

**NAME**

ares\_destroy – Destroy a resolver channel

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_destroy(ares_channel channel)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **ares\_destroy** function destroys the name service channel identified by *channel*, freeing all memory and closing all sockets used by the channel. **ares\_destroy** invokes the callbacks for each pending query on the channel, passing a status of **ARES\_EDESTRUCTION**. These calls give the callbacks a chance to clean up any state which might have been stored in their arguments.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_init(3)**

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_expand_name` – Expand a DNS-encoded domain name

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_expand_name(const unsigned char *encoded,  
                    const unsigned char *abuf, int alen, char **s,  
                    int *enclen)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_expand_name` function converts a DNS-encoded domain name to a dot-separated C string. The argument *encoded* gives the beginning of the encoded domain name, and the arguments *abuf* and *alen* give the containing message buffer (necessary for the processing of indirection pointers within the encoded domain name). The result is placed in a NUL-terminated allocated buffer, a pointer to which is stored in the variable pointed to by *s*. The length of the encoded name is stored in the variable pointed to by *enclen* so that the caller can advance past the encoded domain name to read further data in the message.

## RETURN VALUES

`ares_expand_name` can return any of the following values:

### ARES\_SUCCESS

Expansion of the encoded name succeeded.

### ARES\_EBADNAME

The encoded domain name was malformed and could not be expanded.

### ARES\_ENOMEM

Memory was exhausted.

## SEE ALSO

`ares_mkquery(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**NAME**

`ares_fds` – Get file descriptors to select on for name service

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_fds(ares_channel channel, fd_set *read_fds,  
            fd_set *write_fds)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The `ares_fds` function retrieves the set of file descriptors which the calling application should select on for reading and writing for the processing of name service queries pending on the name service channel identified by *channel*. File descriptors will be set in the file descriptor sets pointed to by *read\_fds* and *write\_fds* as appropriate. File descriptors already set in *read\_fds* and *write\_fds* will remain set; initialization of the file descriptor sets (using `FD_ZERO`) is the responsibility of the caller.

**RETURN VALUES**

`ares_fds` returns one greater than the number of the highest socket set in either *read\_fds* or *write\_fds*. If no queries are active, `ares_fds` will return 0.

**SEE ALSO**

`ares_timeout(3)`, `ares_process(3)`

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**NAME**

ares\_free\_errmem – Free memory allocated by ares\_strerror

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
void ares_free_errmem(char *errmem)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **ares\_free\_errmem** function frees any memory which might have been allocated by the **ares\_strerror(3)** function. The parameter *errmem* should be set to the variable pointed to by the *memptr* argument previously passed to *ares\_strerror*.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_strerror(3)**

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**NAME**

`ares_free_hostent` – Free host structure allocated by ares functions

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
void ares_free_hostent(struct hostent *host)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The `ares_free_hostent` function frees a **struct hostent** allocated by one of the functions `ares_parse_a_reply` or `ares_parse_ptr_reply`.

**SEE ALSO**

`ares_parse_a_reply(3)`, `ares_parse_ptr_reply(3)`

**NOTES**

It is not necessary (and is not correct) to free the host structure passed to the callback functions for `ares_gethostbyname` or `ares_gethostbyaddr`. The ares library will automatically free such host structures when the callback returns.

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
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**NAME**

ares\_free\_string – Free strings allocated by ares functions

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
void ares_free_string(char *str)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The *ares\_free\_string* function frees a string allocated by the *ares\_mkquery* function.

**SEE ALSO**

[ares\\_mkquery\(3\)](#)

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

Copyright 2000 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_gethostbyaddr` – Initiate a host query by address

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
typedef void (*ares_host_callback)(void *arg, int status,  
struct hostent *hostent)
```

```
void ares_gethostbyaddr(ares_channel channel, const void *addr,  
int addrlen, int family, ares_host_callback callback,  
void *arg)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_gethostbyaddr` function initiates a host query by address on the name service channel identified by `channel`. The parameters `addr` and `addrlen` give the address as a series of bytes, and `family` gives the type of address. When the query is complete or has failed, the ares library will invoke `callback`. Completion or failure of the query may happen immediately, or may happen during a later call to `ares_process(3)` or `ares_destroy(3)`.

