

# The Internet Needs You!



INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

Go beyond simply using the Internet. If you are a European end-user organization concerned with Internet-related issues, you can help influence the Internet's operation, growth and development.

The European Regional At-Large Organization (EURALO) invites all interested European civil society organizations to join it in taking part in the decisions that shape the Internet.

## Who We Are

EURALO unites European Internet end-user voices within the **At-Large community**, part of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) [www.icann.org](http://www.icann.org). ICANN manages the Internet's unique name- and number identifiers, such as domain names and IP addresses. EURALO consists of Internet-related civil society and consumer interests, representing their views in the bottom-up, consensus-based, multi-stakeholder ICANN policy development process.

Our members include more than 25 organizations across Europe formed into individual At-Large Structures working on issues related to the Internet.

To ensure that we represent the full diversity of Europe, we are looking for members representing every European country. If you care about ensuring that the Internet provides benefits to everyone, every day, come join us. If your organization focuses on security and privacy issues to improve on-line user and consumer protection, come work with us.

## Our Hot Issues

ICANN policies affect every individual Internet user every time they go on-line. In EURALO, policy issues we are particularly interested in include:

### Introduction of the New Generic Top Level Domains (gTLDs)

Familiar TLDs, such as .COM, .NET, .ORG have served well. However, EURALO is working to influence the launch of new gTLDs - .GREEN, .BERLIN, .SPORT, .SURF and an endless variety of others, bringing rich new potential to how users form communities and use the Web.

### Trademark Issues

The launch of the new gTLDs raises questions about the appropriate extent of trademark protection, and the balance between the rights of trademark holders versus the freedom of expression of the average Internet user. EURALO seeks to provide answers to policy questions about intellectual property and consumer interests, Internet rights and principles.

### Your Internet, Your Language

There are now more non-English speakers on the Internet than English speakers, yet web addresses such as URLs like [www.euralo.org](http://www.euralo.org) support Western, ASCII characters only. EURALO is helping resolve issues around implementing internationalized domains and URLs, even for languages that read from right to left, or that use hundreds of characters.

### Transition From IPv4 to IPv6

The current Internet Protocol addressing system (IPv4) is a resource facing depletion. Since every single Internet-connected computer needs a unique IP address, ensuring that the next billion users, and those that follow, will be able to connect to the Internet in the future, is important to everyone. The addressing system is transitioning to the next generation (IPv6) and EURALO contributes to policy debates such as how to ensure that IPv4 and IPv6 can coexist and interoperate.

## Protecting End Users

Increasingly, organised criminals are misusing domain names and the Internet addressing system, to create spam networks, pharming and phishing attacks. As ICANN is responsible for managing the identifiers that are being misused, EURALO works to battle domain hijackers, reduce spam, and ensure the adoption of consumer-centric solutions to cyber-threats.

## Democratizing ICANN

Since ICANN policy shapes the crucial global addressing resources of the Internet, it is of the utmost importance that ICANN exercise good governance. EURALO is dedicated to making ICANN more democratic, transparent and accountable... **and many more!**

You can help make the Internet more secure and more useful for everyone: come and join us in EURALO.

## How to Join Us

For more information about EURALO and the benefits of becoming an At-Large Structure, please contact us at [info@euralo.org](mailto:info@euralo.org) Learn more about EURALO at: <http://www.euralo.org>

## What People Say About Us

"The ICANN/At-Large Advisory Committee/EURALO nexus is the best forum we have to deal with Internet-related policy issues such as security of the individual and Internet. Thus our participation as an ALS within EURALO is our contribution to the broader participation of Internet Users."

*-Christopher Wilkinson, ISOC Wallonia, Belgium*

"I have been a regular user of the Internet for a long time and went to an ICANN meeting in Paris in 2008...I participated in meetings of the 'At-Large' constituency, representing millions of individual Internet users worldwide, and was impressed about the inclusive processes which were in place to make sure that my voice was heard."

*Olivier Crepin-Leblond, France*

EURALO, ALAC, ICANN represent[s]...new opportunities, experiences, approaches - a platform which [is] structured in a way that allow[s] participation in decision making processes at various levels... These experiences [in] Eastern Europe were and are as important as all the other...experiences from around the world."

*Veronica Cretu, Former EURALO Representative of the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), Moldova*

"The Internet and new means of communication have influenced our work and private life vitally. Since the World Summit on the Information Society more and more people from civil society understood how much ICANN and its policy matters -- and civil rights, digital inclusion and empowerment of users are crucial factors in the information age."

*-Wolf Ludwig, EURALO Chair*