

EURID'S QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Fourth Quarter 2008



**EURid**

The European Registry of Internet Domain Names

[www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu)



*Maastricht High Bridge*  
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*During November and December 2008, EURid ran an advertising campaign aimed at the transport and logistics sector. The image on this page was used in both print and online advertising.*

# Highlights 2008



Over the past year EURid focussed on the activities below with the goal of growing .eu registrations and improving service to its registrars.

## Promoting .eu growth

To promote continued growth in .eu registrations, the .eu registry implemented a pilot Promo Credit Programme that ran from January to June. It also reduced a number of domain name fees. Under the Promo Credit Programme, registrars earned one credit for every .eu domain name they registered between 1 January and 31 May. Each credit could then be used to register one new .eu domain name free of charge during the month of June. The highly successful programme resulted in a total of 139 368 new registrations, an increase of 84% compared to the number of registrations in June 2007.

In February, EURid lowered the fee for .eu domain name registrations, trades, transfers and renewals to 4 euro from 5 euro. In October, the reactivation fee was cut sharply to 5 euro from 20 euro and the transfer from quarantine fee dropped to 5 euro from 20 euro.

## Strong registrar support

Throughout the year, EURid concentrated on building stronger relationships with its registrars and providing higher-quality service. An important step towards realising this goal was the introduction of 24/7 support in the third quarter. This meant that registrars experiencing problems could get support outside of regular office hours. In November EURid also began offering

customised hands-on .eu courses to its registrars. These courses, designed to increase .eu know-how, cover all aspects of domain name management.

In 2008, EURid's liaison managers attended 123 face-to-face registrar meetings and hosted 14 registrar lunches across Europe. These well-received events gave registrars an opportunity to discuss .eu-related issues in an informal environment. In October, the .eu registry established a Registrar Advisory Board. The board consists of representatives from .eu registrars in nine different countries. It advises EURid on matters important to the .eu registrar community.

## Innovative marketing efforts

EURid raised awareness of the .eu domain in a variety of ways in 2008. A pioneering, month-long campaign at Brussels International Airport invited travellers to check the WHOIS database to see if the .eu domain name they wanted was available. Anyone interested could query a domain name on the spot with their mobile phone by texting it to a dedicated number.

In addition, EURid commissioned a nine-minute promotional video that registrars could use as a marketing tool on their own websites. This video features testimonials from companies that use a .eu domain name, such as Pioneer and Hyundai. Registrars were given another marketing tool last year as well: a new .eu brochure (shown above). Registrars can order free copies personalised with their own logo, in 21 languages, to send to customers. The brochure emphasises the many reasons why .eu is a good choice.

# From the General Manager

The .eu top-level domain showed continued strength throughout 2008. I am happy to report that registrations of .eu domain names grew by 10% during 2008. This growth came despite the global economic slump that has affected so many.

By the end of 2008, .eu domain name registrations had increased in nearly every EU country. Moreover, the markets for new .eu and national domain names were stronger than the markets for new generic domain names such as .com, .net, .org, .info and .biz.

It is worth noting that registrations grew dramatically in certain regions. The countries with the fastest relative growth, year over year, in .eu domain name registrations included Poland (67.5%), Lithuania (65.3%) and Bulgaria (58.6%).

Shortly after the end of our healthy fourth quarter, .eu passed a major milestone. In January 2009 Shortboard.eu became the three-millionth registered .eu domain name. EURid reached a milestone of its own as well when the European Commission extended our contract to manage the .eu registry to 2014.

Managing the .eu registry of domain names is a unique privilege for many reasons:

- .eu is the only Internet domain that offers a European identity to 500 million people in 27 countries.
- .eu is the only domain that is managed under solid European Community regulations.
- .eu is the only domain with a registry that provides customer service in all official EU languages.

EURid is proud to manage .eu, which has quickly become a trusted and valued top-level domain. Quality attracts quality. Bridgestone, Century 21, Gucci and Pioneer are among the large companies using .eu for their websites. The Dutch city of Maastricht, the French city of Strasbourg and the Spanish city of Lugo use .eu for their websites as well.

Tough economic times may well affect the domain community in 2009. At the end of a strong year, however, the future still appears bright for .eu.

Registrations of .eu domain names grew by 10% “despite the global economic slump that has affected so many”.



*Marc Van Wesemael*

# About EURid and .eu

EURid is the not-for-profit organisation appointed by the European Commission to operate the .eu top-level Internet 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. This means that, technically speaking, .eu has been in existence since then.

Between December 7, 2005, and April 6, 2006, the .eu registry began accepting applications for domain names on a limited basis. Only those individuals and organisations holding some type of legal protection for a name within a Member State of the European Union were eligible to apply during that time. This period of phased registration is referred to as the Sunrise period. On April 7, 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 for Slovenia also became members. The European Chapter of the Internet Society (ISOC) joined EURid in 2006, followed by the BusinessEurope organisation in 2007.

EURid's headquarters, 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 to registrars and the general public in languages local to its region.

