
Date: 18 March 2016

Applicant Organization: Austrian Computing Society

Region: EURALO

Form Completed by: Nathalie Peregrine

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1) COMMITMENTS

a. Does the applicant commit to supporting individual Internet users' informed participation in ICANN?

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

b. Does the applicant agree to assist the RALO in performing its function?

YES: ☐ x NO: ☐

2) GOVERNANCE

a. Which geographical area(s) are the applicants' memberships drawn from?

EURALO

b. Is the applicant constituted so that participation by individual Internet users who are citizens or residents of countries within the geographic region in which the ALS is based control the organization?

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response:

As per email exchange with applicant” “individual members have the decisive power in the OCG.”

“The Austrian Computer Society (OCG) consists of more than 1400 members coming from science, public, industry and civil society.. Membership is open to all; OCG is encouraging young members (e.g. low membership fee, promotion programmes etc.).

As mentioned, individual members have the decisive power in the OCG. Although institutional members can nominate the half of the members of the Board of the OCG, individual members can vote for the same number of Board members.’

c. Does the applicant really have individual members?

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

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Provide any references used to answer the question here: As per application form: “Mostly professional background with strong interest in the promotion in ICT (IT experts, professions, software developers, online rights activists, individual consumers)” “1300 individual members, 40 institutional members”

If YES on (c) above, are these members active, or do they mostly just sign up and delegate to their leaders?

ACTIVE: ☒x DELEGATE: ☐

d. Does the applicant have organizations as members?

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

As per email exchange with applicant:

“Most of these institutional members are non-profit organisations: associations, universities (of applied sciences), federal ministries and governmental institutions, the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, the Austrian Chamber of Labour etc. The OCG considers itself as the umbrella organisation for computer and society questions in Austria and tries to include all stakeholders in its network.”

“The Austrian Computer Society (OCG) consists of more than 1400 members coming from science, public, industry and civil society.. Membership is open to all; OCG is encouraging young members (e.g. low membership fee, promotion programmes etc.).

As mentioned, individual members have the decisive power in the OCG. Although institutional members can nominate the half of the members of the Board of the OCG, individual members can vote for the same number of Board members.

“In practice, Board Members representing one of the organizational members are taking part in deliberation and voting in a personal capacity. The OCG Board decides according to a quorum of participation and majority. In practice, decisions are mostly taken by consensus.

The influence of an organizational member consists in a role of participation in the Board. A single strong influence is impossible due to consensus practice and the majority requirements of the Board (nearly impossible to get all organizational members on a voting ticket + some board members for individual members).”

“Organizational members can nominate a member of the OCG Executive Board. As a sub group of the board, they can vote for a vice president of the OCG, with seat in the Steering Committee. Thus, influence is restricted to about 20 % in the Steering Committee.”

e. Does the applicant have governmental bodies or quasi-governmental bodies as members?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐

IF YES: Provide details about the nature, type, and number of such members. In particular, describe whether or not the nature of these members is congruent with the *Guidelines for Evaluating ALS Applications* as regards the Second Criterion, and how you arrived at your judgment in this regard:

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As per application form: “Some ministries are supporting the OCG as members; the proportion of the total membership is quite low.”

As per email exchange with applicant: “It should be noted that institutional members nominate a member of the Executive Board but this role is usually exercised in a personal capacity and not strongly linked to the policies of this organisation. This is also the case for ministries.”

f. Does the applicant permit additional participation by others that is compatible with the interests of the individual Internet users within the region?

YES: ☒ NO: ☐

Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response: Their projects and events page shows active interventions by external speakers, trainers etc and dynamic partnerships: <https://www.ocg.at/en/projects>

g. Is the applicant self-supporting? (i.e. will not rely on ICANN for funding).

YES: ☒ NO: ☐

How is the organization funded and what source material or information did you rely on to make your judgment?

As per application form: : membership; project; national operator if the ECDL European Computer Driving Licence”

Membership fees can be found here: <https://www.ocg.at/en/how-join>

As per email exchange with applicant: “The OCG is the national operator if the ECDL European Computer Driving Licence” developed by CEPIS. The profits of this activity are used for financing the activities of the organisation, together with membership fees, and other small revenues (conferences, books, etc.)”

h. Does the applicant post on the Internet current information about their goals, structure, description of constituent group(s)/membership, working mechanisms, leadership, and contact(s)?