The callback argument `arg` is copied from the `ares_gethostbyaddr` argument `arg`. The callback argument `status` indicates whether the query succeeded and, if not, how it failed. It may have any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS**     The host lookup completed successfully.

**ARES\_ENOTIMP**     The ares library does not know how to look up addresses of type `family`.

**ARES\_ENOTFOUND**  
                  The address `addr` was not found.

**ARES\_ENOMEM**     Memory was exhausted.

**ARES\_EDESTRUCTION**  
                  The name service channel `channel` is being destroyed; the query will not be completed.

On successful completion of the query, the callback argument `hostent` points to a **struct hostent** containing the name of the host returned by the query. The callback need not and should not attempt to free the memory pointed to by `hostent`; the ares library will free it when the callback returns. If the query did not complete successfully, `hostent` will be **NULL**.

## SEE ALSO

`ares_process(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_gethostbyname` – Initiate a host query by name

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
typedef void (*ares_host_callback)(void *arg, int status,  
struct hostent *hostent)
```

```
void ares_gethostbyname(ares_channel channel, const char *name,  
int family, ares_host_callback callback, void *arg)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_gethostbyname` function initiates a host query by name on the name service channel identified by `channel`. The parameter `name` gives the hostname as a NUL-terminated C string, and `family` gives the desired type of address for the resulting host entry. When the query is complete or has failed, the ares library will invoke `callback`. Completion or failure of the query may happen immediately, or may happen during a later call to `ares_process(3)` or `ares_destroy(3)`.

The callback argument `arg` is copied from the `ares_gethostbyname` argument `arg`. The callback argument `status` indicates whether the query succeeded and, if not, how it failed. It may have any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS** The host lookup completed successfully.

**ARES\_ENOTIMP** The ares library does not know how to find addresses of type `family`.

**ARES\_EBADNAME** The hostname `name` is composed entirely of numbers and periods, but is not a valid representation of an Internet address.

**ARES\_ENOTFOUND**  
The address `addr` was not found.

**ARES\_ENOMEM** Memory was exhausted.

**ARES\_EDESTRUCTION**  
The name service channel `channel` is being destroyed; the query will not be completed.

On successful completion of the query, the callback argument `hostent` points to a **struct hostent** containing the name of the host returned by the query. The callback need not and should not attempt to free the memory pointed to by `hostent`; the ares library will free it when the callback returns. If the query did not complete successfully, `hostent` will be **NULL**.

## SEE ALSO

`ares_process(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_init`, `ares_init_options` – Initialize a resolver channel

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>

int ares_init(ares_channel *channel)
int ares_init_options(ares_channel *channel,
    struct ares_options *options, int optmask)

cc file.c -lares
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_init` function initializes a communications channel for name service lookups. If it returns successfully, `ares_init` will set the variable pointed to by `channel` to a handle used to identify the name service channel. The caller should invoke `ares_destroy(3)` on the handle when the channel is no longer needed.

The `ares_init_options` function also initializes a name service channel, with additional options useful for applications requiring more control over name service configuration. The `optmask` parameter specifies which fields in the structure pointed to by `options` are set, as follows:

### ARES\_OPT\_FLAGS

**int** *flags*;  
Flags controlling the behavior of the resolver. See below for a description of possible flag values.

### ARES\_OPT\_TIMEOUT

**int** *timeout*;  
The number of seconds each name server is given to respond to a query on the first try. (After the first try, the timeout algorithm becomes more complicated, but scales linearly with the value of *timeout*.) The default is five seconds.

### ARES\_OPT\_TRIES

**int** *tries*;  
The number of tries the resolver will try contacting each name server before giving up. The default is four tries.