"Maastricht is well known for the European Treaty of 1992 and the introduction of the euro. We chose a .eu address to show that the people of Maastricht also feel at home in Europe."

Gerd Leers, mayor of Maastricht  
Maastricht.eu



Photo: acTVty

# International

During the fourth quarter of 2008, EURid attended the following meetings:

- 14th CENTR administrative workshop, 1 October 2008, Viareggio
- 37th CENTR GA, 2 October 2008, Viareggio
- 27th CENTR legal workshop, 10 October 2008, Warsaw
- Systems, 21-24 October 2008, Munich
- ccNSO meeting, ICANN Cairo, 2-7 November 2008, Cairo
- Daily Web conference, 19 November 2008, Bratislava
- ICT Lyon, 25-27 November 2008, Lyon.

EURid continued to provide updates on .eu via presentations at several of the aforementioned meetings. Moreover, EURid actively participated in the preparation of the CENTR workshop “Around the world in eight ccTLDs”, which was held during the IGF Hyderabad meeting in December 2008. EURid also continued monitoring the development of policies at the international level in the ICANN and TLD environments.

“The new web address will better reflect the dimension of Strasbourg.”

“As a European capital, we thought it was urgent to promote a new state of mind which anchors Europe even deeper in the daily environment of our citizens, increasingly placing it at the heart of our municipal policies.”

Roland Ries, mayor of Strasbourg  
Strasbourg.eu



# The .eu domain

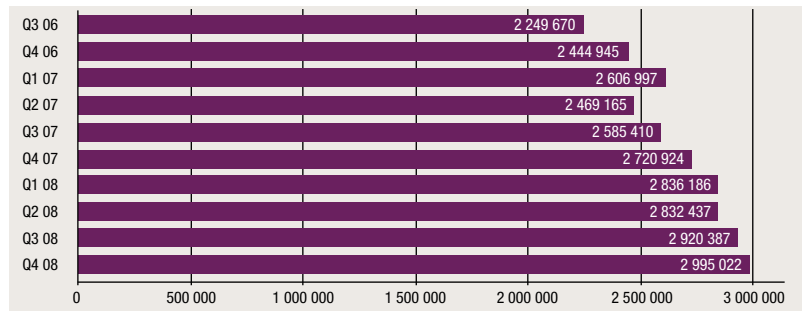
Over the fourth quarter of 2008, the number of .eu registrations grew by 74 635 domain names, or 2.6%, to just under 3 million. The three millionth .eu domain name, in fact, was registered shortly after the end of the fourth quarter on January 11, 2009. The total number of registrations at the end of Q4 represented an increase of 10.1%, or 274 098 registrations, when compared to the total number at the end of Q4 2007.

The growth in .eu registrations was slightly lower than the growth in the national ccTLD market in the EU countries for which data is available from national registry websites (all except Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece and Malta). That market increased by 3.1% over

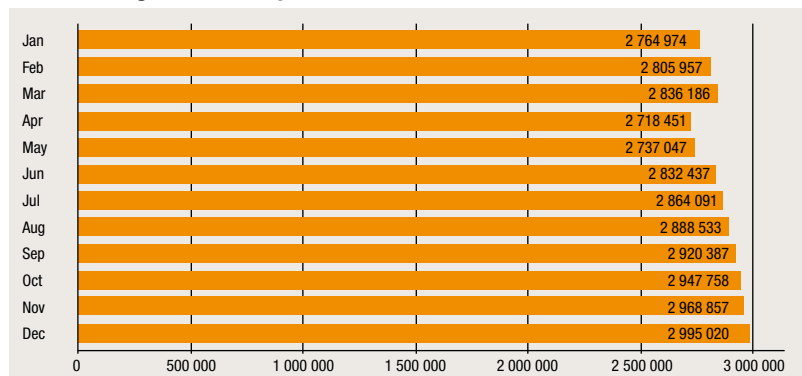
Q4 2008 when compared to the third quarter. It grew by 16.1% year over year when the fourth quarter is compared to Q4 2007.

Within the European Union, the markets for .eu and national domain names were stronger than the market for gTLD domain names such as .com, .net, .org, .info and .biz. Statistics from Zooknic show that the number of domain registrations for these gTLDs increased by only 1.2% over Q4 when compared to the previous quarter and by only 9.3% when compared to Q4 2007. By the end of Q4 2008, the number of .eu domain names had passed the total number of .net domain names registered in the 27 EU countries.

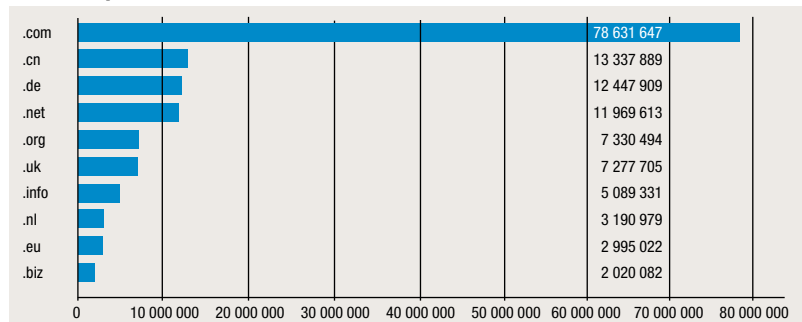
**Total .eu domain name registrations by quarter**



**Total .eu registrations by month, 2008**



**World top ten TLDs**



At the end of the fourth quarter, .eu remained the ninth-largest top-level domain in the world.



