

EURID'S QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Fourth Quarter 2013



www.eurid.eu

.eu
Your European Identity

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From the General Manager

In the face of a changing Internet industry we at EURid understand that, Internet governance and new gTLDs notwithstanding, there is one thing that will not change: Internet users will always want to be able to express themselves online in their native tongue and through platforms and TLDs that are accessible, easy to operate and that inspire feelings of trust, quality and security.

.eu has always had the reputation of being a quality and trustworthy domain, throughout 2013 we have worked, together with our registrars, to consolidate and even further develop these aspects of the .eu brand.

Our actions include our recent certification for the ISO 27001 information security standard, because we believe that respecting and maintaining the security of the information that we receive from .eu domain name holders and other stakeholders is vital.

Similarly, we began a pilot programme to check the quality of the data in the .eu WHOIS database in Q1, because .eu registrations should be transparent and .eu registrants contactable and accountable.

In Q2, we underscored our commitment to understanding and meeting the needs of our end users by expanding our membership to include five new board members, all focused on the European Internet user in their own right. The new members include: the Confederation of Computer User Associations, the European Communities Trade Mark Association, the European Multi-Channel Online Trade Association, the Interactive Advertising Bureau Europe and the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

And in Q4, we produced a report, together with UNESCO, on the state of multilingualism at the Internet, supported by strategies to improve online multilingualism at a global level.

These are only a handful of the steps we took in 2013 to further strengthen .eu for the end user, in a technical sense, but also as a brand within the domain name market.

European Internet users and our community of .eu registrars will continue to be our focus in 2014, and projects are already underway that will further underline that .eu is the domain of choice for Europe-focused individuals looking to establish their presence on the World Wide Web.



Internet users will always want to be able to express themselves...through TLDs that are accessible, easy to operate and that inspire feelings of trust, quality and security.”



.eu's General Manager,
Marc Van Wesemael

Update

The .eu top-level domain (TLD) and its registry EURid saw a variety of developments during the fourth quarter of 2013. Highlights include:

CENTR award for the EURid Co-funded Marketing Programme

We were very proud to be presented the first ever CENTR award for Marketing and Communication on 3 October for our Co-funded Marketing Programme.

Since its launch in 2009, the programme has continued to generate interest from other registries, so much so that we gave a presentation on its achievements at the recent ICANN meeting in Buenos Aires during the ccNSO constituency meeting.

A total of 94 proposals were submitted in 2013 and more than 160 between 2009 and 2012.

IDN World Report

This year's IDN World Report was once more produced in partnership with UNESCO and, new for 2013, also with the cooperation from Verisign.

Through the analysis of IDN data in the .com, .net and .eu registers, and a series of case studies of IDN country code top-level domain experiences, the report examines the state multilingualism on the Internet and discusses strategies to improve online multilingualism at a global level.

A report is available for download at link.eurid.eu/insights.

.eu CO₂ neutral

To calculate the emissions of our offices during 2012, we audited our paper and energy consumption for heating, air conditioning, transport and the use and end-of-life phases of the average .eu domain name.

Based on the audit review, performed by an independent third party, our carbon footprint emissions for 2012 were 11.13 kg CO₂ eq. per .eu domain name.

To compensate for these emissions, EURid purchased verified CO₂ credits that will contribute to the construction of 75 wind turbines in the region of Gujarat, India.

.eu Identity iPad® app

EURid's new iPad® app .eu Identity was launched in November. The app focuses on the Internet industry and offers practical, expert advice to entrepreneurs looking to build their online presence. It also features inspiring success stories about SMEs that are blazing a trail across Europe with their .eu websites. Download the app at link.eurid.eu/app.

Ongoing online marketing

To further generate awareness of the .eu top-level domain, we experimented with so-called Real Time Bidding for the the last banner campaign of 2013 which ran in 11 EU Countries.

Furthermore, at the request of numerous registrars, we once more ran our Christmas competition, to great success in Greece, the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom in particular. The winners were notified on 24 December and went on to enjoy a particularly special holiday season.

Registrar and industry meetings

EURid attended 5 meetings in Q4 2013. Presentations were given at the 50th CENTR General Assembly, the 30th CENTR Administrative Workshop, the IGF meeting in Bali and the ccNSO session during the ICANN 48 meeting in Buenos Aires.



About EURid and .eu

EURid is the not-for-profit organisation appointed by the European Commission to operate the .eu top-level domain. 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 operator of the .eu registry. The actual service contract was signed in October 2004. 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.

The three organisations operating the national registries for Belgium, Italy and Sweden founded EURid in April 2003. Later, the organisations operating the TLDs for the Czech Republic and Slovenia also became members. The European Coordinating Council of the Internet Society (ISOC) joined EURid in 2006, followed by the BusinessEurope organisation in 2007. In 2013, the registry further expanded its membership to include the Confederation of Computer User Associations (CECUA), the European Communities Trade Mark Association (ECTA), the European Multi-Channel Online Trade Association (EMOTA), the Interactive Advertising Bureau Europe (IAB Europe) and the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (UEAPME).

EURid's head office, which is also the regional office for Western Europe, is located just outside 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 local to its region.

International

During the fourth quarter of 2013, EURid participated in the following events:

- CENTR Board and CEOs meeting with ICANN CEO, Brussels, Belgium, 1 October
- 50 CENTR General Assembly, Brussels, Belgium, 2-3 October
- Internet Governance Forum, Bali, Indonesia, 21-25 October
- 5 CENTR Security Workshop, Vienna, Austria, 28 October
- 30 CENTR Administrative Workshop, Florence, Italy, 7 November
- ICANN 48, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 18 – 21 November.

EURid presentations were given at the 50th CENTR General Assembly - where we were nominated in the Research and Security categories and awarded the first CENTR Marketing & Communication award for our Co-funded Marketing Programme - the 30th CENTR Administrative Workshop and the ccNSO session during the ICANN 48 meeting in Buenos Aires.

An International Relations section was added to our public website on 22 October 2013. The section, in the 24 official EU languages, lists our engagement in the international arena, including our participation in and chairmanship of working groups.

Within the ICANN context, EURid was active at the following levels:

ICANN strategy for Europe

Giovanni Seppia participated as a panellist in the “Regional strategy for Europe” session on 20 November, during the ICANN 48 meeting. He reiterated the importance of taking on board the various stakeholders’ wishes, setting priorities against resources and coordinating the European strategy with the main ICANN Strategy Plan.

ccNSO Strategy and Operating Plan working group

On 17 November 2013, Giovanni Seppia participated in the ccNSO Strategy and Operating Plan working group, where it was decided to continue to engage in the ICANN strategy and operational planning exercise.

The .eu domain

During Q4 2013, the number of .eu registrations increased by 9 502 domain names to 3.71 million, a net increase of 0.3%. The total number of .eu domain names registered at the end of Q4 represented an increase of 0.2%, or 6 138 registrations, when compared with the total number at the end of Q4 2012.

