

EuroDIG General Assembly

The annual General Assembly of the non-profit EuroDIG Support Association was held on 20 June 2019 in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Agenda

1. **Assignment of the Chair of the GA, if other than the (two Co-) President(s),**
2. **Assignment of the minute keeper**
3. **Verification of the voting list (roll call of voting members in attendance)**
4. **Approval of the agenda**
5. **Approval of the minutes of the previous general assembly**
6. **Report on the activities in 2018 and outlook for planned activities in 2019**
7. **Approval of Associate Members accepted by the Board in the preceding 12 months**
8. **Reporting on and approval of the 2018 annual accounts**
9. **Discharge of the Board and the Secretariat for the year 2018**
10. **Discussion and approval of the 2019 expected costs and budget**
11. **Discussion and vote on the revision of the Statutes**
12. **Outreach to new Members of the Association**
13. **AOB**

Meeting Minutes

1. **Assignment of the Chair of the GA, if other than the (two Co-) President(s)**
The GA was chaired by Thomas Schneider, President of the EuroDIG Association
2. **Assignment of the minute keeper**
Chris Buckridge was assigned as the minute keeper.
3. **Verification of the voting list (roll call of voting members in attendance)**
10 out of 24 Full members were present or participated remotely, with seven of them holding proxy for members not present. One out of one Associate Member was present.
(See list of members in annex to this document.) The GA is open to the public.
4. **Approval of the agenda**
The agenda was sent to members 3 weeks in advance. No additional points (AOB) were suggested, and the agenda was approved.

5. Approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly

The minutes from the last EuroDIG General Assembly which took place on 6 June 2018, in Tbilisi, Georgia, was approved by the General Assembly.

6. Report on the activities in 2018 and outlook for planned activities in 2019

Secretary-General Sandra Hoferichter reported on EuroDIG activities in 2018, particularly noting the retreat held in early 2018 and the EuroDIG Digital Outlook distributed in late 2018, jointly with SEEDIG. Building ties with the SEEDIG community has been a priority, linked closely to further developing youth engagement with both EuroDIG and SEEDIG.

Emerging from discussions held during the last year, it was agreed that EuroDIG should again undertake efforts on developing intercessional work. Based on the experiences from 2015 on the Net Neutrality project the aim is this time a collected response to the report of the UN's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation.

The Secretariat continued to work with the European Internet Forum (EIF) on encouraging MEPs to come to EuroDIG and the IGF – while this achieved limited results, the recently elected new Parliament may provide opportunities to further develop that strategy.

Sandra also noted the success of the EuroDIG in Tbilisi in 2018, as particularly evidenced by the number of Georgian stakeholders attending the 2019 EuroDIG event.

The outlook for 2019 includes further cooperation with SEEDIG cooperation on youth fellows, producing the response to the UN HLPDC report, and incorporating the EuroDIG Digital Outlook into the EuroDIG Messages document.

Present Members were invited to comment.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond asked whether there were occasions where the Secretary-General had been invited to speak on behalf of EuroDIG? Sandra noted that she was asked to do this at EIF events a couple of times each year, and has taken part in several national IGF events (some via remote participation). She also attended the Webit.Festival in Sofia (the first time attending an event not directly linked to EuroDIG) as a means to further develop strategies and EuroDIG's ability to engage the business community – while a useful experience, Sandra noted that the two conference models are not really comparable, with different goals and methods. Additionally, Sandra was invited to speak at RightsCon, but was unable to take up the invitation.

Markus Kummer noted that Sandra also spoke at IGF MAG meetings; Sandra noted that she sees this as a core role of the EuroDIG Secretariat.

7. Approval of Full and Associate Members accepted by the Board in the preceding 12 months

Tatiana Tropina's Full Membership of the EuroDIG Association was approved.

Sorina Teleanu's Associate Membership of the EuroDIG Association was approved.

8. Reporting on and approval of the 2018 annual accounts

The Chair introduced Beat Häring, who has been assisting the EuroDIG Association in reviewing the its financial accounts, including coordination of an audit.

Mr Häring explained that he has worked to implement the double entry accounting system for the Association. The results (balance sheet income statement as well as audit report) had been shared with the membership ahead of the General Assembly, and that it is planned to continue with the new accounting system going forward.