### ARES\_OPT\_NDOTS

**int** *ndots*;  
The number of dots which must be present in a domain name for it to be queried for "as is" prior to querying for it with the default domain extensions appended. The default value is 1 unless set otherwise by `resolv.conf` or the `RES_OPTIONS` environment variable.

### ARES\_OPT\_PORT **unsigned short** *port*;

The port to use for queries (both TCP and UDP), in network byte order. The default value is 53 (in network byte order), the standard name service port.

### ARES\_OPT\_SERVERS

**struct in\_addr** \**servers*;  
**int** *nservers*;  
The list of servers to contact, instead of the servers specified in `resolv.conf` or the local named.

### ARES\_OPT\_DOMAINS

**char** \*\**domains*;  
**int** *ndomains*;  
The domains to search, instead of the domains specified in `resolv.conf` or the domain derived from the kernel hostname variable.

## **ARES\_OPT\_LOOKUPS**

**char** \*lookups;

The lookups to perform for host queries. *lookups* should be set to a string of the characters "b" or "f", where "b" indicates a DNS lookup and "f" indicates a lookup in the hosts file.

The *flags* field should be the bitwise or of some subset of the following values:

**ARES\_FLAG\_USEVC** Always use TCP queries (the "virtual circuit") instead of UDP queries. Normally, TCP is only used if a UDP query yields a truncated result.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_PRIMARY**

Only query the first server in the list of servers to query.

**ARES\_FLAG\_IGNTC** If a truncated response to a UDP query is received, do not fall back to TCP; simply continue on with the truncated response.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_NORECURSE**

Do not set the "recursion desired" bit on outgoing queries, so that the name server being contacted will not try to fetch the answer from other servers if it doesn't know the answer locally.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_STAYOPEN**

Do not close communications sockets when the number of active queries drops to zero.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_NOSEARCH**

Do not use the default search domains; only query hostnames as-is or as aliases.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_NOALIASES**

Do not honor the HOSTALIASES environment variable, which normally specifies a file of hostname translations.

## **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP**

Do not discard responses with the SERVFAIL, NOTIMP, or REFUSED response code or responses whose questions don't match the questions in the request. Primarily useful for writing clients which might be used to test or debug name servers.

## **RETURN VALUES**

*ares\_init* or *ares\_init\_options* can return any of the following values:

### **ARES\_SUCCESS**

Initialization succeeded.

**ARES\_EFILE** A configuration file could not be read.

### **ARES\_ENOMEM**

The process's available memory was exhausted.

## **SEE ALSO**

*ares\_destroy*(3)

## **AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

ares\_mkquery – Compose a single-question DNS query buffer

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_mkquery(const char *name, int dnsclass, int type,  
                unsigned short id, int rd, char **buf,  
                int *buflen)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The **ares\_mkquery** function composes a DNS query with a single question. The parameter *name* gives the query name as a NUL-terminated C string of period-separated labels optionally ending with a period; periods and backslashes within a label must be escaped with a backslash. The parameters *dnsclass* and *type* give the class and type of the query using the values defined in **<arpa/nameser.h>**. The parameter *id* gives a 16-bit identifier for the query. The parameter *rd* should be nonzero if recursion is desired, zero if not. The query will be placed in an allocated buffer, a pointer to which will be stored in the variable pointed to by *buf*, and the length of which will be stored in the variable pointed to by *buflen*. It is the caller's responsibility to free this buffer using **ares\_free\_string** when it is no longer needed.

## RETURN VALUES

**ares\_mkquery** can return any of the following values:

### ARES\_SUCCESS

Construction of the DNS query succeeded.

### ARES\_EBADNAME

The query name *name* could not be encoded as a domain name, either because it contained a zero-length label or because it contained a label of more than 63 characters.

### ARES\_ENOMEM

Memory was exhausted.