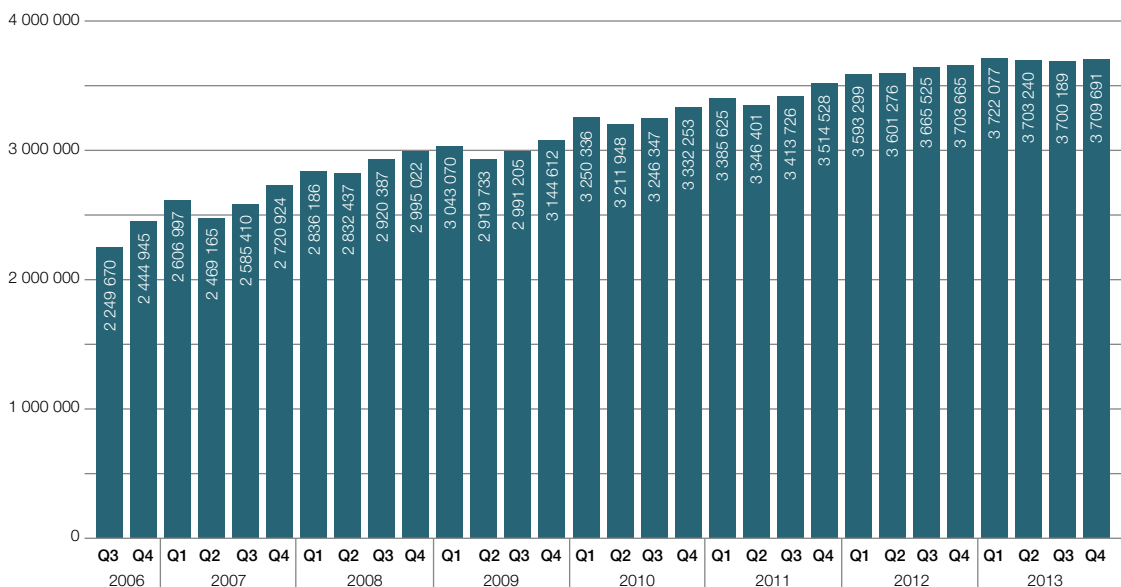
The number of Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) in the .eu portfolio at the end of Q4 2013 was 51 996, or 1.4% of all registrations. The number of IDNs as a percentage of new registrations is at the same level as that of other registries. The number of DNSSEC-signed names was 241 982, or 6.5% of all registrations.

By the end of the quarter there were a total of 752 .eu accredited registrars, the top ten registrars accounted for 36.8% of all .eu registrations.

During the fourth quarter, the total number of .eu registrations increased in 19 of the 28 EU Member States. Croatia, Bulgaria, Malta and Latvia all saw growth of more than 3%.

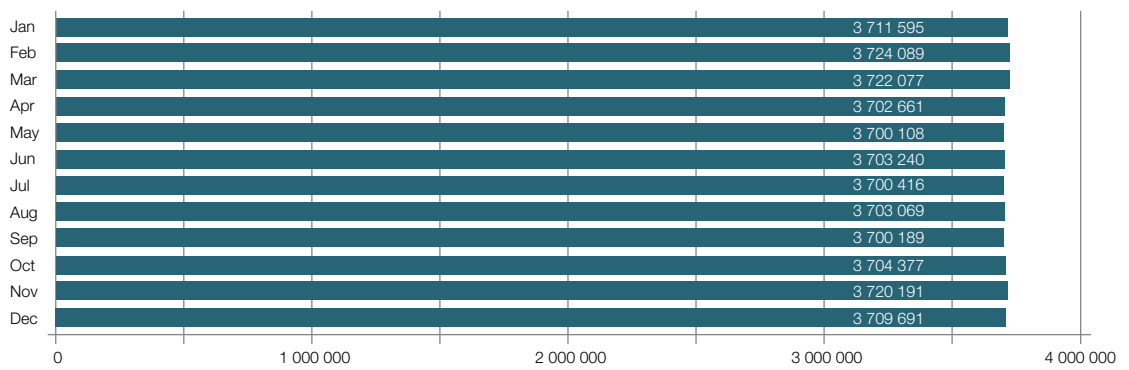
The national ccTLD market in EU countries¹ increased by 0.7% during Q4 2013, and grew by 3.9% from Q4 2012. Within the EU, the market for gTLD domain names, such as .com, .net, .org, .info and .biz, grew by 1.0% during Q4 2013 and by 4.7% from Q4 2012, according to statistics from Zooknic.

Total .eu domain name registrations by quarter

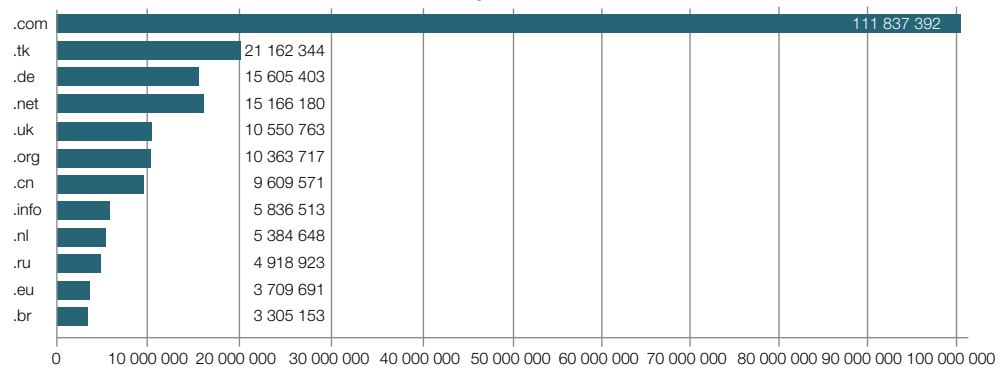


¹Data from national registry websites was not available for Bulgaria, Cyprus and Malta.

Total .eu registrations by month, 2013



World top 12 TLDs



Numbers are for latest available data. .cn is now bigger than .info.

.eu Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs), Q4 2013

Quarter	IDNs	Percentage
Q4 2009	56 036	1.78%
Q1 2010	62 609	1.93%
Q2 2010	65 109	2.03%
Q3 2010	67 074	2.07%
Q4 2010	57 826	1.74%
Q1 2011	56 961	1.68%
Q2 2011	58 424	1.75%
Q3 2011	58 332	1.71%
Q4 2011	56 699	1.61%
Q1 2012	58 455	1.63%
Q2 2012	60 681	1.70%
Q3 2012	61 752	1.70%
Q4 2012	58 211	1.60%
Q1 2013	57 157	1.50%
Q2 2013	57 910	1.60%
Q3 2013	58 144	1.60%
Q4 2013	51 996	1.40%

Multi-year registrations (MYRs)

Since 7 April 2011 it has been possible to register .eu names with a registration period of more than one year. During Q4 2013, 5 585 new registrations with a registration period longer than one year were made. This represented 2.9% of all new registrations in Q4.