### New registrations, deletions and renewals

There were 157 029 new .eu registrations during the fourth quarter of 2008. The number of new registrations per day was slightly lower during the fourth quarter this year compared to the fourth quarter of 2007.

Registrants can, via their registrars, delete domain names they no longer find useful from the .eu registry. A domain name slated for deletion is quarantined for 40 days after the date specified by a 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 becoming deleted by mistake. After that period the deleted name becomes available for general registration.

During the fourth quarter of this year, there were 84 938 deletions. Compared to 2007, deletions were spread more evenly over the year. Significantly fewer registrations were deleted in April while slightly more registrations were deleted during other months. The combination of new registrations and deletions shows a net growth of about 800 names per day for the fourth quarter. First-year renewal rates stayed strong at an average of 72%, the industry norm.

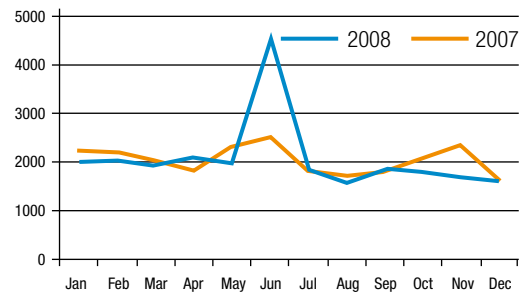
### First-year renewal rates, 2008

Month	2008	2007
January	79.6%	N/A
February	76.9%	N/A
March	77.8%	N/A
April	75.7%	83.1%
May	70.1%	82.5%
June	71.2%	87.2%
July	75.2%	81.8%
August	73.7%	80.2%
September	74.4%	81.0%
October	73.6%	80.8%
November	69.5%	83.6%
December	72.2%	82.0%

The first-year renewal rate of 72% during the fourth quarter was competitive with the industry norm. During the third quarter of 2008, for example, the same renewal rate was reported for .com, .net and .uk.

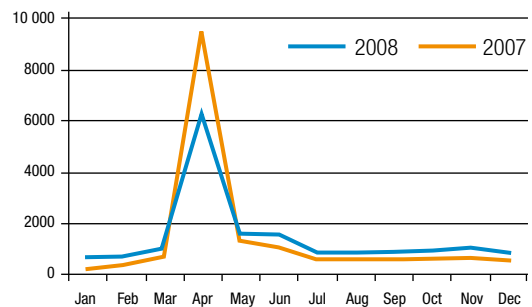
### New .eu registrations per day

A successful promotion campaign earlier in the year resulted in an especially large number of registrations in June.



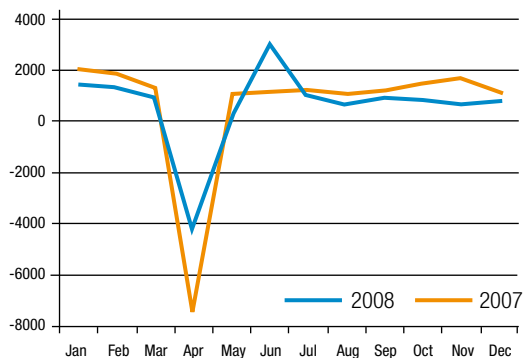
### Deletions per day

The high number of deletions in April was due to the large number of domain names that come up for renewal every April, the month the .eu domain was originally launched. During 2008, the April effect was significantly smaller than it was in 2007.



### Net growth per day

Now that .eu is an established top-level domain and more mature, deletions have become more common outside of April and are spread throughout the year while the number of new registrations remains strong.



### Trades and transfers

When a domain name changes hands, EURid calls the process a trade. The registrar for the new registrant initiates the trade, which must then be confirmed by both the existing registrant and the new holder of the domain name. During the fourth quarter, 16 638 domains out of nearly 3 million were traded. This means that about one domain out of 180 was traded, a number unchanged from the same quarter of 2007.

When a domain name holder wishes to change the registrar, this is known as a domain name transfer. Transfers can be carried out at any time. A transfer is initiated by a registrant's new registrar and must be confirmed by the registrant before it is processed. A current registrar cannot prevent a registrant from choosing to use another registrar. During the fourth quarter about one domain out of 220 was transferred for a total of 13 272 transfers. During the same quarter last year, about one out of 250 was transferred.

