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**Date: 9 August 2016**

**Applicant Organization:** Article 19

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:  NO:

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

YES:  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:  NO:

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

As per the application form: "We are governed by an International Board of Trustees (Directors under company law) who oversee our Executive Director and Senior Management Team.

ARTICLE 19's governance structure aims to ensure that we are effective in working towards achieving our vision, using our resources to maximum effect and upholding our core ethos and values."

<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/governance.html>

As per website, Article 19 employs over 80 people spread globally.

<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/programmes-people.html>

It also has active [Fellowship](#) and [Internship](#) programs.

As per email exchange with applicant, there are both paid employees and volunteers contributing to the activity of Article 19: “Yes - volunteers help us with feedback and analysis of policy statements, censorship measurement, software development, and campaigns.”

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

YES:  NO:

Provide any references used to answer the question here: As per application form: “There is no membership model. Activity within the organization is by subscribing to a newsletter or Article 19’s social media platforms, or by requesting an internship.”

As per email exchange with applicant: “The Management Team in Article 19 proposes a strategic plan with connected activities which gets approved by the board, after that the board gets regularly updated on the activities of the organization.

This is also outlines here:

<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/finance-accountability.html>”

As per website: “We see accountability as a continuous two-way process: our stakeholders inform and participate in our decisions and activities and we learn from their feedback.”

As per email exchange with applicant: “There are regular calls for input and review of draft policies, similarly there are regular projects, such as the censorship.exposed project we did with the Open Rights Group, which enable people to input via hackathons and collaboration on code.

Furthermore we're working with volunteers on achieving campaign goals aimed a specific countries and topics, such as for instance with the most recent <https://www.dontspyonus.org.uk/> campaign where Article 19 was one of the central drivers.

So both juridically, technically and through campaigns we work with volunteers.”

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

YES:  NO:

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

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YES:  NO:

**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: As per email exchange with applicant: “Yes - we also regularly (co-) organize film screenings, discussion evenings and policy discussion events with experts and end-users.”

**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: ‘As can be found in our annual accounts, in 2015 our largest donors were the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the UK, Norway and Sweden.’

[https://www.article19.org/data/files/2015\\_Accounts.pdf](https://www.article19.org/data/files/2015_Accounts.pdf)

**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:

**i. 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? Thomas Hughes is Executive Director on application form and here; <https://www.article19.org/pages/en/executive-director.html>

Quinn McKew is Deputy Executive Director on application form and here:  
<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/operations.html>

Board of Trustees: <https://www.article19.org/pages/en/trustees.html>

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

Where / what sources did you use to find the answers to this question? Mainly by regular donations, as per application form and website:

<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/funders.html>

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

YES:  NO: x

As per application form: “Yes, but these agencies do not participate in our activities. They solely function as donors.”

As per website: “ARTICLE 19 is accountable to donors (around 30 institutions in 2010).”

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

YES:  NO: x

**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:

Mission

ARTICLE 19 promotes and defends freedom of expression and information globally.

The global realisation of our vision and mission is underpinned not only by freedom of expression and information, but through other rights including belief, privacy, participation, assembly and association,

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and more. As such, we frame our vision and mission within two interlocking freedoms:

Freedom to Speak

The right to express and disseminate opinions, ideas and information through any means, and to dissent and question powerholders.

Freedom to Know

The right to demand and receive information held by powerholders for transparency, good governance and sustainable development.

<https://www.article19.org/pages/en/mission.html>

### 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 the newsletter is regular and the twitter account is very active  
<https://twitter.com/article19org>

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

YES:  NO:  n/a

If public, are they kept up to date?

YES:  NO:  n/a

### 4) ADDITIONAL DUE DILIGENCE

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

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Number of results for a Google search of organisation in quotes: "Article 19: Defending freedom of expression and information" as "Article 19" leads to a majority of websearches not directly linked to the applicant: 2630

Additional information if any: Input by Jean-Jacques Sahel, ICANN VP for Europe: "Article 19 is a highly respected NGO focussed on freedom of expression, with strong links and input to the European court of human rights in particular, as well as the UN Human Rights Council.

They have been involved in Internet Governance and ICANN for some time now. They helped coordinate civil society input into Net Mundial in 2013-2014 and have since been very active in ICANN on human rights aspects. Their head of digital issues Niels ten Oever is now an NCUC member and chairs the Cross Community Working Party on ICANN and Human Rights, which has fed directly and substantially into the Accountability and Workstream 2 aspects of the IANA stewardship transition.

Their further involvement in ICANN should help increase the diversity and quality of ICANN's policymaking work."

**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: Primary contact Niels ten Oever is a member of the NCUC, Corinne Cath, secondary contact, is also member of the NCUC and of the GNSO New gTLD Subsequent Procedures PDP Working Group.

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

As per application form: "Freedom of expression, human rights, accountability, transparency"

- 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:

Additional information if any: As per application form: "- <http://hrpc.io/> screening of the film Net of Rights in 8 countries"

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

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ACTIVE:  INACTIVE:

As per application form:

- co-chairing IRTF research group hrpc <https://irtf.org/hrpc>
- chairing the Cross Community Working Group on ICANNs Corporate and Social Responsibility to Respect Human Rights <http://icannhumanrights.net>
- co-rapporteurship of CCWG WS2 Human Rights Design Team