Thomas Schneider noted that there is no statutory requirement to do an audit, but the Board felt that it was a important step.

Wolfgang Kleinwächter congratulated the Association leadership for this step and noted that it was a very positive move in terms of accountability and trust.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond noted that the only barrier to doing this work was the cost involved. He felt it was a good investment, and noted that the Board is happy to hear feedback or input on how to develop this.

Andrea Beccalli also commended the Board on undertaking this work, and agreed that money spent on this kind of activity is a good investment (Wolfgang Kleinwächter also noted his agreement). Andrea asked where he could find the audit document.

Chris Buckridge noted that while the documentation was sent to members on 30 May, it is not currently available more widely, and suggested that it should be posted publicly as soon as possible, for transparency. Giacomo Mazzone suggested posting to the Association's partners first, then posting publicly.

Yrjö Länsipuro noted that as a long-time part of the EuroDIG community, he strongly welcomed this work.

The General Assembly approved the annual accounts 2018.

9. Discharge of the Board and the Secretariat for the year 2018

The necessary quorum of two-thirds of members present or represented being reached, the General Assembly agreed to grant discharge to the Board and the Secretariat.

10. Discussion and approval of the 2019 expected costs and budget

The Secretary-General presented the plans for the 2019 budget.

Olivier Crépin-Leblond noted that the largest budget line was for the Secretariat, but that this number was foreseen in past years due to the expansion of activities for the Secretariat. Sandra agreed, and noted some of these additional activities.

Giacomo suggested that audit costs move from "Unpredictable costs" to a different line, as it is predictable. Sandra noted that the Board still has to agree on whether the audits would be done annually.

Andrea Beccalli asked how many people the remuneration expenses covered. Sandra noted that to date there are seven people who have received or will receive payment for work done in service of the EuroDIG 2019 event and organisation.

The 2019 Budget was approved with no objections.

The General Assembly approved the annual budget estimation for 2019

11. Discussion and vote on the revision of the Statutes

The Chair noted that Markus Kummer had suggested a number of changes to the EuroDIG Association Statutes. Sandra noted that the Board has made its own recommendations based on Markus's proposal, and that it is necessary for the GA to approve a revised draft of the Statutes so that they can be submitted to the Swiss authorities, as the document is currently missing a provision (regarding closure of the Association).

Sandra noted that the GA was only being asked currently to approve the change of the seat of the Association (paragraph 15) and to approve paragraph 14 regarding closure of the Association.

Paragraph 15 was approved with no objections.

Paragraph 14 was approved with no objections.

Markus suggested an online Assembly be held before the 2020 EuroDIG meeting to further revise the Statutes. The Chair agreed to facilitate this.

12. Outreach to new Members of the Association

This topic was not covered due to lack of time.

13. AOB

There was no AOB.

List of participants (members) during the General Assembly in The Hague on 20 June 2019

No	Founding Member (voting)	Present	Proxy assigned to:
1	Sebastien Bachollet		
2	Wolfgang Benedek		
3	Chris Buckridge	Present	
4	Olivier Crepin-Leblond	Present	
5	Bertrand de La Chapelle		Paul Fehlinger
6	Avri Doria		Markus Kummer
7	Patrik Fältström		
8	Paul Fehlinger	Present	
9	Letizia Gambini		Thomas Schneider
10	Ayesha Hassan		Olivier Crepin-Leblond
11	Sandra Hoferichter	Present	
12	Wolfgang Kleinwächter	Present	
13	Markus Kummer	Present	
14	Yrjö Länsipuro	Present	
15	Wolf Ludwig		Sandra Hoferichter
16	Giacomo Mazzone	Present	
17	Juuso Moisander		Thomas Schneider
18	Ana Neves		Yrjö Länsipuro
19	Ana Olmos		
20	Vladimir Radunovic		
21	Paul Rendek		
22	Michael Rotert		Wolfgang Kleinwächter
23	Thomas Schneider	Present	
24	Tatiana Tropina	Present	

EuroDIG Associate Members present during the General Assembly in The Hague

1	Sorina Teleanu	Present	
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