## SEE ALSO

**ares\_expand\_name(3)**, **ares\_free\_string(3)**

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998, 2000 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**NAME**

`ares_parse_a_reply` – Parse a reply to a DNS query of type A into a hostent

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>

int ares_parse_a_reply(const unsigned char *abuf, int alen,
                      struct hostent **host);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The `ares_parse_a_reply` function parses the response to a query of type A into a **struct hostent**. The parameters *abuf* and *alen* give the contents of the response. The result is stored in allocated memory and a pointer to it stored into the variable pointed to by *host*. It is the caller's responsibility to free the resulting host structure using `ares_free_hostent(3)` when it is no longer needed.

**RETURN VALUES**

`ares_parse_a_reply` can return any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS**

The response was successfully parsed.

**ARES\_EBADRESP**

The response was malformed.

**ARES\_ENODATA**

The response did not contain an answer to the query.

**ARES\_ENOMEM**

Memory was exhausted.

**SEE ALSO**

`ares_gethostbyname(3)`, `ares_free_hostent(3)`

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_parse_ptr_reply` – Parse a reply to a DNS query of type PTR into a `hostent`

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
int ares_parse_ptr_reply(const unsigned char *abuf, int alen,  
                        const void *addr, int addrlen, int family,  
                        struct hostent **host);
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_parse_ptr_reply` function parses the response to a query of type PTR into a `struct hostent`. The parameters `abuf` and `alen` give the contents of the response. The parameters `addr`, `addrlen`, and `family` specify which address was queried for; they are not used to verify the response, merely used to fill in the address of the `struct hostent`. The resulting `struct hostent` is stored in allocated memory and a pointer to it stored into the variable pointed to by `host`. It is the caller's responsibility to free the resulting host structure using `ares_free_hostent(3)` when it is no longer needed.

## RETURN VALUES

`ares_parse_ptr_reply` can return any of the following values:

### ARES\_SUCCESS

The response was successfully parsed.

### ARES\_EBADRESP

The response was malformed.

### ARES\_ENODATA

The response did not contain an answer to the query.

### ARES\_ENOMEM

Memory was exhausted.

## SEE ALSO

`ares_gethostbyaddr(3)`, `ares_free_hostent(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_process` – Process events for name resolution

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>

void ares_process(ares_channel channel, fd_set *read_fds,
                 fd_set *write_fds)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_process` function handles input/output events and timeouts associated with queries pending on the name service channel identified by `channel`. The file descriptor sets pointed to by `read_fds` and `write_fds` should have file descriptors set in them according to whether the file descriptors specified by `ares_fds(3)` are ready for reading and writing. (The easiest way to determine this information is to invoke `select` with a timeout no greater than the timeout given by `ares_timeout(3)`).

The `ares_process` function will invoke callbacks for pending queries if they complete successfully or fail.

## EXAMPLE

The following code fragment waits for all pending queries on a channel to complete:

```
int nfd, count;
fd_set readers, writers;
struct timeval tv, *tvp;

while (1)
{
    FD_ZERO(&readers);
    FD_ZERO(&writers);
    nfd = ares_fds(channel, &readers, &writers);
    if (nfd == 0)
        break;
    tvp = ares_timeout(channel, NULL, &tv);
    count = select(nfd, &readers, &writers, NULL, tvp);
    ares_process(channel, &readers, &writers);
}
```

## SEE ALSO

`ares_fds(3)`, `ares_timeout(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems  
Copyright 1998 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

## NAME

`ares_query` – Initiate a single-question DNS query

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>

typedef void (*ares_callback)(void *arg, int status,
unsigned char *abuf, int alen)

void ares_query(ares_channel channel, const char *name,
               int dnsclass, int type, ares_callback callback,
               void *arg)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_query` function initiates a single-question DNS query on the name service channel identified by `channel`. The parameter `name` gives the query name as a NUL-terminated C string of period-separated labels optionally ending with a period; periods and backslashes within a label must be escaped with a backslash. The parameters `dnsclass` and `type` give the class and type of the query using the values defined in `<arpa/nameser.h>`. When the query is complete or has failed, the ares library will invoke `callback`. Completion or failure of the query may happen immediately, or may happen during a later call to `ares_process(3)` or `ares_destroy(3)`.

