ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Forum on Electronic Commerce for Transition Economies in the Digital Age
Geneva, 19-20 June 2000

Internet Infrastructure Development in Transition Economies

A Survey

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Appendix I

Legislative Actions Concerning Telecommunications Services in Transition Economies

With the introduction of the Internet, transition economies have experienced rapid reform in the telecommunication sector. The table presented below summarizes major legislative actions taken by governments in central and eastern Europe and the CIS. These developments serve the purpose of emphasizing the new licensing procedures in the telecommunications industries, guaranteeing quality service and fair prices to customers, and reiterating the respective governments policies on telecommunication services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>· Policy Paper Act</td>
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<td>· Telecommunication Act, For Telecommunications in the Republic of Albania (Law n°8038)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>· Licences procedures and licences for radio communications</td>
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<td>· Licences procedures and licences for rural telecommunications</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>· Amendments to the Telecommunications Act (Law n°8287)</td>
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<td>· Act on the Establishment of a Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (Law n°8288)</td>
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<td>Armenia</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>· Government Decree, Concerning the procedures of projecting, producing, installing, buying, using and importing of radioelectronic, high frequency and telecommunication equipment.</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>· Telecommunications Law, To establish the legal framework of the activity in the sphere of telecommunications on the territory of the Republic of Armenia, the powers and responsibilities of its participants, as well as the rules for the protection of the right of persons enjoying telecommunication services.</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>· Ministry Decree, Licensing procedure in the telecommunications sphere.</td>
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<td>· Ministry Decree, Rules on providing telephone services.</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>· Government Decree, About creation of the Ministry of Telecommunication.</td>
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<td>· Telecom law</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>· Telecommunications Law</td>
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<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
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<td>· Law on Public Enterprise for PTT</td>
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<td>· Law on Broadcast RTV</td>
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<td>· Law on Telecommunications</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>· Concessions Law Parliament</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>· Regulation regarding the Activity and Structure of STC and its Administration</td>
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<td>· Administrative Order No. RD-09-235, Determines the licensing regime.</td>
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<td>· Telecommunications Law, The Law provides for the creation of the State Telecommunications Commission, with the functions of a</td>
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<td>Croatia</td>
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<td>- Law on Telecommunications</td>
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<td>- Main Principals on the State Telecommunication Policy</td>
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<td>- Decree of Ministry of Finance - List of goods with regulated prices.</td>
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<td>- National Telecommunication Policy</td>
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<td>1996</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
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<td>- Act I of 1996 on Radio and Television (Media Act)</td>
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<td>- Act XLIX of 1996 on Amendment of Act on Act LXV of 1997 on Amendment of Act on Telecommunications</td>
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<td>- Government of Decree 204/96 on Frequency Allocations in Hungary, 9 kHz-400 Ghz</td>
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<td>- Governmental Decree 232/97 on Integrated Communication Authority and on amendment of some Legal Rules concerning Communications</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>- Ministerial Decree 31/1998 on Fees for Public Telephone Services</td>
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<td>- Ministerial Decree 7/1999 on numbering plan for PSTN</td>
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<td>- Ministerial Decree 6/1999 on revenue sharing of concessionary telecommunications services, fees for leased line services used for</td>
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<td>concessionary telecommunication services, and the settlement of fees.</td>
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<td>- Project of new law on communication is under consideration</td>
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<td>- Decree of President of the Republic of Kazakhstan (equal to law) &quot;About licensing&quot;</td>
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<td>1996</td>
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<td>- Telecommunications Law is prepared. Charter of the company.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>- Government Decree N 146. 30.08.96, Concerning Ministry of Transport - Public Call System Services</td>
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<td>· Radio and Television Law Determines the procedure of formation, registering, operation and monitoring of electronic mass media, establishes National Radio and Television Council, sets rules for companies that run delivery links, transmitters, shared systems, cable TV systems.</td>
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<td>· Law on Communications (articles related to telecommunications are recognized invalid after Law on Telecommunications enters into force in 1998)</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>· Law on Radio Communications, Radio monitoring, radio interference detection and inspection.</td>
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<td>· Law on state registers, List of main registers. Orders of setting up legislation and liquidation. Managers rights. Order of data use.</td>
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<td>Moldova (Republic of)</td>
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<td>· Amendments to the Posts and Telecommunications Act</td>
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<td>Romania</td>
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<td>· 1996 Telecommunications Law, establishes the regulatory authority and the main regulations of the sector.</td>
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<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>1995</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>· Rules on providing Telephony services</td>
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<td>· Rules on providing telegraph</td>
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<td>Slovakia</td>
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<td>· Law on prices, Regulation of prices.</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>· Law on protection of competition, On-line legislation&lt;br&gt;· Regulation on the approval of terminal equipment and radio stations&lt;br&gt;· Regulation on radio licences&lt;br&gt;· Regulation on EMC&lt;br&gt;· Law on Telecommunications Specifies the telecommunication services of public interest assured by the Republic of Slovenia and regulates the modes and conditions for the provision of the telecommunications services, the rights and obligations of service providers and users.</td>
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<td>Tajikistan</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>· Amendments to Communications Law</td>
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<td>Former Yugoslav</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>· Broadcasting Law</td>
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<td>Republic of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>· Telecommunications Law, Review Procedure</td>
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<td>Turkmenistan</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>· Telecommunications Law</td>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>· Telecommunications Law</td>
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<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>· Cabinet of Ministers Decisions N175 from 12.05.96, Concerning licences.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>· Cabinet of Ministers Decision 8.972, Concerning UPTA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yugoslavia</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>· New regulations on posts and telecommunications under preparation.</td>
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</table>

