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Dear Sir or Madam

The Basque Writers' Association, **EIE**, is supported by the Basque Government and currently has 354 members, all writers working in the Basque language. It was founded in 1982 and since the very start has worked hard to defend the professional and moral rights of Basque writers. Its objectives are to foster literature in the Basque language and, in general, to promote Basque culture both and at home and abroad.

The association's headquarters are located in San Sebastian, although we seek to promote and foster Basque literature in any part of the world. We have close ties with those working in the literary fields of many other cultures, and have carved a niche for our own unique cultural expression amongst them.

Within our current Strategic Plan, we are engaged in a project which aims to integrate literature into society, and are consequently focusing a great deal of our attention on the internet, as a powerful and highly fruitful means of forging closer ties with citizens.

One of the conclusions that we have drawn from our work in this field is that the **.eus** domain is a vital tool for achieving the goals we have set ourselves. In other words, it is a vital tool for enabling our literature to find its place in the world. Literature is universal, but literary creation always has a specific place of origin, and Basque literature is no exception. Now, through the **.eus** domain name, we have the opportunity to tell the world about the origins of our literary offerings.

Right from the first moment in which **EIE** became involved in this project, the decision was made to contact ICAAN, and it is today a source of great satisfaction for us to see the **Puntu Eus Foundation** up and running. We believe that the **Puntu Eus Foundation** is the ideal organisation to manage the **.eus** project from hereon. **EIE** is a member of the foundation and is eager to start working on this issue within this framework.

EIE is convinced that the expansion and development of the **.eus** domain is vital to achieving its goals, and in this undertaking, the creation of the **Puntu Eus Foundation** constitutes an important step forward. We would therefore like to ask ICAAN to accept

the **.eus** domain as quickly as possible. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the following address: eie@idazleak.org

Juan Mari Apaolaza Estensoro Member of EIE management