The callback argument `arg` is copied from the `ares_query` argument `arg`. The callback argument `status` indicates whether the query succeeded and, if not, how it failed. It may have any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS** The query completed successfully.

**ARES\_ENODATA** The query completed but contains no answers.

**ARES\_EFORMERR** The query completed but the server claims that the query was malformed.

**ARES\_ESERVFAIL** The query completed but the server claims to have experienced a failure. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)

### **ARES\_ENOTFOUND**

The query completed but the queried-for domain name was not found.

**ARES\_ENOTIMP** The query completed but the server does not implement the operation requested by the query. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)

**ARES\_EREFOUSED** The query completed but the server refused the query. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)

**ARES\_EBADNAME** The query name `name` could not be encoded as a domain name, either because it contained a zero-length label or because it contained a label of more than 63 characters.

**ARES\_ETIMEOUT** No name servers responded within the timeout period.

### **ARES\_ECONNREFUSED**

No name servers could be contacted.

**ARES\_ENOMEM** Memory was exhausted.

### **ARES\_EDESTRUCTION**

The name service channel `channel` is being destroyed; the query will not be completed.

If the query completed (even if there was something wrong with it, as indicated by some of the above error codes), the callback argument `abuf` points to a result buffer of length `alen`. If the query did not complete,

*abuf* will be NULL and *alen* will be 0.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_process(3)**

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

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## NAME

`ares_search` – Initiate a DNS query with domain search

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>

typedef void (*ares_callback)(void *arg, int status,
unsigned char *abuf, int alen)

void ares_search(ares_channel channel, const char *name,
                int dnsclass, int type, ares_callback callback,
                void *arg)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_search` function initiates a series of single-question DNS queries on the name service channel identified by `channel`, using the channel's search domains as well as a host alias file given by the `HOSTALIASES` environment variable. The parameter `name` gives the alias name or the base of the query name as a NUL-terminated C string of period-separated labels; if it ends with a period, the channel's search domains will not be used. Periods and backslashes within a label must be escaped with a backslash. The parameters `dnsclass` and `type` give the class and type of the query using the values defined in `<arpa/nameser.h>`. When the query sequence is complete or has failed, the `ares` library will invoke `callback`. Completion or failure of the query sequence may happen immediately, or may happen during a later call to `ares_process(3)` or `ares_destroy(3)`.

The callback argument `arg` is copied from the `ares_search` argument `arg`. The callback argument `status` indicates whether the query sequence ended with a successful query and, if not, how the query sequence failed. It may have any of the following values:

- ARES\_SUCCESS** A query completed successfully.
- ARES\_ENODATA** No query completed successfully; when the query was tried without a search domain appended, a response was returned with no answers.
- ARES\_EFORMERR** A query completed but the server claimed that the query was malformed.
- ARES\_ESERVFAIL** No query completed successfully; when the query was tried without a search domain appended, the server claimed to have experienced a failure. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)
- ARES\_ENOTFOUND** No query completed successfully; when the query was tried without a search domain appended, the server reported that the queried-for domain name was not found.
- ARES\_ENOTIMP** A query completed but the server does not implement the operation requested by the query. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)
- ARES\_EREFOUSED** A query completed but the server refused the query. (This code can only occur if the **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** flag was specified at channel initialization time; otherwise, such responses are ignored at the `ares_send(3)` level.)
- ARES\_TIMEOUT** No name servers responded to a query within the timeout period.
- ARES\_ECONNREFUSED** No name servers could be contacted.
- ARES\_ENOMEM** Memory was exhausted.
- ARES\_EDESTRUCTION** The name service channel `channel` is being destroyed; the query will not be completed.