### Appendix II

#### IP Address Allocation:
Local Internet Registries IP Address Allocation by Country

*(source: RIPE - [http://www.ripe.net/ripencc/mem-services/general/allocs.html](http://www.ripe.net/ripencc/mem-services/general/allocs.html))*

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<td><strong>Albania</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Armenia</strong></td>
<td>am.armenet (Armenia Telephone Company - <a href="http://www.armenetel.com">http://www.armenetel.com</a>)</td>
<td>19990201 212.73.64/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>am.nic (Armenia Network Information Center (AMNIC))</td>
<td>19970310 195.250.64/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>am.yerphi (Yerevan Physics Institute)</td>
<td>19980821 212.42.192/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td><strong>Azerbaijan</strong></td>
<td>az.azerin (AZERIN)</td>
<td>19980602 212.47.128/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td>az.aznet (closed registry)</td>
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<td><strong>Belarus</strong></td>
<td>by.belpak (Republican Association BELTELECOM)</td>
<td>19980728 194.158.192/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td>by.belsonet (SOLO LTD.)</td>
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<td>by.bn (Business Network JV)</td>
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<td>by.unibel (UNIBEL)</td>
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<td><strong>Bulgaria</strong></td>
<td>bg.basnet (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences)</td>
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<td>bg.bia (Bulgarian Industrial Association Network)</td>
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<td>bg.bit (Bulgarian Information Technologies Inc.)</td>
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<td>bg.btc (Bulgarian Telecommunications Company Plc.)</td>
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<td>bg.globalone (GlobalOne Communications and Information Services)</td>
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<td>bg.gov (Council of Ministers)</td>
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<td>bg.intech (INTECH PLC)</td>
<td>19980526 212.21.128/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td>bg.internet (Internet Bulgaria Ltd.)</td>
<td>19990118 212.124.64/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td>bg.mobikom (Radio Telecommunications Company Ltd. / Mobikom)</td>
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<td>bg.mtelnet (M-Tel Net)</td>
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<td>19961023 194.12.224/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td>bg.netissat (NET IS SAT Ltd.)</td>
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<td>bg.orbel (Orbitel Ltd.)</td>
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<td>19991124 212.91.96/19 ALLOCATED PA</td>
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<td><strong>Czech Republic</strong></td>
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Pre-1994 193.84/16 ALLOCATED PI
19940322 194.50/16 ALLOCATED PI

