

### *Endorsement and Support from the Gay Community*

As described in 20A, the Gay Community consists of a cooperating loose mesh of organizations that represent the diverse segments and various interests of the Gay Community, often created to work towards ending discrimination of the Gay Community. The series of endorsement letters contained in this section is designed to not only personalize the community-based effort to create the .gay TLD, but to provide clarity and certainty around the level of support that the Gay Community has extended to dotgay LLC's community-based .gay application.

Submitted from the diverse segments and various interests of the Gay Community, the current list includes letters from 128 committed organizations and businesses in the areas of:

1. UN accredited Gay Organizations
2. Gay Organizations
3. Gay Business & Business Networks
4. Gay Media
5. Gay Travel & Entertainment

With support from many of the largest international organizations, the combined reach into the Gay Community touches more than 110 countries with individual membership exceeding 7 million. dotgay LLC anticipates that this support will continue to grow over the coming months with ongoing outreach, communication and authentication partnerships extending into the already broad support of the community. The most current listing of endorsements will be updated and made available at [www.dotgay.com](http://www.dotgay.com).

The letters also help to demonstrate how each endorsing party is positioned in the Gay Community, offering brief descriptions of their history or mission in the community. Included in many of the letters are suggestions of how the .gay TLD could bring value and benefit to the Gay Community, interpreted in ways that are personal in nature from the endorsing party. Some letters also pointedly acknowledge that 'gay' is the correct term for the TLD, a confirmation from the community itself as to how the community should be identified with a TLD.

Many of the community organizations and business that have endorsed dotgay LLC and the .gay TLD are committed beyond the delivery of their endorsement letter, partnering with dotgay LLC to provide application advice on the dotgay Application Advisory Group (dAAG) and to serve as Authentication Partners in the area of eligibility. Many individuals representing these organizations have also offered their time and commitment to participate on the Registry Advisory Board (RAB) as well as with the Board of Directors for the dotgay Foundation.

With great pride, dotgay LLC puts forth this community-based .gay application that is without doubt comprehensively supported by the community it is intended to serve.

1.

### UN accredited Gay Organizations

This grouping of endorsements contains national and international organizations that currently hold accreditation with the United Nations, recognition for the Gay Community that has only existed for the past two decades.

The first venue by which non-governmental organizations took a role in formal UN deliberations was through the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). 41 NGOs were granted consultative status by the council in 1946; by 1992 more than 700 NGOs had attained consultative status and the number has been steadily increasing ever since. Currently 3,536 NGOs enjoy consultative status with ECOSOC and 12 of them speak on behalf of the Gay Community, the first ever being the International, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) in 1993.

As of this writing, nine of the organizations representing the Gay Community at the United Nations, as part of ECOSOC, have shown their support in writing with an endorsement letter. These organizations represent a combined reach of 110+ countries around the world, and are comprised of 1100+ membership organizations holding 27,000+ in individual membership. These organizations also represent community members identifying as male or female homosexuals, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex.

# International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association-ILGA

(International non-profit association: aisbl)

17 rue de la Charité

1210 Brussels, Belgium

Tel : +32 (0)2 502 24 71

Fax: +32 (0)2 223 48 20

Website: [www.ilga.org](http://www.ilga.org) • e-mail: [admin@ilga.org](mailto:admin@ilga.org)



Brussels, 7 February 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

ILGA is an umbrella organisation representing more than 690 LGBTI member organisations from 110 countries in all continents and focuses public and government attention on cases of discrimination against LGBTI people by supporting programs and protest actions, asserting diplomatic pressure, providing information and working with international organisations and the international media.

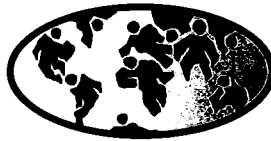
As a significant part of our membership works specifically on human rights violations affecting gay people the creation of a .gay TLD would benefit our organisation by making it easier for other human rights and media organisations to find website pages dealing with this specific topic.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLDs like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBTI people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Renato Sabbadini  
co-Secretary General, ILGA

ILGA is a membership organization with over 690 groups from 111 countries, committed to equal human rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, intersex and transgender people.	The work of ILGA is supported by the Dutch organization Hivos, by the Dutch Government, by SIDA (Swedish International Development Agency), by BT (UK), by the ARCUS Foundation USA, and by ILGA supporters worldwide.
---	--



**I G L H R C**  
**HUMAN RIGHTS FOR EVERYONE.**  
**EVERYWHERE.**

May 26, 2011

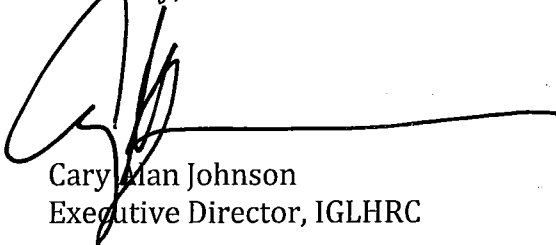
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

We are writing to support the consideration by ICANN of the creation of the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) is a twenty one year old leading international organization dedicated to human rights advocacy on behalf of people who experience discrimination or abuse on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. We partner with organizations around the world and the internet provides a critical platform for our work.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals and organizations as they deal with discrimination and abuse. A new TLD's like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people, communities and resources. ICANN's understanding of the importance of the .gay TLD is extremely valuable. .gay provides a common platform that will provide opportunities for sharing information and for community building and networking that we are excited to explore.