The number of MYRs registered in Q2 2011 was particularly high due to the promotional offer EURid ran following the MYR launch. While the offer ran, registrars got 50% discount on .eu domain names they registered for two, five or ten years.

	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013
MYRs	22 931	5 295	6 218	6 297	5 599	4 915	7 184	6 466	6 809	5 842	5 585
Percentage	12.3%	2.8%	2.4%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	3.2%	3.1%	3.4%	3.6%	2.9%

By far the most common registration length for MYRs has been two years, 64% of the MYRs in Q4 were made for two years. Other common registrations lengths were three years (17%), five years (11%) and ten years (4%).

New registrations, deletions and renewals

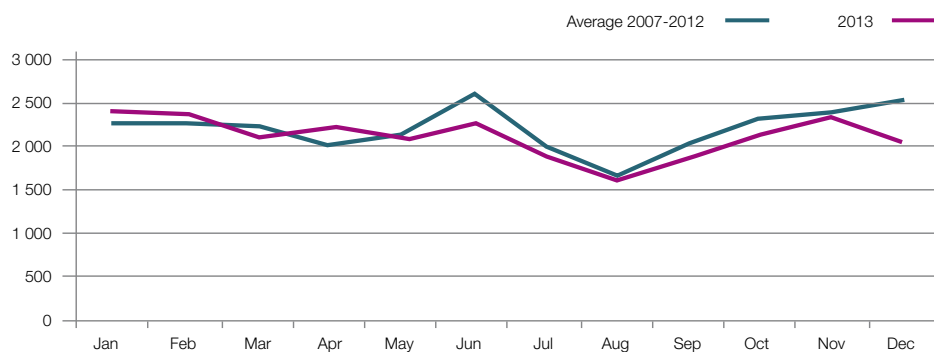
There were 200 034 new .eu registrations in Q4 2013. The number of new registrations was 10% lower than during the same months in previous years.

During Q4 2013, there were 190 202 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 Q4 showed a net increase of about 30 names per day. The renewal rate during Q4 was 76%.

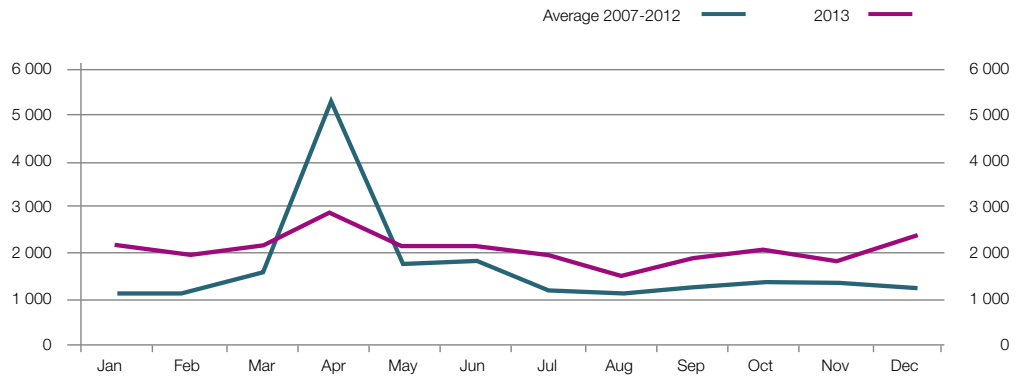
New .eu registrations per day



The number of new registrations per day was 10% lower than during the same months in previous years.

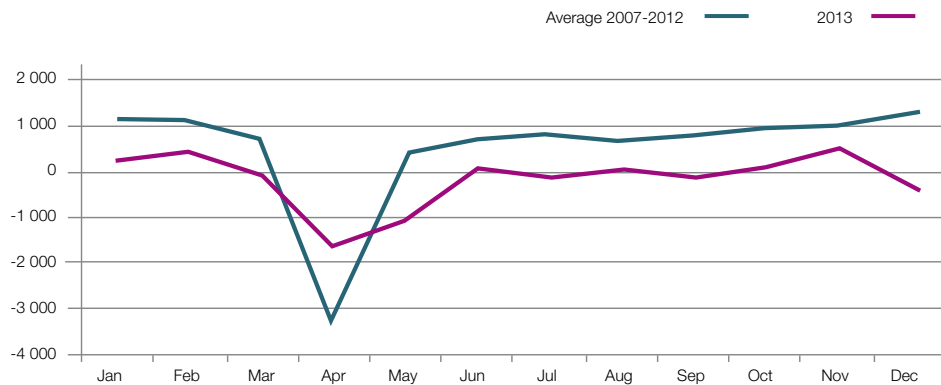


Deletions per day



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

Net growth per day



As stated above, Q4 saw a net increase of about 30 names per day.

Renewal rates by percentage

Month	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
January	81%	78%	76%	77%	78%	79%	100%
February	79%	80%	78%	79%	78%	80%	100%
March	77%	79%	79%	81%	79%	83%	99%
April	88%	86%	85%	87%	84%	84%	81%
May	81%	82%	80%	83%	80%	81%	82%
June	81%	84%	83%	79%	69%	80%	86%
July	79%	82%	81%	81%	80%	82%	84%
August	82%	80%	80%	79%	81%	82%	80%
September	79%	80%	82%	78%	79%	82%	83%
October	76%	79%	79%	78%	78%	82%	82%
November	79%	81%	78%	77%	79%	79%	83%
December	74%	81%	78%	75%	79%	80%	84%
Annual average	81.0%	82.9%	81.6%	81.7%	80.0%	82.6%	81.9%

During Q4 the average renewal rate was 76%.

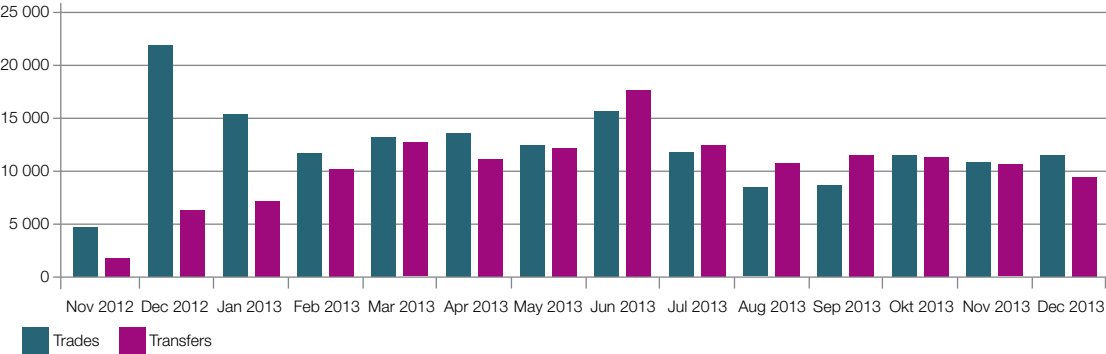


Trades and transfers

A new transfer procedure using an authorisation code has been in place since 21 November 2012. Since that date the old trade and transfer procedure has ceased to exist. During Q4 2013,

34 214 trades and 31 568 transfers were carried out. The number of trades was 17% higher and the number of transfers, 10% lower when compared with Q3.

