



Mr Steve Crocker
Chair of the Board
Internet Corporation for
Assigned Names and
Numbers

Strasbourg, 25 April 2017

Dear Mr Crocker,

In relation to the "Privacy Day at ICANN58" I wish to thank you and the ICANN Board for all the support provided for this "game changer" series of events, and your personal availability. Basing myself on the positive echo from the communities, I consider this set of events as marking the start of an important dialogue. Privacy and data protection will no doubt remain at the heart of the discussions in ICANN. The most important outcome of this first direct exchange for ICANN communities and the data protection community is a better mutual understanding of the underlying problems and a rise in the willingness to tackle the issues.

The cross community session with the global data protection community's representatives enabled the participants to reach a common understanding on the most important questions and established a viable communication channel between the two communities, which will be of great use in the long run.

Our discussions with the ICANN Board and various ICANN communities during the event reinforced the belief that we need to pursue our co-operation on these issues. The Council of Europe stands ready to contribute to the organisation of similar events for ICANN59 to be held in Johannesburg on 25-29 June, possibly with a focus on the regional dimension, as well as to the next Global Domain Division conference to be held in Madrid on 11-12 May.

In the medium term, I am sure that the Committee of Convention 108 and the Data Protection Unit of the Council of Europe will remain involved with privacy and data protection related ICANN policy processes, especially with regard to the next generation of Registration Directory Services. In this respect, let me confirm that my colleagues remain at your disposal to respond to any question implying a privacy and data protection expertise.

I am convinced that together we can contribute to the strengthening of the respect for human rights and rule of law and ultimately contribute to achieve a more stable, secure and free internet.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Kleijssen