### Completed trades and transfers

Month	Trades		Transfers	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
January	4 941	6 553	4 313	3 564
February	8 202	8 656	4 609	5 278
March	17 004	15 935	10 190	36 458
April	55 764	25 869	10 863	69 060
May	20 057	6 481	4 968	12 895
June	9 097	12 957	4 474	4 230
July	5 451	5 034	3 944	3 448
August	3 625	6 010	3 714	3 667
September	4 431	4 177	4 124	4 428
October	6 274	5 344	4 132	3 729
November	4 246	5 746	4 018	3 382
December	6 118	4 419	5 122	3 578

### 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. This graph shows the average number of queries per minute for each month. The number of DNS queries has grown steadily since the public launch of .eu in 2006.

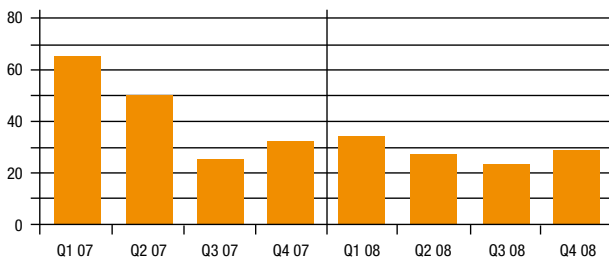


### Domain name disputes

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 all EU languages.

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

### Domain name disputes filed by quarter



A total of 29 alternative dispute resolution cases were filed during the fourth quarter of 2008, compared to 23 during the third quarter of 2008 and 32 during the fourth quarter of 2007. The number of ADRs seems to have stabilised at about 25 per quarter. Of the 19 ADR decisions published by the Czech Arbitration Court during the fourth quarter, the vast majority (17, or 89%) were in favour of the complainant and issued, on average, 120 days after the case was filed.

“I have chosen this domain because with Lugo.eu you feel European and at the same time from Lugo. I believe that we all have to open our minds toward Europe but support our roots at the same time.”

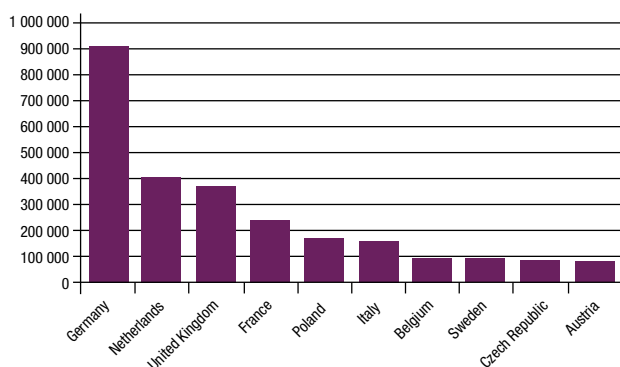


Raquel Rodríguez,  
a citizen of Lugo

# The registrants

The countries in the top ten list account for 86% of all .eu registrations. German residents have, by far, the most .eu domain name registrations followed by residents of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

## Top ten countries with most .eu registrations



There was no change in the top ten during the fourth quarter of 2008.

## Total number of .eu domain names by country of registrant, Q4 2008

Country	Total names
Aaland Islands	217
Austria	72 935
Belgium	95 439
Bulgaria	8 854
Cyprus	52 999
Czech Republic	77 355
Denmark	44 132
Estonia	7 977
Finland	14 373
France	241 589
French Guiana	19
Germany	911 022
Gibraltar	4 531
Greece	24 277
Guadeloupe	172
Hungary	27 907
Ireland	59 024
Italy	160 905
Latvia	7 227
Lithuania	9 067
Luxembourg	27 014
Malta	2 638
Martinique	81
Netherlands	407 088
Poland	171 060
Portugal	11 439
Reunion Islands	276
Romania	19 921
Slovakia	17 553
Slovenia	5 999
Spain	67 579
Sweden	80 163
United Kingdom	370 365

The table above is based on country codes. Some territories and provinces, such as the Aaland Islands, Gibraltar and Guadeloupe, have their own country code. That is why they are included in the list even though they are not individual EU Member States.

**Popularity of .eu in comparison to ccTLD registrations (see maps on the next page)**

Country	.eu/1000	ccTLD/1000
Cyprus	66.1	N/A
Luxembourg	54.9	86.2
Netherlands	24.7	193.6
Ireland	13.1	25.6
Germany	11.1	151.7
Belgium	8.9	80.0
Austria	8.7	95.7
Sweden	8.7	90.2
Denmark	8.0	175.0
Czech Republic	7.4	47.9
Malta	6.4	N/A
United Kingdom	6.0	118.1
Estonia	6.0	47.0
Poland	4.5	34.7
France	3.8	20.5
Slovakia	3.2	31.9
Latvia	3.2	28.7
Slovenia	2.9	30.8
Hungary	2.8	40.4
Lithuania	2.7	28.1
Finland	2.7	37.0
Italy	2.7	27.0
Greece	2.2	N/A
Spain	1.5	23.8
Bulgaria	1.2	N/A
Portugal	1.1	25.9
Romania	0.9	16.4

The figures above show the number of domain names per 1000 inhabitants at the end of the fourth quarter based on population data from Eurostat and ccTLD information from national registries.