Completed trades and transfers



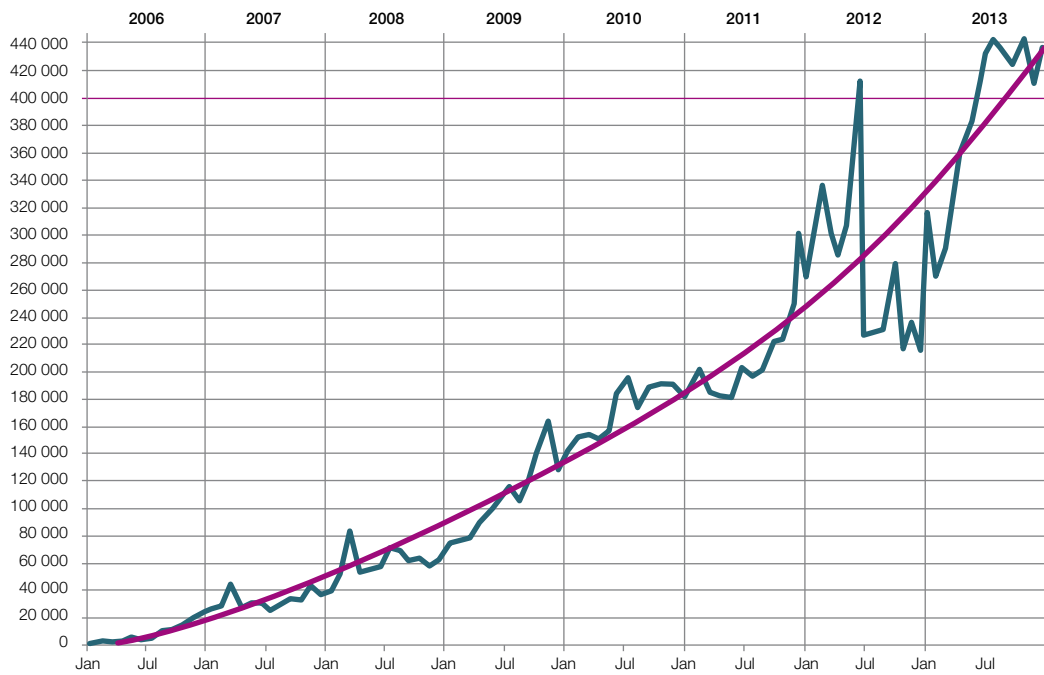
Since the introduction of the new transfer procedure in November 2012, comparisons with old numbers are not meaningful since the definition of a transfer has changed.

DNS queries per minute

One method of determining the actual use of .eu domain names is by measuring DNS queries to the .eu name servers. The graph shows the

average number of queries per minute for each month. The number of DNS queries has grown steadily since the launch of .eu.

Average number of DNS queries per minute



Overall, the trend line shows a steady increase in the number of DNS queries, indicating an increased use of .eu domain names.



Domain name disputes

To protect intellectual property rights, an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) policy was established for .eu 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 24 EU languages.

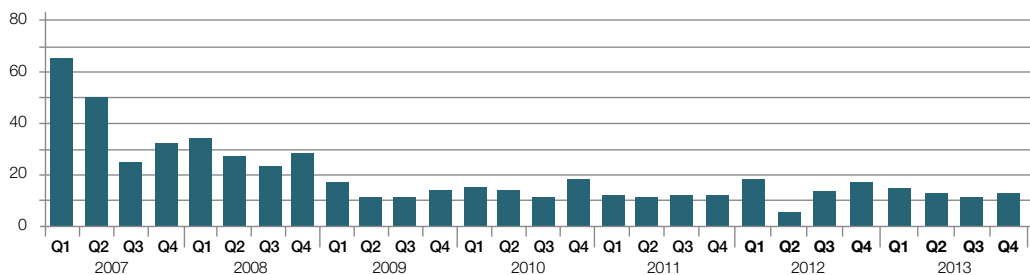
The ADR process for .eu disputes is similar to the dispute processes offered by most major top-level domain registries.

On 27 June 2012, the Czech Arbitration Court (CAC) and .eu registry EURid announced a special fee reduction to make the .eu Alternative Dispute

Resolution (ADR) process even more accessible to the European public. The cost of a basic proceeding was cut by 50% and the new fee structure was valid for six months from 1 July 2012. This move came in response to recommendations made in an external audit of the .eu ADR service prepared for EURid. The .eu ADR procedure is functioning well but, according to the audit, a fee reduction would further raise the visibility of the service and improve access.

During Q4 2013 EURid decided, together with the CAC, to continue to support the fee reduction of the .eu ADR.

Domain name disputes filed by quarter

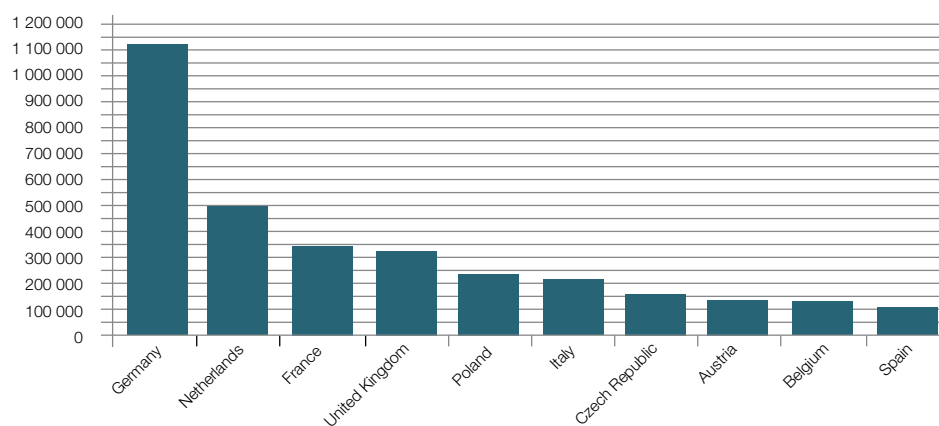


A total of 13 alternative dispute resolution cases were filed during Q4 2013, compared with 17 during Q3 2012. The Czech Arbitration Court published 11 .eu ADR decisions during Q4. All of these resulted in the domain name being transferred to the complainant.

