

Q133 Supporting Information – Meaning and Cultural Context

.otaku

This attachment offers additional context on the meaning, global relevance, and long-term sustainability of .otaku, supplementing the Applicant’s response to Question 133.

“Otaku” (オタク / おたく) is a Japanese-origin term for devoted fans and enthusiasts, particularly in anime, manga, games, idol culture, cosplay, and related subcultures. Although it originated in Japan, the term is now internationally recognized through fan communities, conventions, online media, creators, and Japanese popular culture.

Internationally, “otaku” serves as a marker of fandom identity and cultural participation. The term appears in English and other non-Japanese discussions of anime, manga, gaming, cosplay, conventions, and related creative activities. Fans and creators often use it to describe their deep interest in these fields.

Otaku culture has a broad international presence. Conventions, cosplay events, creator communities, online platforms, merchandise markets, and digital content communities all increase its visibility outside Japan. These examples demonstrate that “otaku” is part of international cultural, consumer, and Internet vocabulary.

The applied-for string is intended as an open, distinctive, identity-focused namespace for registrants who wish to associate their online presence with otaku culture, fandom, creative expression, entertainment, events, publishing, commerce, or related community activity.

.otaku has a clear meaning, recognizable Japanese cultural roots, and a sustainable foundation for long-term use as an open generic top-level domain.

Sources Consulted

In preparing this attachment, the Applicant consulted public reference materials on the meaning and cultural usage of “otaku,” including dictionaries, cultural references, and information on anime, manga, gaming, cosplay, conventions, and fan communities. These sources were used solely to provide linguistic and cultural context for the applied-for string.