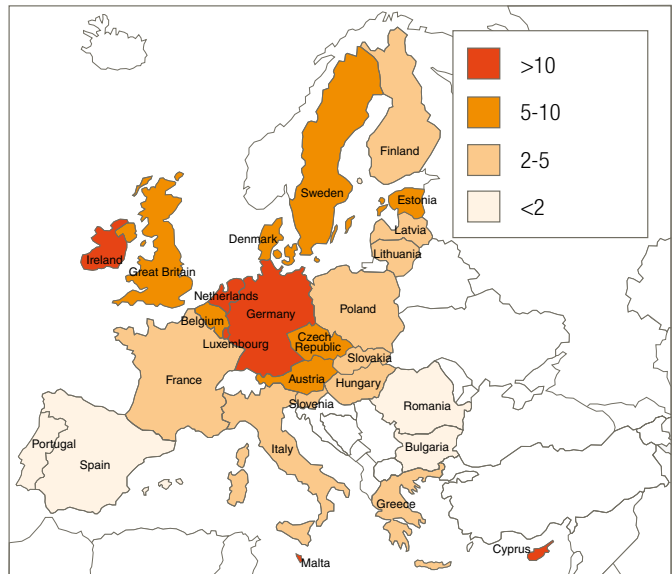
**Growth by country, quarter over quarter and year over year**

Country	Q4 vs Q3 2008	Q4 2008 vs Q4 2007
Austria	3.0%	11.2%
Belgium	2.2%	13.8%
Bulgaria	10.4%	58.6%
Cyprus	0.5%	-41.4%
Czech Republic	6.7%	32.1%
Denmark	1.8%	6.3%
Estonia	3.3%	32.3%
Finland	2.6%	12.2%
France	4.6%	25.8%
Germany	2.0%	5.8%
Greece	3.0%	18.1%
Hungary	7.6%	26.9%
Ireland	0.8%	113.7%
Italy	4.5%	18.1%
Latvia	2.0%	-0.3%
Lithuania	6.6%	65.3%
Luxembourg	9.0%	87.9%
Malta	-42.3%	-86.9%
Netherlands	2.4%	11.8%
Poland	7.1%	67.5%
Portugal	2.4%	4.2%
Romania	6.7%	40.4%
Slovakia	5.7%	38.1%
Slovenia	6.5%	30.7%
Spain	3.0%	11.0%
Sweden	2.7%	-16.0%
United Kingdom	0.5%	-2.6%

By the end of Q4 2008, .eu domain name registrations had increased in 26 countries and decreased in one (Malta). The year-over-year shifts in Ireland, Luxembourg and Sweden came as the result of trades rather than new registrations. As shown above, the .eu domain became especially popular over the past year in Poland, Lithuania and Bulgaria.

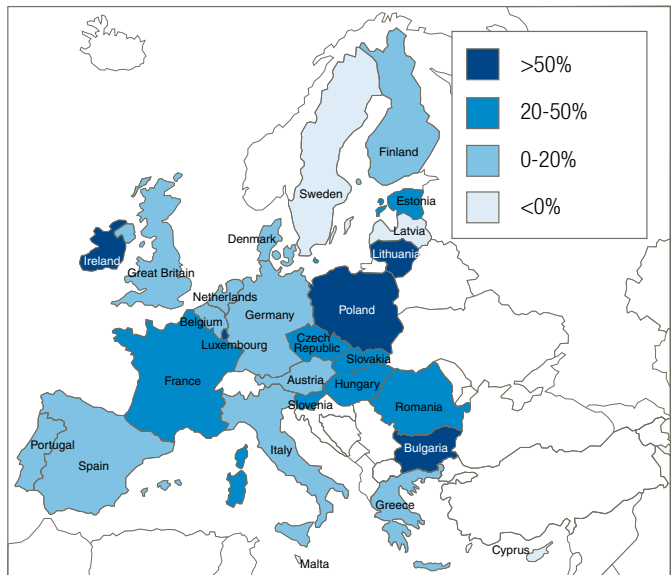
**.eu domain names per 1000 inhabitants, Q4 2008**

The number of registrations per 1000 inhabitants varies from a high of 24 in the Netherlands to one in Bulgaria, Portugal and Romania. In general, countries with a large number of ccTLDs per inhabitant also have a large number of .eu registrations per inhabitant.



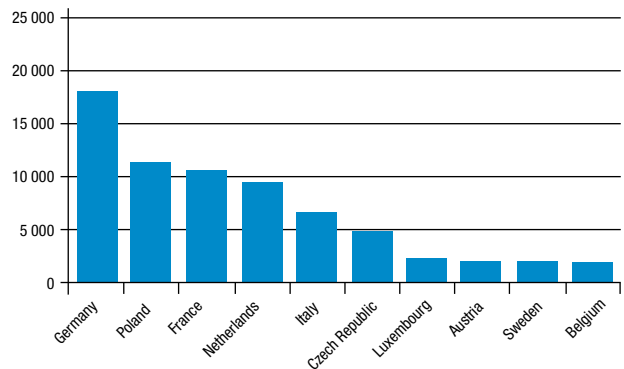
**Growth by country, Q4 2008 compared to Q4 2007**

The countries with the fastest relative growth year over year included Poland (67.5%), Lithuania (65.3%) and Bulgaria (58.6%). The changes in Ireland, Luxembourg and Sweden came as the result of trades.