The registrants

The countries in the top-ten list account for 88.2% 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 most .eu registrations





Total number of .eu domain names by country of registrant, Q4 2013

Country	Total names	Country	Total names
Åland Islands	271	Ireland	30 109
Austria	142 561	Italy	215 196
Belgium	133 142	Latvia	6 979
Bulgaria	25 226	Lithuania	20 973
Croatia	4 016	Luxembourg	14 630
Cyprus	14 807	Malta	11 155
Czech Republic	152 169	Martinique	147
Denmark	33 802	Netherlands	497 821
Estonia	18 003	Poland	235 186
Finland	15 355	Portugal	12 537
France	345 372	Reunion	353
French Guiana	60	Romania	24 185
Germany	1 118 267	Slovakia	40 397
Gibraltar	1 286	Slovenia	11 476
Greece	43 086	Spain	104 916
Guadeloupe	449	Sweden	68 285
Hungary	43 451	United Kingdom	324 192

The table above 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 with ccTLD registrations, Q4 2013

Country	.eu/1000	ccTLD/1000
Netherlands	29.7	320.9
Luxembourg	27.2	147.2
Malta	26.5	n/a
Cyprus	17.1	n/a
Austria	16.9	144.0
Czech Republic	14.5	104.6
Germany	13.9	193.8
Estonia	13.6	55.5
Belgium	11.9	128.8
Slovakia	7.5	56.4
Sweden	7.1	140.8
Lithuania	7.1	54.3
EU	6.7	80.4
Ireland	6.6	42.1
Poland	6.1	63.7

Country	.eu/1000	ccTLD/1000
Denmark	6.0	222.9
Slovenia	5.6	53.8
France	5.3	41.4
United Kingdom	5.1	165.1
Hungary	4.4	64.4
Greece	3.9	37.8
Italy	3.6	44.1
Bulgaria	3.5	n/a
Latvia	3.4	53.2
Finland	2.8	62.0
Spain	2.2	36.3
Romania	1.2	35.7
Portugal	1.2	57.6
Croatia	0.9	19.2

The figures above show the number of domain names per 1 000 inhabitants at the end of Q4 2013. They are based on population data from Eurostat and ccTLD information from national registries.

Growth by country, quarter over quarter and year over year

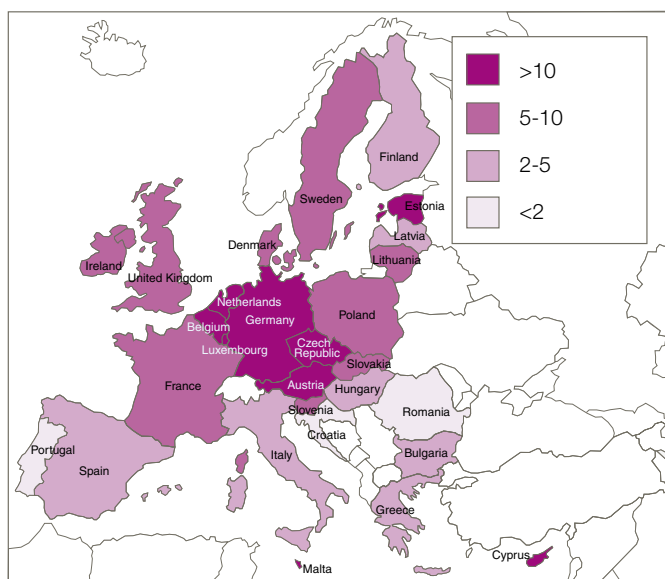
Country	Q4 2013 vs Q3 2013	Q4 2013 vs Q4 2012
Austria	2.3%	13.8%
Belgium	0.7%	2.3%
Bulgaria	10.4%	15.6%
Croatia	31.8%	N/A
Cyprus	0.2%	4.8%
Czech Republic	-0.1%	-1.1%
Denmark	-1.4%	-5.4%
Estonia	0.6%	9.7%
Finland	-3.8%	-3.7%
France	0.4%	1.6%
Germany	-0.8%	-1.8%
Greece	2.1%	7.4%
Hungary	-0.7%	-1.0%
Ireland	1.1%	9.0%

Country	Q4 2013 vs Q3 2013	Q4 2013 vs Q4 2012
Italy	0.6%	-0.8%
Latvia	3.0%	9.7%
Lithuania	-1.1%	-4.6%
Luxembourg	0.2%	-13.5%
Malta	3.8%	18.5%
Netherlands	1.7%	3.4%
Poland	0.8%	-0.9%
Portugal	-2.2%	-5.7%
Romania	-4.5%	-10.6%
Slovakia	2.1%	5.6%
Slovenia	1.6%	2.8%
Spain	1.1%	-0.2%
Sweden	1.0%	-0.4%
United Kingdom	-1.1%	-5.0%

By the end of Q4 2013, .eu domain name registrations had increased in 19 EU countries. As shown above, the .eu domain became especially popular in Croatia, Bulgaria, Malta and Latvia.

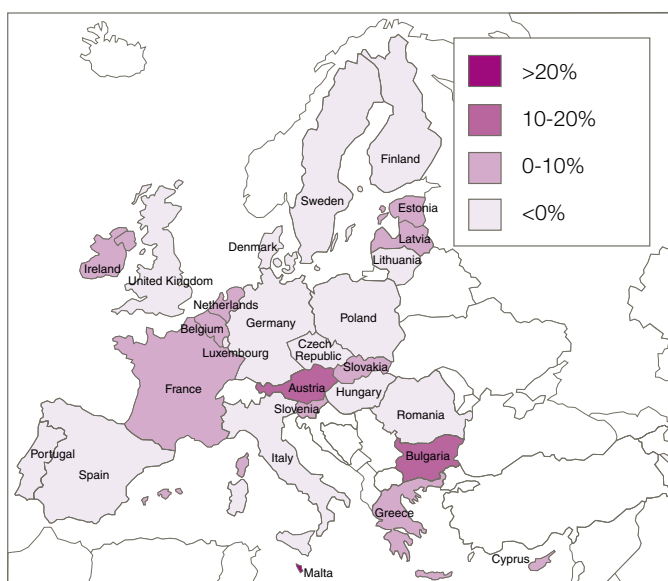
.eu domain names per 1 000 inhabitants, Q4 2013

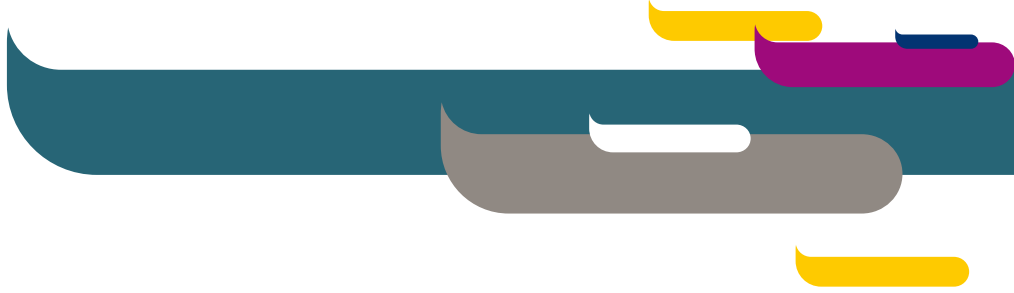
The number of .eu registrations per 1 000 inhabitants varies from a high of 30 in the Netherlands and around 1 in Romania, Portugal and Croatia. In general, countries with a large number of ccTLDs per inhabitant also have a large number of .eu registrations per inhabitant.



