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International

EURid attended 4 events and gave 5 presentations during Q2 2016. Together with the European Commission, EURid hosted EuroDIG 2016 in Brussels on 8-10 June 2016. Following the successful 2015 MEAC DNS Study, EURid is now part of a team seeking to study the DNS market in both Latin America and the Caribbean. EURid is responsible for surveying international registrars active in the region and for providing a written section on the global registrar perspective. EURid continues to engage with ICANN staff in order to improve the IDN Fast Track linguist panel process. Simultaneously, EURid continues to chair the ICANN ccNSO Strategy and Operating working group.

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Environmental

“Our objective is to incorporate principles of sustainability into as many business decisions and activities as possible.”

EURid has received confirmation that its EMAS registration has been renewed and that its 2015-2017 Environmental Statement has been approved after having successfully undergone its yearly EMAS audit. The yearly audit serves to assess EURid’s environmental performance with regards to the six environmental core indicators that EMAS has defined. Many efforts have been made to ensure that the events planned in 2016 are fully environmentally compatible.

Top Growth Country

Bulgaria

+7.9%

Q2 2016 vs Q1 2016

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AT A GLANCE
Highlights

2016 Q2 developments

EURid saw a variety of developments during the second quarter of 2016. Highlights include:

**MAY**

**CENTR Jamboree**
EURid had the honour of hosting the 2016 CENTR Jamboree, arranging a multitude of interactive workshops and constructive meetings.

**Europe Day**
EURid made a splash at Europe Day 2016 by handing out prizes and administering an entertaining quiz on everything .eu!

**JUNE**

**.euro TLD in action**
EURid launched the .euro TLD on 1 June 2016 in an ongoing effort to support online multilingualism and to allow users to fully express their identity online.

**EuroDIG**
EURid was the proud host of EuroDIG 2016 in Brussels, Belgium. The event held many lively discussions on Internet Governance and welcomed many keynote speakers, some of those being Günther Oettinger, Megan Richards and Marc Van Wesemael.

**2015 CO₂ Compensation**
To compensate for its 2015 CO₂ emissions, EURid is supporting the Dak Rung Hydropower Project in Vietnam. This renewable energy project is based around the construction of an 8MW hydro plant on the Dak Rung stream in order to generate renewable electricity for both the local population and Vietnam's electrical grid, reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the region and support the development of the local community.

**EURid granted its ISO/IEC 27001 recertification**
In response to its continual pursuit to provide secure, high-quality and trustworthy services to accredited registrars and the general public, EURid has been granted its ISO/IEC 27001 recertification following an audit by BSI, the British Standards Institution.
EURid is the not-for-profit organisation appointed by the European Commission to manage the .eu and .eo top-level domains. The first initiative to establish .eu as a European top-level domain (TLD) was taken in 1999 by the European Council. Subsequently, EURid was appointed in May 2003 as the manager of the .eu registry for the first time. Following a call for expression of interest published in 2013, EURid was re-appointed as the .eu registry manager on 11 April 2014. The new service contract was signed in October 2014. The .eu TLD was added to the root zone of the Internet Domain Name System in May 2005. Technically speaking, .eu has been in existence since then.

Between 7 December 2005 and 6 April 2006, the .eu registry accepted applications for domain names on a limited basis. Only those individuals and organisations holding legal protection for a name within a Member State of the European Union were eligible to apply during that time. This stage of phased registration is referred to as the Sunrise Period.

On 7 April 2006, EURid opened the .eu TLD for general registration on a strictly first-come, first-served basis.

On 1 June 2016, following approval by ICANN and the European Commission, EURid implemented the .eo domain (.eu TLD in Cyrillic) in an effort to enhance online multilingualism and to allow users to fully express their identity online.

EURid’s head office, which is also the regional office for Western Europe, is located just outside of Brussels in Diegem, Belgium. There are three other regional offices located in Pisa, Italy; Prague, the Czech Republic; and Stockholm, Sweden. Each office provides support for registrars and the general public in languages corresponding to their region.

In terms of human resources, there were a total of 55 employees working at EURid’s four offices at the end of Q2 2016.
During Q2 2016, the number of .eu registrations decreased by 46,020 domain names, a net decrease of 1.2%, to 3.82 million. The total number of .eu domain name registered at the end of Q2 represented a decrease of 0.9%, or 36,457 registrations, when compared with the total number at the end of Q2 2015.

By the end of the quarter there were a total of 713 EURid accredited registrars, the top ten registrars accounted for 36.8% of all .eu registrations. During the first quarter, the total number of .eu registrations increased in 14 countries. Bulgaria, Croatia and Latvia all saw growth of more than 3%.

The national ccTLD market in EU countries[^1] increased by 0.1% during Q2 2016, and grew by 2.4% from Q2 2015. Within the EU, the market for gTLD domain names such as .com, .net, .org, .info and .biz grew by 0.1% during Q2 2016 and by 6.2% from Q2 2015, according to statistics from Zooknic.

[^1]: Data from national registry websites was not available for Bulgaria, Cyprus and Malta.
During the second quarter EURid began offering .eu in the Cyrillic script. As a part of this, 1,430 Cyrillic legacy domain names were cloned under the new TLD.

