

12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
USA

+1 310 301 5800

+1 310 823 8649

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ICANN Preliminary Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .epost Top-Level Domain

On 28 September 2018, Deusche Post AG <u>notified ICANN</u> of its intent to terminate the .epost Registry Agreement entered into on 23 July 2015. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement, as modified by Section 6 of the Specification 13 (.Brand TLD Provisions), ICANN consulted with Deusche Post AG to assess whether to transition operation of the .epost top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

Subject to an ongoing evaluation, ICANN has made a preliminary determination that operation of the .epost TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator. ICANN's review and determinations regarding transition to a successor registry are subject to Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified for a .Brand TLD).

ICANN's preliminary determination to not transition the TLD to a successor Registry Operator is based on the following rationale:

- 1. .epost qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
- 2. Transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified for a .Brand TLD), ICANN may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without the Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

Before releasing its final determination, ICANN will consider input provided by interested parties via email at <u>ra-termination-comments@icann.org</u>. The deadline to submit input is 06 January 2019 – 23:59 UTC.

Cyrus Namazi Vice President, Global Domains Division ICANN