Growth by country, Q4 2013 compared with Q4 2012

The countries with the fastest relative growth year over year were Malta (18%), Bulgaria (16%) and Austria (14%). Croatia is excluded from this comparison as .eu registrations in this country have only been possible since Q3 2013.



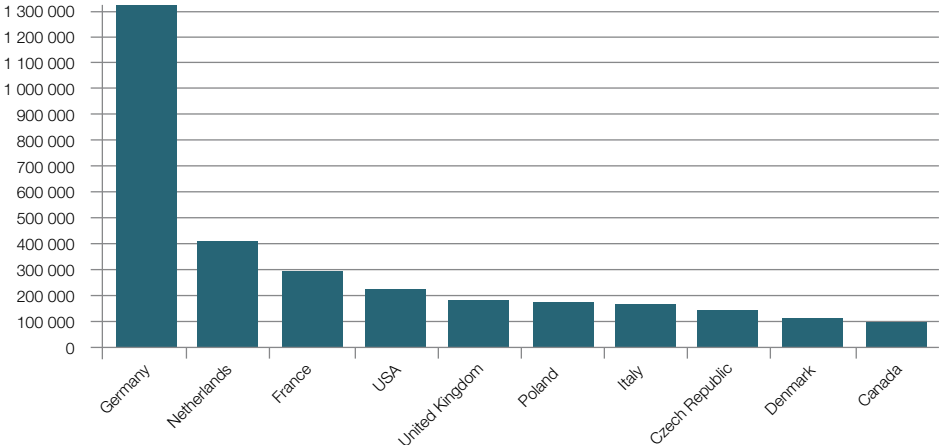


The registrars

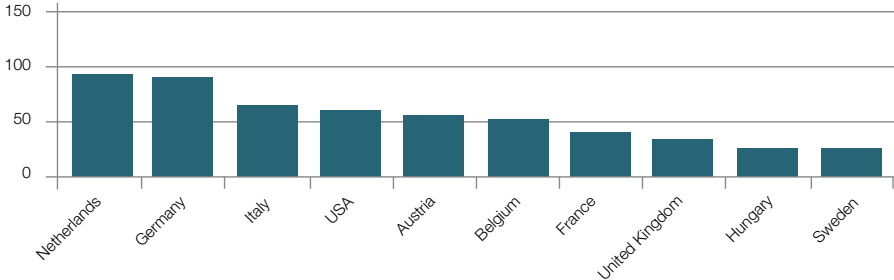
.eu registrars can be located outside the EU. Categorising registrations by country of registrar shows many similarities with the categorisation by country of registrant (see previous table Top ten countries with most .eu registrations). The main difference is that the USA, Canada and Denmark are on the top

ten list based on country of registrar but not based on country of registrant, while the opposite holds true for Belgium, Austria and Spain. In Q4 2013, the countries in the top ten list of registrations based on country of registrar accounted for 84.2% of all .eu registrations.

Top ten countries based on registrations by country of registrar



Top ten countries by number of .eu registrars



.eu registrations by country of registrar, Q4 2013

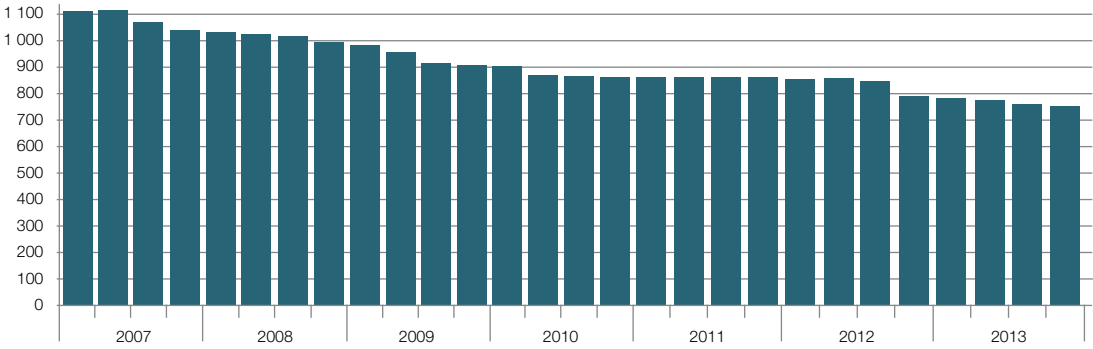
Country	Names managed	Number of registrars
Anguilla	193	1
Australia	20 773	7
Austria	57 495	55
Bahamas	13 356	1
Barbados	163	1
Belgium	74 010	52
Bulgaria	616	2
Canada	94 978	24
Cayman Islands		1
China	1 008	5
Croatia	2 852	4
Cyprus	10 294	2
Czech Republic	142 960	16
Denmark	108 863	16
Estonia	11 215	2
Finland	4 438	6
France	294 597	40
Germany	1 312 964	90
Greece	39 538	13
Hong Kong	5	1
Hungary	26 993	26
Ireland	8 746	6
Israel	645	3
Italy	174 638	65
Japan	260	2

Country	Names managed	Number of registrars
Korea	696	5
Latvia	1 135	3
Liechtenstein	139	1
Lithuania	16 913	4
Luxembourg	36 090	4
Malaysia	161	1
Malta	85	1
Monaco	9 646	1
Netherlands	408 807	92
Norway	36 086	4
Poland	181 510	17
Portugal	821	5
Romania	12 186	10
Russia	19	1
Seychelles	68 415	1
Singapore	549	1
Slovakia	21 859	11
Slovenia	2 610	2
Spain	46 853	23
Sweden	44 724	26
Switzerland	13 011	3
Taiwan	154	1
United Kingdom	185 300	34
USA	219 678	60

A .eu accredited registrar managed an average of 4 932 .eu domain names during Q4.

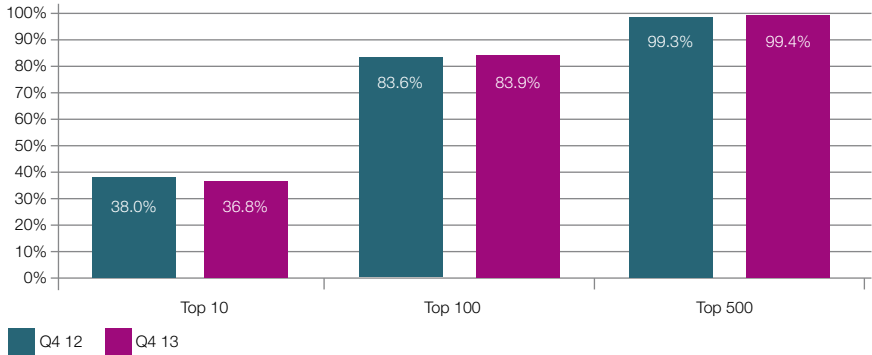


Total number of .eu accredited registrars by quarter



At the end of Q4, there were 752 .eu accredited registrars.

