Preface

This book builds primarily on research from two research projects, ‘Governance of the Domain Name System and Future Internet: New Parameters, New Challenges’ (Igov2) and ‘Security in Internet Governance and Networks: Analysing the Law’ (SIGNAL). Generous funding for the research was provided by the Norwegian Research Council and UNINETT Norid AS under the two projects. I am grateful to my colleagues in the projects, especially Lee Bygrave, Emily Weitzenboeck, Kevin McGillivray, Francis Augusto Medeiros and Samson Esayas, who provided feedback to earlier drafts of this book. The Igov2 project also brought in guest researchers from around the world, and special thanks are owed to Lawrence Solum, who spent much time discussing this research with me in the initial phases. Especial gratitude is also owed to Jon Bing, who participated in the Igov2 project and passed away in 2014. Jon was actively involved in the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers’ (ICANN’s) Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) during the new generic Top-level Domain (gTLD) programme development, and some of his comments at the time sparked an interest that led to chapters of this book. I dedicate this book to his memory.

Annebeth Lange has been of tremendous help. She introduced me to many relevant contacts at ICANN, had an important role in facilitating Norid’s project sponsoring, and provided useful comments without interfering with my academic freedom. Special thanks are also due to Niels ten Oever and Sebastian Schwemer, who provided detailed critical feedback on earlier drafts. I would also like to thank Steinar Grotterød and Tatiana Tropina for inspiring discussions about the domain name business and ICANN policymaking, respectively, and former research assistant Kirsten Lange for excellent help with the references.

Part of the research was conducted while I was a visiting scholar at Stanford Law School’s Center for Internet and Society (CIS), the Centro de Estudios en Derecho Informático (CEDI) at the University of Chile and the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg, Germany. I am thankful for the warm welcome and inspiring discussions at the three centres.

At Edward Elgar Publishing, thanks go to Ben Booth for his enthusiastic
and patient support of the book’s publication, and to Amber Watts, David Fairclough and Helen Kitto for friendly help in getting it finalized.

My wife Line and the rest of my family deserve my gratitude for their encouragement and loving care, even when the writing project took up time, space and energy in our home and during family travels.

References to legal instruments are to their amended form as of 2 July 2018, and all links were last visited on that day. The usual disclaimer applies: All errors are mine.