**Top ten countries by net growth of .eu registrations, Q4 2008**

In absolute terms, the largest net growth of registrations occurred in Germany, with 17 997 new registrations; in Poland, with 11 389; and in France, with 10 624 when fourth quarter registrations are compared to those from the third quarter.

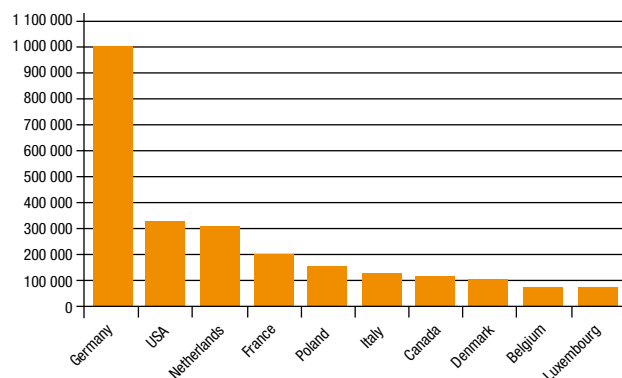


# The registrars

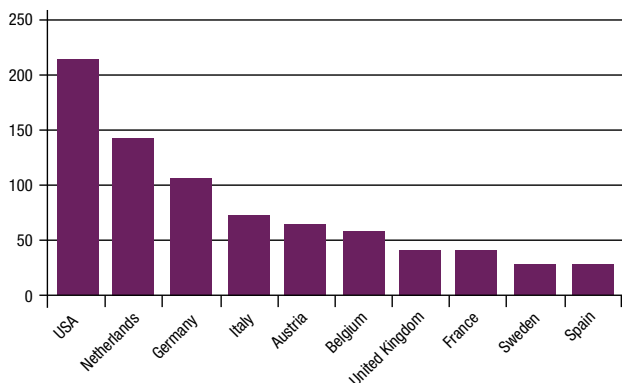
In contrast to .eu registrants, .eu registrars can be located anywhere. Categorising registrations by country of registrar shows many similarities with the categorisation by country of registrant. Germany, the Netherlands, France, Poland, Italy and Belgium are all among the top ten countries in registrations both by country of registrar and by country of registrant.

A notable difference is that the USA and Canada are among the top ten countries in registrations by country of registrar even though registrations by residents of those countries are not allowed. At the end of the fourth quarter, the countries in the top ten list of registrations based on country of registrar accounted for 83% of all .eu registrations. At the end of 2008, the number of registrations managed by German registrars had passed the 1 million mark. An additional change was that Belgian registrars managed more names than registrars from Luxembourg.

## Top ten countries based on registrations by country of registrar



## Top ten countries by number of .eu registrars

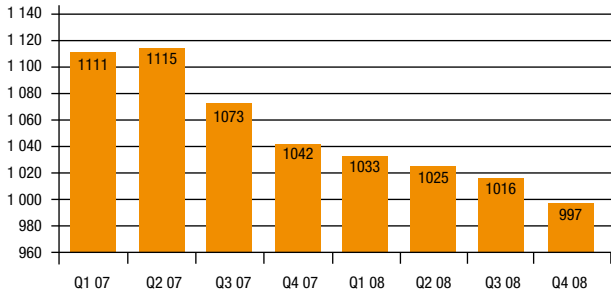


## .eu registrations by country of registrar

Country	Names managed	Number of registrars
Anguilla	773	1
Australia	57 145	12
Austria	33 474	64
Bahamas	7 589	1
Barbados	792	1
Belgium	72 727	58
Bulgaria	74	2
Canada	118 013	24
Cayman Islands	2 187	2
China	5 175	4
Cyprus	478	1
Czech Republic	64 855	13
Denmark	103 465	19
Estonia	5 229	1
Finland	3 694	6
France	202 622	39
Germany	1 007 049	106
Greece	19 669	18
Hungary	17 830	17
India	23 895	1
Ireland	7 551	6
Israel	1 010	3
Italy	131 129	73
Japan	209	2
Korea	1 128	3
Latvia	4 020	4
Lichtenstein	297	1
Lithuania	6 958	4
Luxembourg	71 708	3
Malaysia	186	1
Malta	69	1
Monaco	8 545	1
Netherlands	309 938	143
Norway	34 694	6
Poland	154 781	13
Portugal	1 454	6
Romania	15 092	9
Singapore	1 017	1
Slovakia	10 092	12
Slovenia	655	2
Spain	35 372	27
Sweden	45 813	28
Switzerland	12 503	3
Taiwan	248	1
United Kingdom	71 326	40
USA	328 683	214

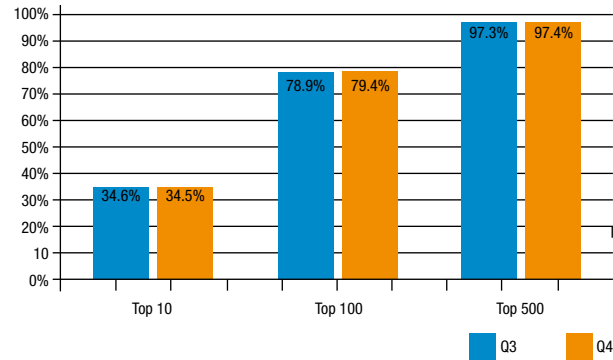
An accredited .eu registrar managed, on average, 3 010 .eu domain names at the end of the fourth quarter of 2008, compared to 2 875 in the third quarter.

