

EuroDIG General Assembly

Tbilisi, 6 June 2018, 12.30 – 14.00 Rooms Hotel

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. Approval of Associate Members accepted by the Board in the preceding 12 months
7. Reporting and approval of the [2017 / 2018 costs and budget](#)
8. Discussion about the future of EuroDIG
9. 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
Livia Walpen (OFCOM Switzerland) was assigned as the minute keeper.
3. Verification of the voting list (roll call of voting members in attendance)
Out of 23 voting members 14 were present or participated remotely, whilst 4 of them holding proxy for members not present. One out of one Associate Member was present. Details are in the list at the end of this document.

Guests inter alia: Representatives of partner Organisations, Arnold van Rhijn, Marjolijn Bonthuis (representing the next host), Mark Carvell, etc. (and others unknown in the audience)

4. Approval of the agenda
The agenda was sent to members 3 weeks in advance. No additional points (AOB) have been suggested. The agenda was approved.

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5. Approval of the minutes of the previous general assembly
The minutes from the last EuroDIG General Assembly which took place in Tallinn, on 7 June 2017 were approved.
6. Approval of Associate Members accepted by the Board in the preceding 12 months
There were no new Associate Members in the preceding 12 months.
7. Reporting and approval of the 2017 / 2018 costs and budget

The [donors handout](#) includes a transparency report for all transactions in 2017 and an estimated budget for 2018. Sandra Hoferichter explained in more detail the past and the current budget and gave an update on the sponsors:

2017 budget:

- The final costs 2017 (186.000 EUR) were less than budgeted (215.000 EUR).
- The secretariat's travel costs also included the travel costs of the subject matter experts.
- The travel support programme was done for the second time in 2017. Due to some drop outs the costs remained under the foreseen budget.
- The costs for the secretariat's remuneration were less than budgeted despite several challenges in 2017 (e.g. the formation of a new team and the change of the host company for EuroDIG's website).
- The print and communication costs were slightly higher than budgeted because the "Messages from Tallinn" were printed for the IGF 2017 conference bags.
- "Other costs" included among others a cocktail at IGF 2017 and insurance costs.
- The costs for the 10th anniversary festivities were less than budgeted because Estonia covered the majority.
- The event costs 2017 were entirely covered by Estonia as host country.
- The surplus serves as a safety (e.g. in case no host country can be found).
- Thomas Schneider thanked the Secretariat for the very efficient use of money.

2018 budget estimation:

- The estimated total costs for 2018 are 205.00 EUR.
- The costs for the retreat in January 2018 in Brussels (8.000 EUR) are included in the budget.
- For the first time, a selection had to be made for the travel support program in 2018. Preference was given to NRI coordinators, session focal points and Diplo/GIP reporters.
- DiploFoundation/GIP made an in-kind contribution to EuroDIG 2018 through reporting.
- The print and communication costs might increase if the "Messages from Tbilisi" will be printed for IGF 2018 in Paris.

Sponsors:

- EuroDIG lost two sponsors in 2017: Telefonica and Microsoft.
- Google increased its contribution from 25.000 EUR to 50.000 EUR in 2017.
- A new sponsor category was created in 2018, namely "Platinum Sponsor". As Platinum Sponsor, Google would have had the right to bring roll-up banners to EuroDIG 2018 and to give a key note at the gala, but Google did not make use of this right.
- It was asked if a spitting between commercial and non-commercial sponsors could be done, which is possible.
- Sandra Hoferichter explained that more funds are needed, e.g. for PR & Communication,. Everybody is asked to look out for new sponsors.

The question was raised who should be able to see the detailed budget. It was decided that the detailed budget should not be published on the website. Association members and partners can receive it upon request, but it should be treated as confidential. Also, due to privacy reasons, personal names should be hidden when the detailed budget is given out to Association members and partners.

The GA approved the 2017 budget as well as the 2018 budget estimation.

8. Discussion about the future of EuroDIG

A retreat on the future of EuroDIG was held in January 2018 in Brussels that was facilitated by an external moderator. During the GA in Tbilisi, different opinions were expressed on how useful the external moderator had been. Also, the question was raised if there will be a report on the outcomes of the retreat. Giacomo Mazzone volunteered to write such a report in cooperation with the Secretariat. As the discussion on the future of EuroDIG is a constant process, the report will not draw any final conclusions, but will provide a synthesis on the state of things after the retreat. The report should be available before the kick-off meeting with the Netherlands as EuroDIG 2019 host country that will take place in The Hague in the week of 19 September 2018.

The discussions on the future of EuroDIG also continued during EuroDIG 2018 in Tbilisi, e.g. in different meetings with MEP Boni, IGF MAG Chair Lynn St. Amour and representatives of SEEDIG. One concrete idea to reform EuroDIG would be to organize the plenaries in a more “top-down” manner and give the slots to very high-level personalities. The plenaries could then be announced well in advance, which would attract high-level participants. This and other ideas need to be further discussed.

In this regard, some said that there cannot be any fast solutions or big steps in reforming EuroDIG, while others argued not to lose too much time, as the digital transformation process is evolving very quickly.

It was decided that Thursday, 15th November, in Paris (right after IGF 2018 that will take place from 12th – 14th November) should be reserved to continue the discussions on the future of EuroDIG.

9. AOB

None

List of participants (members) during the General Assembly in Tbilisi

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

EuroDIG members present during the General Assembly in Tbilisi

No	Full Member (voting)	Present	Proxy assigned to:
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...			
...			
	Associate Member (none voting)		
1	Tatiana Tropina	Present	
...			
...			

Livia Walpen
Kaiseraugst, 17th June 2018