Sincerely,

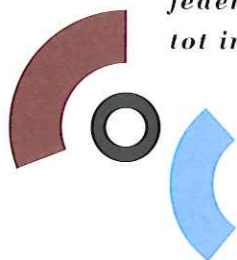
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cary Alan Johnson', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Cary Alan Johnson  
Executive Director, IGLHRC

**International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission**

80 Maiden Lane, Suite 1505 • New York, NY 10038 USA

T: 1.212.430.6054 • F: 1.212.430.6060 • [iglhrc@iglhrc.org](mailto:iglhrc@iglhrc.org) • [www.iglhrc.org](http://www.iglhrc.org)



*federatie van nederlandse verenigingen*  
*tot integratie van homoseksualiteit* coc nederland

ref.nr.: 11.100 / 6.20.2  
Support letter dot gay

Amsterdam, 4 October 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level domain (TLD).

COC Netherlands is the oldest organization in the world that works on the emancipation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. We are the Dutch LGBT movement and an international LGBT human rights organization. Being established in 1946 COC Netherlands has been at the forefront of achieving legal equality and promoting social acceptance for LGBT people.

Our organization achieved a lot in The Netherlands. It is no news that LGBT people worldwide continue to face prejudices, discrimination, repression, legal sentences and sometimes even death punishment. As of today, 102 countries still criminalize homosexuality.

With 21 regional COC branches in the Netherlands, COC Netherlands is an LGBT-organisation active on a regional, national but also international level. Our organization is one of the founders of ILGA. We work with the United Nations, European Union, Council of Europe, OSCE and African Union. COC Netherlands has consultative status at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Our organization is well known and respected and considered to be among the most influential LGBT organization in the world. Such a position brings great responsibility and challenges to us every day.

To work on those challenges we need tools. The internet is a tool that is highly used by our community. By rights groups, social groups, LGBT-entrepreneurs and gay friendly businesses. We believe that the business model for the new TLD as proposed by dotgay LLC ensures the best management of the TLD for the our community, because it directly involves the LGBT-organizations and businesses and lets our movement benefit. The model provides a safe marketing instrument and the revenues to support our work. We truly believe it gives ownership of the TLD to the community whom it should belong to.

We do understand the debates about GAY being the most suitable label to stick on our community. But in the end it is the most commonly and worldwide accepted term for a diverse group of people including homo- and bisexual men and women and transgender, intersexual and queer people plus their straight friends. Therefore it's also the strongest term to use. And that as well in Dutch as in English.

postadres: postbus 3836, 1001 ap amsterdam  
bezoekadres: nieuwe herengracht 49, amsterdam  
telefoon 020.623 45 96 fax 020.626 77 95  
internet [www.coc.nl](http://www.coc.nl) e-mail [info@coc.nl](mailto:info@coc.nl)

  [cocnederland](http://cocnederland.nl)

ABN: 51.88.61.457 t.n.v. coc nederland  
ABN: 51.88.83.396 t.n.v. coc nl ledenadministratie  
kvk amsterdam nr. 40530156

COC Netherlands supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Vera Bergkamp  
President COC Nederland

LSVD · Postfach 10 34 14 · 50474 Köln

**Bundesgeschäftsstelle**

Pipinstr. 7

50667 Köln

Tel. (0221) 925961-0

Fax (0221) 925961-11

E-mail: [lsvd@lsvd.de](mailto:lsvd@lsvd.de)

Internet: [www.lsvd.de](http://www.lsvd.de)

October 13, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

it is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany (LSVD) is Germany's biggest LGBTI organisation. We fight for fully equal rights and support our community with advice in cases of legal and social discrimination, marginalization and violence. We are convinced that fighting for the interests of gays and lesbians means organizing political and societal majorities and being visible.

For us it is essential to be present in the media, we have to lobby parliaments, governments and the relevant authorities. We have prepared detailed legal briefs on relevant legislation such as the registered partnership law or the antidiscrimination legislation, we take part in parliamentary hearings on legislation and we hold meeting with government ministers and their staff. For all this .gay top-level-domain will be more than helpful.

The .gay top-level-domain will help us to integrate and address the LGBTI community not only in Germany but worldwide. The .gay TLD increases the visibility and identity of our community. In this term it is not only a helpful tool, it seems to be vital for our future commitment.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,



Klaus Jetz, Director

Bank für Sozialwirtschaft  
BLZ / BIC 370 205 00 /  
BFSWDE33  
Konto 708 68 00  
IBAN:  
DE30370205000007086800

Mildtätiger Verein -  
Spenden sind  
steuerabzugsfähig

Offizieller Beraterstatus  
beim Wirtschafts- und  
Sozialausschuss der  
Vereinten Nationen

Mitglied im Deutschen  
Paritätischen  
Wohlfahrtsverband (DPWV)

Mitglied der International  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
Trans and Intersex  
Association (ILGA)

Mitglied im Forum  
Menschenrechte



November 30, 2011

Dear Mr Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gat top-level-domain (TLD).