### Total number of accredited .eu registrars by quarter



At the end of the third quarter of 2008, there were a total of 1 016 accredited .eu registrars, nine fewer than in the previous quarter. The number of registrars has decreased somewhat over the last five quarters. This is the result of mergers and acquisitions within the domain name industry and also the result of decisions by large registrars with subsidiaries to consolidate several .eu accounts into one account.

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



The top 100 accredited .eu registrars manage almost 80% of all registrations, which means that many registrars are small. Compared to the previous quarter, the market share of the top 10 and top 500 registrars held steady, while the market share of the top 100 increased somewhat during the fourth quarter.



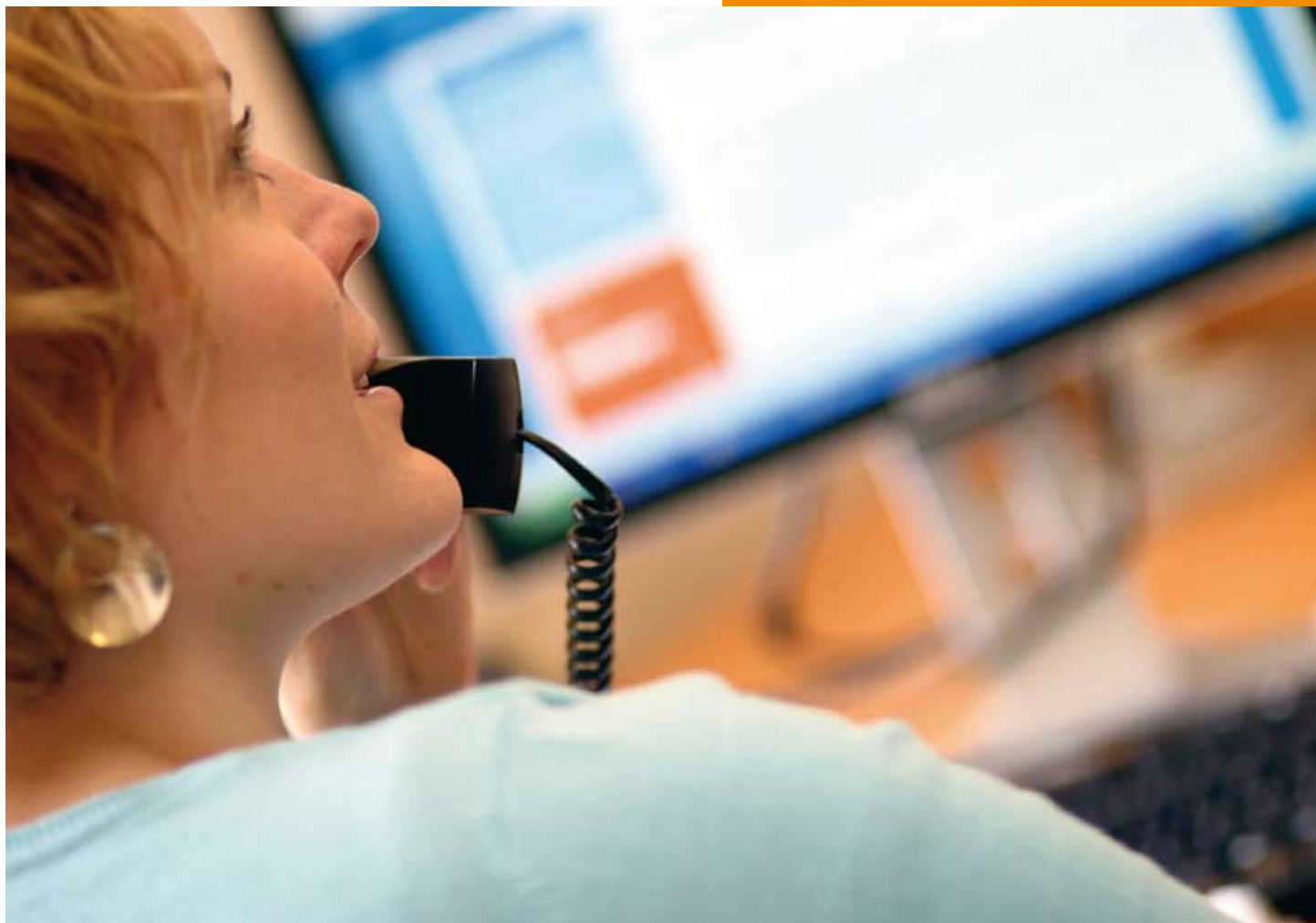
# Human resources

In terms of human resources, there were a total of 60 employees working at the four offices of EURid at the end of Q4.