In addition, 780 new domain names were registered under the new TLD, .ею, in June.

Multi-year registrations (MYRs)

Since 7 April 2011, it’s been possible to register .eu domain names for a period of more than one year, otherwise known as multi-year registrations. During Q2 2016, 14,298 multi-year registrations were made. This represented 7.80% of all new registrations in the quarter.

During Q1 2016 and Q2 2016 the number of MYR increased thanks to two promotions launched by EURid, the latter one – the 10-10-10 campaign – to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the opening of the .eu registration.
New registrations, deletions and renewals

There were 183 223 new .eu registrations in Q2 2016. The number of new registrations was 17% lower than that during the same months in previous years.

During Q2 2016, there were 231 831 deletions. A domain name headed for deletion is quarantined for 40 days after the date specified in the deletion request. It can be reactivated during that period only at the request of the former registrant. The quarantine period is a safeguard to prevent domain names from being deleted by mistake. The deleted name becomes available for general registration after the quarantine period.

When combined, the new registrations and deletions for Q2 resulted in a net loss of around 500 domain names per day. The renewal rate during Q2 was 81%.

The month of April sees a spike in deletions each year, as many domain names come up for renewal then. This can be attributed to the fact that .eu was officially launched during the month of April. Over time, deletions have become more evenly spread out over the year.

In Q2, the net growth per month was slightly lower when compared to that in Q1 2016.
### Renewal rates by month

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>81%</td>
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<td>Jun</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>78%</td>
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<td>Aug</td>
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<td>80%</td>
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<td>75%</td>
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<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<td>Oct</td>
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<td>Nov</td>
<td>77%</td>
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<td>81%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Annual average
- Jan to Dec: 80.0%
- Jan: 77.7%
- Feb: 81.6%
- Mar: 79.5%
- Apr: 80.5%
- May: 80.1%
- Jun: 78.4%
- Jul: 78.6%
- Aug: 81.1%
- Sep: 79.3%

Please note that these figures might change until 40 days after the end of the month. Therefore, numbers of the previous quarter may be adjusted.

### 81% Renewal Rate

During Q2 the average renewal rate was 81%
The registrants

The countries in the top ten list account for 85.3% of all .eu registrations. German residents have by far the most .eu domain name registrations, followed by residents of the Netherlands and France.

**Top ten countries with the most .eu registrations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1,061,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>492,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>342,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>234,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>187,775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>162,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>162,165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>91,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>81,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>8,114</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table on the left is based on country codes. Some EU Member State territories (such as Gibraltar, the Åland Islands and Guadeloupe) have their own country codes, which is why they are included in the list.
Popularity of .eu compared to ccTLD registrations

Growth by country, quarter over quarter and year over year

By the end of Q2 2016, .eu domain name registrations had increased in 14 countries. As shown above, the .eu domain became especially popular in Bulgaria, Croatia and Latvia.
The number of .eu registrations per 1,000 inhabitants varies from a high around 40 in Malta to around 1 in Romania. In general, countries with a large number of ccTLDs per inhabitant also have a large number of .eu registrations per inhabitant.

The countries with the fastest relative growth year over year were Iceland (36%), Cyprus (28%) and Croatia (22%).
EURid registrars can be located outside the EU. Categorising registrations by the country of the registrar shows many similarities with the categorisation by the country of the registrant (see “Top ten countries with most .eu registrations” table).

The main difference is that the USA, Denmark and Canada are on the top ten list based on the country of the registrar but not based on the country of the registrant, while the opposite holds true for Belgium, Austria and Spain. In Q2 2016, the countries in the top ten list of registrations based on the country of the registrar accounted for 85.6% of all .eu registrations.
.eu registrations by country of registrar, Q2 2016

A EURid accredited registrar managed an average of 5,351 .eu domain names during Q2.

MARKET SHARE of top 10, top 100 and top 500 registrars

Top 10
- 37.2% Q2 2015
- 36.8% Q2 2016

Top 100
- 86.3% Q2 2015
- 86.6% Q2 2016

Top 500
- 99.6% Q2 2015
- 99.6% Q2 2016

The top 100 EURid accredited registrars manage about 87% of all registrations which means that many registrars are small businesses. Compared with the previous year, the market share of the top 10 and 500 registrars has increased while the market share of the top 10 has decreased.
Domain name disputes

To protect intellectual property rights, an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) policy was established for domain name disputes. This policy is described in more detail in EC Regulation 874/2004. The dispute resolution procedure is administered by the Czech Arbitration Court, an independent body offering its services in 23 EU languages.

The ADR process for domain name disputes is similar to the dispute processes offered by most major top-level domain registries.

On 27 June 2012, the Czech Arbitration Court (CAC) and EURid announced a special fee reduction to make the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process even more accessible to the European public. The cost of a basic proceeding was cut by 50%. The reduction was continued for the fifth year in a row in January 2016. This move comes in response to recommendations made as a result of an external audit of the ADR service prepared for EURid.

A total of 22 alternative dispute resolution cases were filed during Q2 2016. The Czech Arbitration Court terminated 18 ADR during Q2, nine of which resulted in the domain name being transferred to the complainant.