We represent the FELGTB, the Spanish biggest Federation in matter of LGTB rights. Our organization consists of more than 50 associations all over Spain, from Canary Islands to Catalonia who have the strongest voice in the Spanish society and mass media in order to fight against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia.

We believe that .gay is a very good project to make the gay reality more visible in our world. All the organizations that form FELGTB could have this domain to be easily found and to directly show our reality to society. Besides, it would be easier to find associations as ours if all of them get used to using this TLD.

We also think that .gay is, among all possible options, the best if you try to play with many variables like "being accepted", "being recognized", "be easy to remember", it is the most inclusive term (except LGTB) which is well known and the most important, it is a word used the same way in Spanish and English (two of the main languages in the world) but not only these two languages, but also in French, Italian or German they also understand this word and the word is exactly the same in all of them.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGTB service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely yours,

Gabriel Aranda

International Affairs and Human Rights Chief

FELGTB

c/ Infantas 40 28004 Madrid

[www.felgtb.org](http://www.felgtb.org)





**ASSOCIAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE LÉSBICAS, GAYS,  
BISSEXUAIS, TRAVESTIS E TRANSEXUAIS**

---

*Presidência*

---

Mr. Rod Beckstrom and Board Members  
The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers - ICANN

Curitiba, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2011

Our Ref: PR/205/2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

ABGLT, the Brazilian Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Association, is a national network founded in 1995 that currently has 237 member organizations located throughout Brazil. ABGLT is also active internationally and in 2009 gained consultative status with the United Nations Social and Economic Council (ECOSOC).

Since its foundation in 1995 ABGLT has witnessed the increasing importance of the worldwide web and social media in contributing to the affirmation of LGBT identities, promoting communication and information essential to overcoming the obstacles that still remain for us in our quest to attain full citizenship and equal rights.

Undoubtly the specific .gay TLD would be a landmark and a significant step forward in this process, by making gay identity more visible, more accessible and helping to develop the specific issues of the diverse segments gathered under this umbrella term.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Yours sincerely,

Toni Reis (Mr.)  
President



Québec, Canada 09-12-2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level- domain (TLD).

The Coalition Gaie et Lesbienne du Québec (CGLQ) is a non-profit organization founded in 1992 in Québec, Canada. Our mission is to protect, defend, represent and promote LGBT human rights in Canada. The CGLQ is present in all national folders regarding homosexuality, participating in conferences, media sessions and lobbying efforts with various governmental bodies. The CGLQ also provides an international presence with the accreditation it holds at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), the only LGBT organization in North America to hold this privilege.

The CGLQ supports the .gay TLD and believe it will benefit all of our LGBT organizations, a coalition of LGBT membership is in the thousands, consisting of individual and corporate members. GAY is the best umbrella term for the community TLD because it is the most commonly accepted, politically correct and all-inclusive term.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind. Our members will use and reach peoples all over the world with .gay. and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Johanne H. Gaudreault

Présidente de la CGLQ  
1050 François-Blondeau  
Québec, Québec, Canada.  
G1H 2H2 [www.cglq.ca](http://www.cglq.ca)  
418-621-5032  
[info@cglq.ca](mailto:info@cglq.ca)



Sveavägen 59  
Box 350, SE-101 26 Stockholm, Sweden

Riksförbundet för homosexuella, bisexuella och transpersoners rättigheter  
The Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights  
Member of The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and  
Intersex Association (ILGA)

**Förbundskansli**  
+46 8 501 629 00  
forbund@rfsi.se

**RFSL Info & Media AB**  
+46 8 501 629 10  
komut@rfsi.se  
www.rfsi.se

**Fax**  
+46 8 501 629 99

**Webb**  
www.rfsi.se

December 1, 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

RFSL, the Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights, is writing you on this occasion to express our support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

RFSL – The Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights – is a non-profit organization that works with and for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBT). It is non-partisan and not affiliated with any religious organization. RFSL was founded in 1950 and is one of the world's oldest LGBT organizations. It currently has more than 4,000 members. RFSL works to improve the quality of life for LGBT people through advocacy, information dissemination, and the organization of social and support activities. It does this both nationally, as well as internationally, with both LGBT organizations and others that support the full inclusion of LGBT people in the society.

RFSL supports dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Yours sincerely

Maria Sjödin  
Executive Director



Equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
trans and intersex people  
in Europe

10. January 2012

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

European Region of the International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association support ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

ILGA-Europe is an international non-governmental umbrella organisation bringing together 331 organisations from 42 of the 49 countries in Europe. We work with advocacy at European Institutions and capacity building among our members

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Calleja", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Christensen", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Gabriella Calleja and Martin K.I. Christensen  
Co-Chairs of ILGA-Europe  
ILGA-Europe