## Headcount per office, fourth quarter 2008

Office	Headcount	FTE*
Diegem	41	37.74
Pisa	5	4.02
Prague	6	4.40
Stockholm	8	7.10
Total	60	53.26

\* Full-time equivalents



# The management team



**Marc Van Wesemael, General Manager**

Marc Van Wesemael has an MBA and a degree in electronic engineering. He has worked in the telecom and software industries as a consultant and as a manager in software engineering, general sales and marketing. He has been the Managing Director of not-for-profit DNS Belgium since January 1, 2000, when .be, the top-level domain for Belgium, was transferred from the University of Leuven to the newly created domain name registry.



**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 of experience in various roles at the European Commission.



**Bart Foutrel, Finance Manager**

Bart Foutrel has a masters degree in business sciences from Lessius Hogeschool, where he focused on finance and insurance plus accountancy and tax law. During his studies, he worked as an accountant at MENSURA, an insurance company. After graduation he worked as an adviser on Global Compliance Service at PricewaterhouseCoopers before joining EURid in early 2008.



**Herman Sobrie, Legal Manager**

Herman Sobrie studied law and notary studies at several Belgian universities. He worked as an attorney at the Bar of Gent, Belgium, until 1983. Since then he has held positions as legal counsel with Elsevier, Campbell and Siemens.



**Peter Janssen, Technical Manager**

Peter Janssen has a masters degree in computer science from the University of Leuven. He joined the Belgian registry for .be in 2000 in the guise of Technical Director and was responsible for the domain's liberalisation in December 2002.



**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.



**Patrik Lindén, Communications Manager**

Patrik Lindén joined EURid in January 2006 after working as communications manager for the Swedish registry for .se. He also has four years of experience as a senior PR consultant and has previously worked as a journalist and editor.



**Bob Walraet, Process Compliance Manager**

Bob Walraet has a masters in electronic engineering from the University of Liège. He has experience in IT development from working at Philips and Siemens; IT methodology from PWC, customer service and consultancy from Cullinet, Ethica and MSB; and ITIL-based service management from Banksys.

# The board and strategic committee



**Pierre Verbaeten, Chairman of the Board**

Pierre Verbaeten is Chairman of the Computer Science department of the Catholic University of Leuven, where he lectures on networking and distributed systems. He also leads the DistriNet research group, which conducts basic and applied research in computer networks, security, middleware, multi-agent systems and embedded systems. In 1989 Mr Verbaeten became the first manager of the .be registry, which was transferred to the not-for-profit organisation DNS Belgium on January 1, 2000.



**Tomáš Maršálek, Director of the Board**

Tomáš Maršálek has a masters degree in radio electronic science from the Czech Technical University in Prague. He founded and manages MARIAS s.r.o., an IT consultancy specialising in the development and integration of network operation centres. He is on the board of CZ.NIC, which oversees the .cz top-level domain. Mr Maršálek was one of the founders of GTS, the third commercial Internet service provider in the country.



**Danny Aerts, Director of the Board**

Danny Aerts is the Managing Director of the Swedish Internet Infrastructure Foundation (IIS), the registry for the .se top-level domain. A native of the Netherlands, Mr Aerts moved to Sweden in the mid 1990s. In 2006 he left his position as CEO at Swedish web portal Spray to join IIS. Mr Aerts has also been employed at several telecom companies, including Unisource Mobile, Telia and PTT Telecom. He graduated cum laude from Utrecht University, where he studied economic geography.



**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 Center.



**Marko Bonač, Director of the Board**

Marko Bonač 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.



**Michiel Leenaars, Member of the Strategic Committee**

Michiel A.G.J. Leenaars is Director of Strategy at NLnet foundation, a Netherlands-based charity investor in technology, and Director of the Netherlands chapter of the Internet Society. Mr Leenaars also holds a number of board positions, including Vice Chair of OpenDoc Society and Secretary of the board of Gridforum.nl. He is a policy advisor for the Netherlands National Computing Facilities foundation, which is a subsidiary of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. Mr Leenaars has a background in Physics at Technische Universiteit Eindhoven and Arts at Tilburg University in the Netherlands.



**Enrico Gregori, Director of the Board**

Enrico Gregori was a member of the team that developed the first Italian Internet node in 1985. Formerly the Director of the Institute for Informatics and Telematics and the Director of the Italian top-level domain, .it, he is now a professor and member of the steering committee of the master in Internet Technologies programme of the University of Pisa. Mr Gregori is also co-author of the book *Metropolitan Area Networks* (Springer, London 1997) and a member of the editorial boards of the *Computer Networks*, *Cluster Computing* and *Wireless Network* journals.

# .eu

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## **EURid**

The European Registry of Internet Domain Names

[www.eurid.eu](http://www.eurid.eu)