Market share of top 10, top 100 and top 500 registrars



The top 100 .eu accredited registrars manage about 84% of all registrations which means that many registrars are small businesses. Compared with the previous year, the market share of the top 10 registrars has decreased while the market share of the top 100 and 500 registrars has increased.

Environmental responsibility

.eu's operations are the most environmentally responsible of any TLD in Europe. On 23 May 2012, EURid became the first European TLD registry to be registered by the EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS).

EMAS is a voluntary management tool for companies and other organisations to evaluate, report and improve their environmental performance. This scheme helps companies optimise their production processes, reduce environmental impacts and use resources more efficiently. EURid's EMAS registration number is BE-VL-000016.

Objectives

EURid's environmental policy is based on the principle of "reduce, reuse and recycle" and provides a framework for making sustainable choices. The EMAS registration formalises this approach and demonstrates our public commitment to further improving .eu's environmental footprint.

Operating .eu in a sustainable manner is guided by the following objectives:

- Reduce carbon footprint by cutting greenhouse gas emissions through selecting green suppliers
- Minimise waste and the impact of its disposal
- Adopt energy and water-saving measures
- Implement a green corporate car policy
- Use products and materials more efficiently
- Communicate, both externally and internally, environmental goals and the measures being taken to achieve them
- Disclose environmental best practice to other Internet industry stakeholders.

“Internet-related companies like EURid must look after the environment and compensate for their environmental impact as much as possible.”



Q4 2013 activities

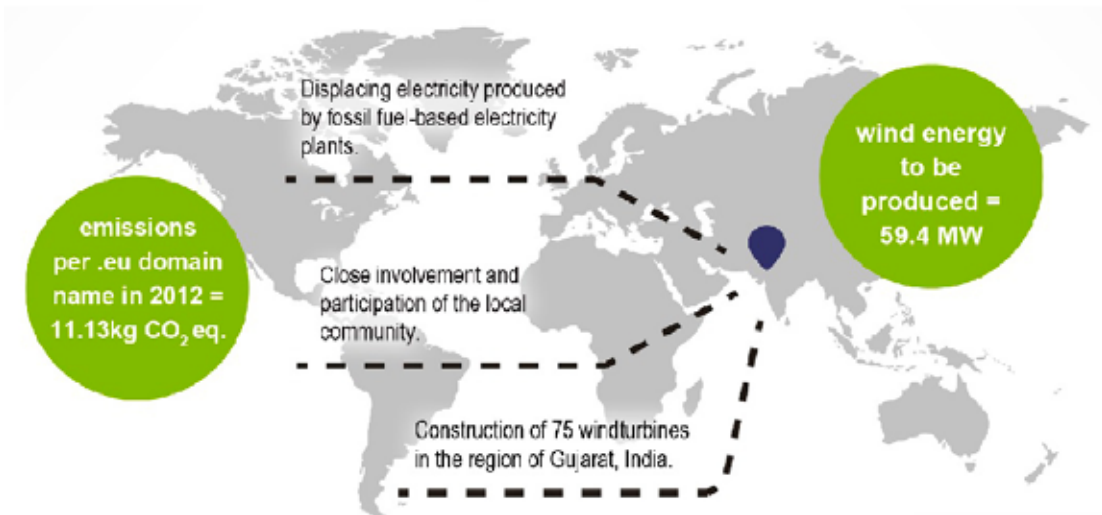
We had our 2012 CO₂ footprint evaluated and validated in October 2013. The exercise, which covered all four EURid offices, assessed paper use, energy consumption for heating, air conditioning and transport, and the use and end-of-life phases of the average .eu domain name.

Based on the audit review, performed by the independent RINA Services S.p.A., EURid's carbon footprint emissions for 2012 were calculated at 11.13 kg CO₂ eq. per .eu domain name.

To compensate for these emissions, we purchased verified CO₂ credits that will contribute towards the construction of 75 wind turbines in the region of Gujarat, India.

For more information about .eu's sustainable operations, visit link.eurid.eu/green.

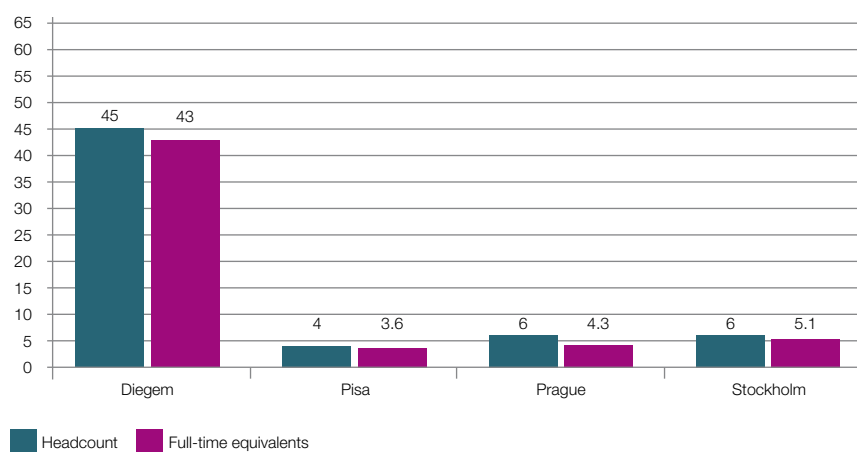
In November 2013, EURid got audited for its CO₂ emissions of 2012 by RINA Services S.p.A., an independent third party with expertise in CO₂ emission calculation.



Human resources

There were a total of 61 employees working at EURid's four offices at the end of Q4 2013.

Headcount per office, Q4 2013



Efforts to optimise HR translated into the non-replacement of staff members on leave and the redistribution of their functions amongst other employees.

The management team



Marc Van Wesemael

General Manager

Marc Van Wesemael has worked in the telecom and software industries as a consultant and as a manager in software engineering, general sales and marketing. For ten years he was the Managing Director of not-for-profit DNS Belgium, the registry for .be. He has an MBA from Lessius Management School (Antwerp) in collaboration with Northwestern University (USA) and a degree in electronic engineering from the University of Ghent.



Geo Van Langenhove

Legal Manager

Geo Van Langenhove joined EURid as Legal Manager in January 2011. Previously he worked for companies in various technology fields, such as Nuance Communications, EuroFiber and IMEC, where his practice focused on intellectual property, contracts and litigation. He graduated from the Universities of Brussels and Leuven, College of Law. He also holds an advanced masters degree in intellectual property rights from the University of Brussels.



Bart Foutrel

Finance Manager

Bart Foutrel worked as an advisor on Global Compliance Service at PricewaterhouseCoopers before joining EURid in early 2008. He has a masters degree in business sciences from Lessius Hogeschool, where he focused on finance and insurance plus accountancy and tax law.



Els Verstappen

Human Resources Manager

Els Verstappen held a variety of HR roles at Scarlet, a telecommunications company, before joining EURid. Most recently, as HR Business Advisor, she was responsible for HR support for line management, selection and recruitment, among other things. Before working at Scarlet, she was employed at KPN Belgium and at a European non-governmental organisation.



