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**Date: 16 March 2016**

**Applicant Organization:** WZRI

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 application form: "Main decisions of the organization are taken by a majority vote of all members in the General Assembly. Statutes are available on our website (only in German)."

There is however no geographic restriction on members' location. As per email exchange with applicant: "Most members are Austrian, but nationality is no criteria. For a while, we had a requirement of some closeness to the region of Vienna, but we have abandoned it long time ago."

**c. Does the applicant really have individual members?**

YES: x NO:

Provide any references used to answer the question here: As per application form: "Persons with a strong scientific interest in legal informatics (= law in the knowledge and network society)" Eligibility

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requirements: “Written application; interest in legal informatics required; usually proven by a Ph.D. in legal informatics or similar qualification but exceptions apply; ICANN sub-group: only interest in Internet Governance required”

**If YES on (c) above, are these members active, or do they mostly just sign up and delegate to their leaders?** As per application form: “All strategic decisions are taken during General Assemblies where members are encouraged to use their individual votes. There are approximately 50 members in WZRI. They delegate the operative decision making to the official representative Board.”

As per email exchange with applicant: “Board members are elected by the General Assembly of the WZRI.”

ACTIVE: x DELEGATE:

**d. Does the applicant have organizations as members?**

YES:  NO: x

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

YES:  NO: x

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

YES: x NO:

Please explain the answer and the source material, with URLs, for the response: Yes their Roundtable events always include external speakers:

<http://www.wzri.eu/#ueberuns>

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

YES: x 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 fees; project financing by research funding or

sponsoring”

**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:  They also correspond with membership via regular newsletters and general assemblies.

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

YES:  NO:  If 'YES', how and where are the references?  
<http://www.wzri.eu/#vorstand>

As per email exchange with applicant, once staff noticed a discrepancy between Board members names on the application form and on the website: “The website is the correct one”

**i. How does the applicant appear to be funded?**

Where / what sources did you use to find the answers to this question?

As per email exchange with applicant: “Our basic activities are financed by membership fees and some support by the University of Vienna (post address, meeting rooms). Projects are directly financed by some funding, e.g. research funds or competitive bidding for research contracts. For the ICANN AT LARGE activities, we will do some crowd funding. In any case, there is no decisional influence stemming from financial assistance”

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

YES:  NO:

As per application form: “In case of projects like the biggest event in legal informatics in Central Europe, the International Legal Informatics Conference IRIS, small funding is also given by the Austrian Chamber of Commerce and private companies. This sponsoring does not result in any involvement in the activities of the organization”

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

YES:  NO:

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If 'YES', please reference the sources for this answer:

As per application form: "Prof. Dr. Dr. Erich Schweighofer, President, erich.schweighofer@wzri.eu; and Dr. Walter Hoetzendorfer, Director, walter@hoetzendorfer.com, are also active in the Austrian Computing Society OCG which will apply also as an At-Large Structure."

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

YES: x NO:

If YES, role(s):

As per email exchange with applicant: "Erich Schweighofer, the WZRI president, is doing research in internet governance for over 18 years and follows closely ICANN activities and attends also ICANN meetings. He has established a small group of interested researchers – Dr. Walter Hötzendorfer, the CEO of the WZRI, and a member of the WZRI, Vinzenz Heußler (a NextGen@ICANN since Dublin 2015) that will act as a Founding Group of the related ICANN AT LARGE activities. An informal co-operation exists with another internet expert, Attorney Dr. Wolfram Proksch, .WIEN registry, ..AT registry, Internet Service Providers Association in Austria and the Austrian Internet Governance Forum, managed by the Federal Chancellery. The WZRI has already organised workshops on the work of ICANN, in particular related to the ongoing topics in ICANN Meetings."

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

YES: x NO:  As an additional focal point.

If YES, include mission/policy statement, and reference the source: WZRI ByLaws: "2.1.1 The Association aims to promote the scientific teaching, research, consultancy and publication in legal informatics. The association is committed to the research and systematization and presentation of legal informatics within and outside Austria. The Association should engage in promoting publications in legal informatics. The association shall provide scientific input in relation to the systematization, representation and exploration of legal informatics to ensure that the scientific results are provided to the general public and, ultimately, to every human citizen."

The Board has decided unanimously to add a focus in Internet Governance and related questions on data protection and data security to the main objectives of its activities."

**3) INTERNET PRESENCE**

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**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:  As per email exchange with applicant: "We are working on a new website that should be available also in English, maybe also a short version in French and other Central-European languages."

Does the website have online discussion forums?

YES:  NO x

As per email exchange with applicant: "We will have a blog on our new website on internet governance."

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

YES:  NO:  n/a To the staff question about the organization being on social media platforms, the applicant replied: "Not yet, but we are planning it. The WZRI President Schweighofer is present on all these social media sites."

If public, are they kept up to date?

YES:  NO:

**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: For "WZRI Wiener Zentrum fuer Rechtsinformatik": 599 results

Additional information if any:

As per email exchange with the applicant:

To the staff question: "Regarding article 2.1.1. Of the Bylaws I see that the Board decided to add a focus on Internet Governance to the list of aims. Could you be more specific about when this was added, and what it implies?"

The applicant responded: "The Board decided in 2014 (ICANN London 2014) to strongly engage in internet

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governance activities. It implies supporting the establishment of a group of interested researchers that should also act as a community organiser of ICANN AT LARGE politics. It is planned to formalise this group as a research institute of the WZRI, including all interested stakeholders and give it autonomy in decision-making and financing.”

Primary contact : Prof. Dr. Dr. Erich Schweighofer is also secondary contact in other ALS applicant OCG Oesterreichische Computer Gesellschaft / Austrian Computing Society, Due diligence currently being processed by staff

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

YES:  NO:

**What kind of issues does it focus on mostly? As per application form:** Internet Governance Domain Names UDRP Trademark Clearing House Privacy and data protection Identity management Internet security

- 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:  NO:

As per application form: “Research group, jointly with Centre for Computers and Law, University of Vienna; regular roundtables on ICANN issues, together with the Austrian Computing Society OCG”

Colloquium Intelligence Services & Law / News Services & Law; OCG involving the Vienna Centre for Legal computer science, the FRA, the BIM and the ARI

on Thursday, November 26, 2015, 10-17.15 pm, OCG, Wollzeile 1

Website: [www.ocg.at/de/colloquium\\_intelligence\\_services\\_law#links](http://www.ocg.at/de/colloquium_intelligence_services_law#links)

Roundtable of the Vienna Centre for Legal computer science

on Monday, March 9, 2015, 19-20.30 pm (pünktl.) Juridicum, Schottenbastei 10-16 **Theme: Internet Governance in 2015** with statements from:

Roundtable of the Vienna Centre for Legal computer science

on Monday, March 10, 2014, 19 pm (pünktl.), OCG, Wollzeile 1, HZS **Topic: Roundtable ICANN At Large: ICANN49, 23rd-27th. March 2014, Singapore**

<http://www.wzri.eu/>

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

ACTIVE:  INACTIVE:

As per application form: “research activities, participation in ICANN events”

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