Estonia

ee.aso (Department of Data Communications)
19970317 195.80.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.data (Data Telecom)
19960916 195.222.0/19 ALLOCATED PA
19980914 212.47.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
ee.eenet (EENet)
19950315 193.40/16 ALLOCATED UNSPECIFIED

ee.estnet (ESTNET)
19970416 195.50.192/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.estpak (Estpak Data/Estonian Telephone Company Ltd)
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19971111 195.250.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
19991208 213.168.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.ewnnet (Estonian Wireless Network)
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ee.inforinet (AS INFONET)
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ee.levicom (Levicom Broadband OU)
19990629 212.107.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.mainor (Mainor Anet)
19980403 212.49/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.online (MICROLINK ONLINE)
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19991210 213.180.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

ee.uninet (Uninet Data Communications Ltd.)
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19970506 194.204.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

Georgia

ge.iberiapac (Infocom Ltd.)
19990831 212.58.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

ge.sanet (Sanet Ltd. - SA*Net Network)
19981123 212.72.128/19 ALLOCATED PA

Hungary

hu.alarmix (ALARMIX Hungary Public Internet Access Provider)
19970604 195.8.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

hu.banknet (BankNet Kft.)
19960206 194.152.128/19 ALLOCATED PA

hu.c3 (C3 ( Center for Culture & Communication ))
19960812 194.38.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

hu.datenet (DataNet)
19951204 194.106.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
19991210 213.180.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

hu.datexcom (Datexcom Inc.)
19991102 212.27.128/19 ALLOCATED PA

hu.elender (Elender Net)
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hu.externet (Externet Kft.)
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lt.vikt (Infrastruktura)
19970228 195.182.64/19 ALLOCATED PA

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mk.mol (Macedonia On-Line)
19970228 195.26.128/19 ALLOCATED PA
mk.osi (Open Society Institute - Macedonia)
19980713 212.13.64/19 ALLOCATED PA
mk.unet (UltarNet d.o.o.)

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md.moldtelecom (Moldtelecom SE)
19980804 212.0.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
md.relsoft (RELSOFT Communications srl)
19980810 212.56.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
md.riscom (Riscom S.A.)

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pl.amsk (Academic Metropolitan Area Network, Szczecin)
19980223 212.14/19 ALLOCATED PA
pl.biaman (Centrum Komputerowych Siei Rozleglych)
19980724 212.33.64/19 ALLOCATED PA
pl.bydman (University of Technology and Agriculture in Bydgoszcz)
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pl.ckpolsl (CKPOLSL - Silesian Technical University, Computer Center)
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pl.it (Internet Technologies Polska)
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19960719 195.209/16 ALLOCATED PA
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ROSPAC,Distributed Public Swiched Data Network)
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19960227 194.84.128/17 ALLOCATED PA
19970626 195.151/16 ALLOCATED PA
19981102 212.176.0/16 ALLOCATED PA
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19980603 195.161.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
19980923 195.161.64/18 ALLOCATED PA
19990224 195.161.128/17 ALLOCATED PA
19990712 213.24/16 ALLOCATED PA
ru.rts (RTS NET)
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19991012 212.5.224/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.sakhalin (Telegraph-Telephone Station)
19980206 195.72.224/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.samara (Samara-Internet Ltd.)
19970110 195.128.128/19 ALLOCATED PA
19990923 213.242/18 ALLOCATED PA
ru.sandy (Sandy Info Ltd)
19971212 195.122.224/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.sibitex (Sibitex Joint Stock Company)
19990709 212.76.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.simpmsu (SIMP MSU)
20000106 213.131/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.sitek (NPF Mastak)
19990225 212.34.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
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19971210 195.239/16 ALLOCATED PA
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19980423 212.44.128/19 ALLOCATED PA
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Sciences)
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ru.spbnet (St.-Petersburg National and International
Telephone)
19980806 212.48.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.spbrelcom (Relcom-SPb)
19991130 212.113.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
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19991220 213.158/19 ALLOCATED PA
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ru.syvazttransnet (Joint Stock Company Svyaztransnet)
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19990315 212.53.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.tas telecom (ARCON TML)
19991103 195.42.64/19 ALLOCATED PA
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19990712 213.131/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.tcbr (Technical Center Central Bank Russian Federation)
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ru.ti (TOR_INFO Ltd.)
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ru.tulatelecom (Tulatelecom)
19980220 212.12.19/16 ALLOCATED PA
ru.turbo (RINET-TURBO)
19980220 212.20.0/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.vmts (VMTS)
19981026 212.122.0/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.vstn (Vladivostok Short-range Telephone Network (VSTN))
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ru.vtc (CJSC Vostoktelecom)
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Electrosvyaz of the Primorsky region)
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19960715 194.8.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
19970414 195.131/16 ALLOCATED PA
ru.westcall (WestCall Ltd.)
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ru.wsmnet (Alpha_Telecom)
19990420 212.96.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.zenon (Zenon N.S.P.)
19970131 195.2.64/19 ALLOCATED PA
ru.znetwork (Zond Holding JSC)
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Slovakia
sk.computel (Computel)
19980119 195.28.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
sk.europol (EuroTeleBratislava a.s.)
19960126 194.154.224/19 ALLOCATED PA
19970226 195.91/17 ALLOCATED PA
TRADE/2000/18/Add.1
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Slovenia

