
Statement of Interest

for the 2020-2022 EURALO ALAC position

Joanna Kulesza

I thankfully accept the nomination to represent EURALO on the ALAC for the 2020-2022 term. I have been serving on the ALAC as appointed by the NomCom to represent European end users since 2018. I currently serve as ALAC Vice Chair for Outreach and Engagement and co-chair the Capacity Building Working Group within AtLarge. Since my appointment I have been extensively supporting the AtLarge leadership in advancing the community and implementing key takeaways from the AtLarge review, including during the recent ATLAS III Summit. Before joining ALAC I was twice an ICANN fellow (ICANN58 and ICANN60 where I also served as a Fellowship Coach) and a member of the NCUC. Working with ICANN's GSE team I have supported various events in Poland and beyond, just to mention the launch of Internet Academy Poland as well as a series of panels during the annual Computers and Data Privacy Conference in Brussels (CPDP). Recently (2019) I participated in the first Hungarian IGF, representing AtLarge EURALO.

I would like to continue working for AtLarge, enhancing our Capacity Building portfolio and integrating it with policy work. Having been involved with the ALAC for two years now, I have witnessed a tremendous change in the community and a vigorous increase in volunteer participation. I would like to help maintain this collaborative spirit in the following years. Within ICANN I am involved in a series of capacity building initiatives focused on enhancing end user awareness of IG issues and participation around the globe. They include training courses, webinars and workshops organized in different venues for various groups of stakeholders. I deeply appreciate the unique opportunity ICANN offers to engage in a truly global, multistakeholder dialogue among geographies and cultures in a friendly, open and safe environment. Being able to continue working within it and on improving its functions would be a tremendous personal benefit for me.

Before joining the ICANN Community I have been working as an assistant professor of international law and Internet governance, affiliated with the University of Lodz (Poland) since 2008. I am also a member of the Scientific Committee of the European Union's Fundamental Rights Agency, reflecting my research interest in the applicability of international law and human rights online. In 2020 I have been voted to chair the Advisory Board of the Global Forum for Cyber Expertise. I would be eager to combine my involvement with these IG related platforms with the work I do within AtLarge.

My university experience with teaching students international law and internet governance proves beneficial in enhancing intercultural communications on shared issues of online security and social norms. I have been involved in a broad range of international projects focused on Internet governance, cybersecurity and international law. I have been researching, lecturing and advising on Internet and new media in Europe, America and Asia, working closely with colleagues from across the globe on various aspects of cybersecurity and international law as it applies to cyberspace, just to mention the

Sino-European Dialogue on Cybersecurity managed by the Hague Center for Security Studies and the EU CyberDirect Project managed by the European Institute for Security Studies where I am a member of the Academic Advisory Board. I am also a member of the Sino-European Working Group on the application of international law to cyberspace, managed by the Geneva Center for Security Policy. I have had the opportunity to present my research to the Global Commission on Stability of Cyberspace and actively participated in some of its meetings. I believe my versatile academic and policy experience could further contribute to the work of the ALAC, offering an in-depth, practical knowledge of multistakeholder Internet governance and international law as well as a hands on experience in capacity building for the global community of internet users.

AtLarge is in the process of implementing the last review, which largely identified the needs of the community versus this constituency. Following the report I know AtLarge needs to focus on ensuring a better, informed representation of global end users. While activities to enhance ALS participation have been initiated, I want to focus on individuals and reach out to interested community members through an enhanced programme of workshops and trainings, allowing for exchange of views and consensus building. I know the main challenge for this global constituency that is AtLarge is to find common denominators for end users around the globe. I believe this needs to be done with the ALSes as well as looking for other, innovative ways to ensure community involvement. Identifying the needs of individual end users and reflecting them onto the ongoing policy dialogues will be the main challenge for AtLarge in the coming years. As described below, I would appreciate the opportunity to support this community in tackling this challenge in the next two years.

I am an active member of the AtLarge Consolidate Policy Working Group, while my focus within AtLarge has been on Outreach and Capacity Building. I view the latter as a crucial function of AtLarge policy and ALAC advice development process as it is AtLarge that is tasked with engaging the global community of end-users and reflecting their views and needs in the ICANN multistakeholder discussions. To ensure we can speak in an informed voice about the needs and wants of internet end-users we need to make sure they have a good understanding of all ICANN related policy matters and how those translate onto their everyday lives. I view this as my particular role within ICANN, directly relevant to the policy development process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joanna Kulesza

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