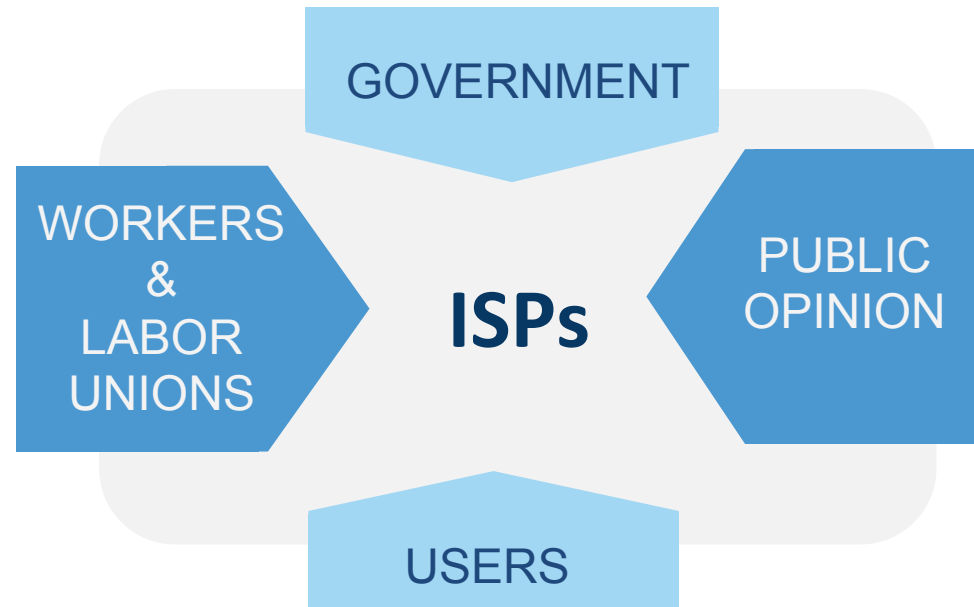
- Population 44 Million people
- More than 1200 fixed ISPs (mainly SME and cooperatives)
- 31 Internet Exchange Points (run by CABASE)
- 62,8 % access by Households (Fixed Access)
- 12 % fiber optic accesses and increasing
- 37,52 mbps average speed at country level
- 35% Traffic increase during Covid-19 lockdown
- Unequal distribution of access between main cities and province towns and rural areas.

Source: <https://www.cabase.org.ar/2020-internet-index-2/>

Covid-19 crisis: Increased demand for ISPs regulation

- Price regulation
- Prohibition of suspension in case of non-payment

- Keep safe at home
- Request special kits to protect against Covid-19
- Request Rotating Shifts and small workers' teams



- “*Essential service*” due to lockdown
- Push for Improving quality and bandwidth
- Request Affordable prices
- Internet access as Human Right

- Request for updates and more bandwidth
- Pay less and late due to economic crisis

As A Result... New Rules For ISPs

- Internet Access as Public Utility declared by Presidential Decree.
- ISPs' Prices defined by Federal Government
- Minimum Mandatory Service to be defined by regulation
- Prohibition of service's suspension in case of non-payment for vulnerable users
- More governmental intervention in ISPs activity

As Has been Said “Crisis bears opportunity...”

- Government has to write and approve secondary regulation for ISPs and other ICT services
- ISPs trade associations have filed to the Government regulatory proposals that reduce Public Utility’s impact while assuring continuity of services to users.
- We request asymmetric regulation to preserve and boost SME’s ISPs and cooperatives and to set up new conditions for investment and provision of connectivity services in the country.
- Currently ISPs are waiting the Regulator’s answer

CÁMARA ARGENTINA DE
Internet