

CECUA Report for the year 2005

CECUA President's Message

Dear Colleagues,

The year of 2005 was an active year for CECUA and it looks like all the work involved is beginning to pay off in terms of progress at the national and EU level. We will know more as the year progresses on.

Last year CECUA focused very hard on "Information Society for All" issues in general and "Internet Governance" issues in specific. This included speaking engagements by the President and the Vice-President at various national and international conferences, very strong engagement by the Vice-President in the European Internet Foundation where he is a Board Member and publication of position papers on various issues.

Your President spoke at several conferences, such as:

Foresight of the Internet Conference in Namur in Belgium (March 2005)
"How can we promote cultural and linguistic diversities, as well as reinforce the respect of values, Ethics and Humans rights in the digital world?"

Baltic IT&T Forum in Riga in Latvia (April 2005)
"Information Society for all – from vision to reality with New Drivers"

European Network and Information Security Conference in Vilnius in Lithuania (November 2005)
"The user: A neglected species?"

All presentations are available on the CECUA website www.cecuia.org

CECUA also became an accredited member of the WSIS and submitted position papers on Internet Governance issues www.cecuia.org

As the discussion progresses on Global Internet and Internet Governance user issues are returning to the foreground. After many years of treating user issues as consumer marketing issues (the market knows best) we are beginning to see a turnaround. As an example of this turnaround CECUA again and again is being asked for in-dept discussion and position papers covering a wide range of issues both technical and legal. Also it has become evident that CECUA is the only independent user organization able to deliver such papers. This is a big challenge, both organizational and financial.

At the level of organization CEUCA need a broad spectrum of expertise to deal with the various requests. The issues are not only technical but also legal, economic, social and political. They need to be addressed by a team of experts from the various disciplines. Only this approach will deliver the desired results. And financially such a team cost money and CECUA does not have the funds to cover it. Therefore, a new thinking and new approach is needed. Your Executive has been discussing this issue for some time and the present thinking is to set up a separate organization, the CECUA Academy, to deal with it. The Academy needs to attract well known academic people at the Board level to give recognition to the Academy and to oversee its work. Furthermore, to attract experts from the various disciplines and geographies to work in ad hoc teams on research projects. With this organizational set-up the CECUA Academy could apply for fund to the various EU programs. Any comments and suggestions you have on this thinking would be welcomed.

To pursue this course of action we need more human resources to participate in projects and events. We need to maintain the interest and support of our dedicated colleagues and also recruit new ones. If we manage both successfully we will be able to sustain and continue to develop a truly unique organization that CECUA is and also the CECUA Academy.

And I would like this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the CECUA Executive, Board Members, Members and CECUA EIF high level expert Group for their excellent work and continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Thorhallsson', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Jon Thorhallsson, CECUA President

CECUA Annual Report for 2005

From CECUA Vice President Alain Moscovitz

CECUA 2005 activities have been organized around 5 main issues:

1. Involvement with the European Institutions

(European Parliament, European Commission, ENISA, etc.)

- a. In March 2005, Alain Moscovitz was elected at the board of the European Internet Foundation.
- b. In June 2005, CECUA co-organized the first event about e-skills in the European Parliament building.
- c. Jon Thorhallsson presented "The User: A neglected species" at the ENISA Conference in Vilnius in Lithuania (November 2005)
- d. CECUA has attended at least 10 meetings or conferences with the European Commission.

2. Involvement within the European Internet Community

- a. CECUA has continued its excellent relationship with all the Internet Communities, especially with the other organizations dealing with users or consumers concerns.
- b. Alain Moscovitz presented at the "salon des entrepreneurs" of Paris "Right and interest to have a personal domain based on the First Name". (January 2005)
(Dot fr will be opened for individual domain names mid 2006).
- c. Alain Moscovitz attended the European Internet Co-Regulation Network Milan Meeting in May 2005.
- d. CECUA has participated to the European Internet Co-Regulation Network proposal submitted to the European Commission and presented to the Commissioner Viviane Reding in July 2005.
- e. CECUA is one of the Founding members of the French Internet New Year Wishes.

3. Involvement in Research programs

- a. Alain Moscovitz managed the second chapter "Human Resources toward Knowledge-based Society - Namur - "Foresight of the Internet" book (published and presented at the Tunis WSIS).
- b. Alain Moscovitz directed the chapter concerning "economy and new economic models in the current world", vox-internet Research program published and available on www.voxinternet.org. This Research program was presented at the Baltic IT&T conference RIGA, " Innovation and Research Approach to Internet Governance – vox-internet" (April 2005)

4. Involvement in Innovation and Lisbon Agenda

- a. "What is the best and how protect innovations" – Newspaper The Echo conference - Brussels (March 2005).
- b. "Lisbon Strategy Impacts on Human Resources Policy" – HR 2005 - Paris (March 2005).
- c. Software Law and latest development in Europe" - Brussels (April 2005).
- d. "IT Project Governance" - Paris (September 2005)

5. Involvement in Internet Governance

- a. Management of the second workshop "the role of Europe in the Internet of the future" - Egeni conference - Paris (July 2005).
- b. "Strategic Stakes of Internet Governance" - Paris (September 2005).
- c. 7th ICANN Studienkreis meeting organized by Wolfgang Kleinwachter - Brussels (October 2005)
- d. CECUA became accredited to the WSIS
- e. Publication of WGIG and Tunis WSIS Comments www.cecua.org