If a query completed successfully, the callback argument *abuf* points to a result buffer of length *alen*. If the query did not complete successfully, *abuf* will usually be NULL and *alen* will usually be 0, but in some cases an unsuccessful query result may be placed in *abuf*.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_process(3)**

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

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## NAME

`ares_send` – Initiate a DNS query

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
typedef void (*ares_callback)(void *arg, int status,  
unsigned char *abuf, int alen)
```

```
void ares_send(ares_channel channel, const unsigned char *qbuf,  
int qlen, ares_callback callback, void *arg)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The `ares_send` function initiates a DNS query on the name service channel identified by *channel*. The parameters *qbuf* and *qlen* give the DNS query, which should already have been formatted according to the DNS protocol. When the query is complete or has failed, the ares library will invoke *callback*. Completion or failure of the query may happen immediately, or may happen during a later call to `ares_process(3)` or `ares_destroy(3)`.

The callback argument *arg* is copied from the `ares_send` argument *arg*. The callback argument *status* indicates whether the query succeeded and, if not, how it failed. It may have any of the following values:

**ARES\_SUCCESS** The query completed.

### **ARES\_EBADQUERY**

The query buffer was poorly formed (was not long enough for a DNS header or was too long for TCP transmission).

**ARES\_ETIMEOUT** No name servers responded within the timeout period.

### **ARES\_ECONNREFUSED**

No name servers could be contacted.

**ARES\_ENOMEM** Memory was exhausted.

### **ARES\_EDESTRUCTION**

The name service channel *channel* is being destroyed; the query will not be completed.

If the query completed, the callback argument *abuf* points to a result buffer of length *alen*. If the query did not complete, *abuf* will be NULL and *alen* will be 0.

Unless the flag **ARES\_FLAG\_NOCHECKRESP** was set at channel initialization time, `ares_send` will normally ignore responses whose questions do not match the questions in *qbuf*, as well as responses with reply codes of **SERVFAIL**, **NOTIMP**, and **REFUSED**. Unlike other query functions in the ares library, however, `ares_send` does not inspect the header of the reply packet to determine the error status, so a callback status of **ARES\_SUCCESS** does not reflect as much about the response as for other query functions.

## SEE ALSO

`ares_process(3)`

## AUTHOR

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

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**NAME**

ares\_strerror – Get the description of an ares library error code

**SYNOPSIS**

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
const char *ares_strerror(int code, char **memptr)
```

**DESCRIPTION**

The **ares\_strerror** function gets the description of the ares library error code *code*, returning the result as a NUL-terminated C string. A pointer to allocated data necessary to compose the error description may be stored in the variable pointed to by *memptr*. It is the caller's responsibility to invoke **ares\_free\_errmem(3)** with the value of that variable when the error description is no longer needed.

**SEE ALSO**

**ares\_free\_errmem(3)**

**AUTHOR**

Greg Hudson, MIT Information Systems

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## NAME

ares\_fds – Get file descriptors to select on for name service

## SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ares.h>
```

```
struct timeval *ares_timeout(ares_channel channel,  
struct timeval *maxtv, struct timeval *tvbuf)
```

## DESCRIPTION

The **ares\_timeout** function determines the maximum time for which the caller should wait before invoking **ares\_process(3)** to process timeouts. The parameter *maxtv* specifies a existing maximum timeout, or **NULL** if the caller does not wish to apply a maximum timeout. The parameter *tvbuf* must point to a writable buffer of type **struct timeval**. It is valid for *maxtv* and *tvbuf* to have the same value.

If no queries have timeouts pending sooner than the given maximum timeout, **ares\_timeout** returns the value of *maxtv*; otherwise **ares\_timeout** stores the appropriate timeout value into the buffer pointed to by *tvbuf* and returns the value of *tvbuf*.

## SEE ALSO

**ares\_fds(3)**, **ares\_process(3)**

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