Statement of Interest – EURALO Board – Stéphane Van Gelder

Although I have been involved in ICANN for many years, I am a relative newcomer to at-large.

I became involved through the creation of the Individual User's Association. I was one of its founders, as I had been looking for a way to participate in at-large as an individual from the European region. Working to make this group a reality and get it to the point where it has quality leadership (thank you Roberto Gaetano for taking the role of Chair) has been a fascinating journey into at-large.

I would be honoured to have a chance to apply the same newcomer's energy into helping EURALO.

For example, I believe we need to work more on outreach outside of at-large, and indeed the ICANN community, to ensure Internet users know they have a voice and how to exercise it. We also need to renew the corps of volunteers from Europe who are involved in the work of at-large.

I would also look to put my strong Internet Governance (IG) experience in service of EURALO, this includes:
- Registrar Stakeholder Group and Registry Stakeholder Group Executive Committee member
- GNSO Council: vice-chair and chair (2 terms)
- Nominating Committee: chair elect, chair (2 terms) and associate chair
- Afnic (French registry) Board member (2 terms)
- EURid (registry for .EU) Requirements and Code of Conduct panel member

Professionally, my first career was as a journalist. I then worked as a registrar and a registry. I am a frequent blogger on Internet Governance matters and have written a book on the first 10 years of the .EU TLD. I currently work as a consultant on Internet related issues. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science. I am fully bilingual and bicultural in English and French.