Peter Janssen

Technical Manager

Before Peter Janssen joined EURid, he was technical director for the Belgian registry .be. He was responsible for that domain's liberalisation in December 2000. He has a masters degree in computer science from the University of Leuven.



Dirk Jumpertz

Security Manager

Before assuming the role of Security Manager, Dirk Jumpertz joined EURid to oversee operations and systems management. Previously, he worked in IT management and system consulting at several organisations, including Scarlet and Atos. He is a graduate of the University of West Flanders with a masters in Industrial Engineering.



Giovanni Seppia

External Relations Manager

Giovanni Seppia previously worked at ICANN as European Regional Liaison. Prior to that, he was General Manager at CENTR. He has also served as head of external relations for the Italian Registry (ITT CNR) and has three years' experience in various roles at the European Commission.

The board and strategic committee



Pierre Verbaeten

Chairman of the Board

Pierre Verbaeten was professor of the Computer Science department at the University of Leuven until October 2010. For more than ten years he was chairman of this department, the largest in Belgium with more than 30 professors and 170 researchers. He led the DistriNet research group, which conducts basic and applied research in computer networks, security, middleware, multi-agent systems and embedded systems; the group numbers more than 70 researchers. In 1989 Prof Verbaeten became the first manager of the .be registry, which was transferred to the not-for-profit organisation DNS Belgium on 1 January 2000.



Tomáš Maršálek

Director of the Board

Mr Maršálek is an independent IT consultant and member of the CZ.NIC collegium, a body associated with CZ.NIC, the registry for the .cz top-level domain. Previously he was a chairman of CZ.NIC and the Managing Director of the Czech Neutral Internet eXchange node (NIX.CZ). After graduating from the Czech Technical University in Prague with a masters degree in radio electronic science, he began his professional career at AT&T. Mr Maršálek is a cofounder of GTS, the biggest alternative telecommunications operator in the Czech Republic. He also helped establish the IP network in Central and Eastern Europe on behalf of British Telecom.



Marko Bonč

Director of the Board

Marko Bonč received a bachelor of science degree in mathematics (1981) and a masters in computer science (1988) from the University of Ljubljana. Between 1981 and 1992 he worked as a researcher and project leader in the field of computer networks. Since 1992 he has been the Director of Arnes, the Academic and Research Network of Slovenia, which is also the registry for the Slovenian top-level domain, .si.



Domenico Laforenza

Director of the Board

Dr Domenico Laforenza is the Director of the Institute for Informatics and Telematics of the Italian National Research Council in Pisa. He is also the head of nic.it, the registry for Italy's .it TLD. In June 2011 he was nominated as the Vice-President of the European Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics (ERCIM). Dr Laforenza also serves in the "Future Internet Forum of the Member and Associate States" as Italian representative appointed by the Italian Ministry of Research, Education and University. He holds a doctoral degree in Computer Science from the University of Pisa.



Christopher Wilkinson

Director of the Board

Christopher Wilkinson is the Chairman of the Internet Society European Coordinating Council. He has degrees in natural sciences and economics and experience in international affairs. His working life spans several international organisations and the European Union. He was closely associated with the creation of ICANN and the GAC. He initiated the .eu top-level domain.



Philippe de Buck

Member of the Strategic Committee

Philippe de Buck received a doctorate in law from the University of Leuven. After a post-graduate course in tax studies at the Ecole Supérieure de Sciences Fiscales (ICHEC) in Brussels, he joined Agoria, the Belgian multisectoral federation for the technology industry. There he filled various functions until 2001, when he left the CEO position at the federation to join Business Europe in the role of Secretary General. Mr de Buck is also a member of the board of directors for both ING Belgium and BASF Antwerp and sits on the advisory board of the European Policy Centre.



Susanne Czech

Member of the Strategic Committee

Ms Susanne Czech has been Secretary General of EMOTA, the Brussels-based European Multi-channel and Online Trade Association, since January 2007. Before joining EMOTA, she directed the Single Market and International Affairs Committees at CEA (the European Insurance Federation) in Brussels, after representing, for more than eight years, the interests of the Austrian insurance industry at European and international level from her position as a lobbyist at VVO (the Austrian Insurance Federation) in Vienna. Ms Czech graduated from the University of Graz (Austria) as a Doctor of Law.



Massimo Cimoli

Member of the Strategic Committee

Massimo Cimoli is an Italian and European Trademark Attorney and Vice Chair of the ECTA Internet Committee. He is one of the advisors of the Italian Trademark Office and one of the three legal experts for the Italian Board of Appeal regarding trademarks. He is an arbitrator for the .eu ADR proceedings before the CAC. He is the author of several articles on trademarks and domain names, including the recent article, "Economic evaluation of domain names", published in the 2012 ECTA Gazette. He is a co-author of the "Commentary on the IP Code" by Professor Galli, which relates to the provisions of the Community Trademark Regulation.



Kimon Zorbas

Member of the Strategic Committee

Kimon Zorbas heads up the public policy programme of IAB Europe at EU level. He is responsible for leading the association's interactions with European Institutions, international bodies and the media to promote the IAB Europe's positions and interests. Key platform topics for IAB Europe include data protection, advertising, e-commerce and consumer protection. Before joining IAB Europe, he worked for the Business Software Alliance, BSA, a major ICT-related association, where he was responsible for public policy relating to software liability, data protection and ICT security, and also worked in-house on government affairs for Infineon Technologies, a major semiconductor company. Kimon is a lawyer, with undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from the University of Tübingen, Germany and the K.U.Leuven, Belgium, respectively.



Jon Thorhallsson

Member of the Strategic Committee

Jon Thorhallsson is the President of the Confederation of European Computer User Associations (CECUA). He has a Doctorate in Theoretical Physics from the University of Giessen, Germany, and a Post Doctorate from the Universities of Alberta and British Columbia (Canada). He has gained extensive academic teaching and research experience in Germany, Canada and Iceland. Jon Thorhallsson also has experience as International Chairman of the Board, CEO and Strategic Consultant for government agencies, public institutions and startups. He is a member of the Institute of Management Consulting USA (IMC USA) and an Honorary Member of The Icelandic Society for Information Processing (ISIP)..



Luc Hendrickx

Member of the Strategic Committee

Luc Hendrickx has been the Director of Enterprise Policy and External Relations at UEAPME since 2000. He is responsible for SME policy, better regulation, legal affairs, internal market issues, ICT-related files, accounting, retail, tourism, trade and corporate social responsibility. Previously, he was member of cabinet of the Flemish Minister of Environment and Employment. Between 1992 and 1998 he was a professor at the Flemish Economic High School (VLEKHO) in Brussels. He started his career in 1986 as salesman in his sister's do-it-yourself shop before joining UNIZO, Belgian SME organisation, as Legal Counsellor in 1989. Mr Hendrickx has a law degree from the Catholic University of Leuven, a diploma from the Institut Européen des Hautes Etudes Internationales of Nice and a master in European studies from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

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