YES: ☒ NO: ☐

Structure and membership: <https://www.ocg.at/en/organisation#evorst>

Contact information is complete: <https://www.ocg.at/en/contact>

Membership: <https://www.ocg.at/en/membership>

- i. Do the membership, leadership and internal mechanisms described in the application correspond to those exposed on the website?**

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

If 'YES', how and where are the references?

Executive structure and leadership names all correspond to the information submitted on the application form.

- j. How does the applicant appear to be funded?**

Where / what sources did you use to find the answers to this question? **See response 2g**

- k. Does the funding mechanism show dependence on other interest groups (i.e. industry, government)?**

YES: ☐ NO: ☒x

As per application form: "Very few; mostly on governmental contract." As per email exchange with applicant: "The OCG applies for special funding by government like other professional organisations. This funding is linked to a particular activity and does not give the government special influence. For a long time, the OCG is not dependent on subsidies by the Austrian Government."

- l. Are the leaders of the applicant organization involved in other organizations or entities?**

YES: ☒x NO: ☐

If 'YES', please reference the sources for this answer: As per application form: "Some are also members of GI, ACM or other organisations, partly having also some function in this organisation."

If YES were they already involved in Internet governance issues in the past, and in which role?

YES: x☐ NO: ☐

If YES, role(s): "The activities developed so far are linked to those of the WZRI Wiener Zentrum für Rechtsinformatik. It is planned to maintain this co-operation in the future.

Erich Schweighofer, a member of the Extended Steering Committee, is doing research in internet governance for over 18 years and follows closely ICANN activities and attends also ICANN meetings. There are several other Board Members strongly active in ICANN issues: Maximilian SCHUBERT, general secretary of the ISPA Internet Service Providers Austria, Gerhard LAGA, head of strategic planning, Federal Chamber of Commerce (wrote the first book on legal issues of the Internet in

Austria).

The ICANN AT LARGE STRUCTURE will be co-organised by Erich Schweighofer, Vinzenz Heußler (a NextGen@ICANN since Dublin 2015) and Matthias Kettemann (researcher in internet governance for about 10 years, formerly University of Graz, now University of Frankfurt).

The OCG has already organised workshops on the work of ICANN (with WZRI), in particular related to the ongoing topics in ICANN Meetings.”

m. Is the mission / policy statement actually related to ICANN / Internet governance issues / advocating users'/consumers interests?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐

If YES, include mission/policy statement, and reference the source:

As per application form: “The OCG makes the benefits of information and communication accessible for all and that way contributes to a positive development of our society. We are a modern service provider and offer access to sought-after expert knowledge through our networks and events. set and secure standards. develop trend analyses for business and other relevant target groups. give important input for education, research and development thus strengthening Austria's innovation power.

<https://www.ocg.at/en/austrian-computer-society>”

3) INTERNET PRESENCE

a. Is the contact information for the organization and its contact person complete and reasonable?

YES: x ☐ NO: ☐

Does the listed URL work?

YES: x ☐ NO: ☐

Does the website seem to be regularly updated?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐

Does the website have online discussion forums?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐ x But Working Groups are available for exchanges, as well as mailing lists. OCG has a [Flickr account](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#). All kept up to date.

If archives are publicly available, do these forums show signs of recent activity (in the last few months)?

YES: ☐ NO: ☐ n/a

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If public, are they kept up to date?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐ Yes all interfaces are kept up to date.

4) ADDITIONAL DUE DILIGENCE

a. How active and well known is the applicant organization?

Number of results for a Google search of organisation in quotes: 4,920 for "Wiener Zentrum fuer Rechtsinformatik"

b. Were you familiar with this applicant before the applicant applied to become an ALS?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐

If 'YES' please provide some detail of your previous knowledge:

Yes, the secondary contact Dr Schweighofer also submitted an ALS application with WZRI for which he is the primary contact. This application was submitted a few days prior to the Austrian Computing Society's application.

c. What kind of issues does it focus on mostly?

IP addresses, Domain Names, Internet Governance

- Has the applicant set up any event, meeting, or real-life activity pertaining to Internet governance issues, or other issues related to the interests of individual users?

YES: ☐x NO: ☐ As per application form: "regular roundtables linked to ICANN Meetings"

Additional information if any: OGC also organizes working groups and encourages members to create their own: <https://www.ocg.at/en/working-groups>

- Has the applicant been active in international, regional or national Internet governance issues?

ACTIVE: ☐ x INACTIVE: ☐