si.amadej (AMADEJ)
19960129 194.165.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.ames (ARNES)
Pre-1994 193.2/16 ALLOCATED UNSPECIFIED
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si.bone (KSI Internetworks)
19991223 213.161/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.k2 ([K2-net])
19990331 193.138.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.medinet (Medinet)
19990225 212.18.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.neti (NETSI.NET)
19991029 212.72.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.perftech (Perftech Bled)
19990118 195.246/19 ALLOCATED PA
19990212 212.118.64/19 ALLOCATED PA

si.quantum (Quantum d.o.o.)
19960517 194.152.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.gratex (GraTex International s.r.o.)
19961120 195.98.128/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.isnet (Internet Systems, Inc.)
19960620 195.114.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.isnet (Internet SR)
19960429 195.72.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.kiss (KISS Ltd.)
19970109 195.28.128/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.napri (NAPRI s.r.o.)
19960827 195.146.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.net (GNS Inc.)
19961016 195.12.128/19 ALLOCATED PA
19990329 212.26.160/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.netax (Netax, s. r. o.)
19991027 212.55.224/19 ALLOCATED PA

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19960927 195.168.64/18 ALLOCATED PA
19960927 195.168.128/17 ALLOCATED PA

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19970207 195.46.64/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.psg (Power Systems Group s.r.o)
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sk.pubnet (PUBNET)
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19981102 212.81.0/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.pvt (PVT Bratislava a.s.)
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sk.sanet (Slovak Academic Network)
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sk.telecom (Slovak Telecom)
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19980825 212.5.192/19 ALLOCATED PA

sk.telenor (Telenor Slovakia s.r.o.)
19960517 195.20.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
19980702 212.197/17 ALLOCATED PA

sk.zz ((NK) Last Resort Internet Registry for Slovakia)
19950405 194.1.128/17 ALLOCATED PI

Slovenia

si.s-net (S-NET d.o.o, Slovenija, Internet Service Provider)
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19970514 195.250.192/19 ALLOCATED PA

Tajikistan

None

Turkmenistan

None

Ukraine

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ua.aic (Azov Information Company Ltd.)
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ua.alkar (Alkar Teleport Ltd.)
19971007 195.248.160/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.apex (Apex NCC Net)
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19990902 212.3.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.beilabnukr (BelABM Ukraine)
19990630 212.113.32/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.bonk (Joint-stock company Zaporozhsviazhervis)
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ua.ccinet (CCI Ukraine Ltd)
19991111 212.90.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.cinet (Jsc Cinet)
19991110 212.86.96/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.crism (Crimian Internet Service)
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ua.doriss (Joint-Stock company DORIS)
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ua.eurocom (DCS-EuroCom)
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ua.gtnet (Golden Telecom Internet)
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ua.gu (JV Global-Ukraine.)
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ua.infocom (INFOCOM JV)
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19980709 212.1.64/18 ALLOCATED PA

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ua.iptcom (IP Telecom Ltd.)
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ua.iskra (IAC "911")
19970307 195.238.64/19 ALLOCATED PA

ua.ks-net (International Telecommunications Center KS-NET)
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ua.ldc (Lila Digital Communications (LDC))
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ua.luckynet (Lucky Net Ltd.)
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   19960618 193.193.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
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ua.netset (Netset Ltd.)
   19970905 195.114.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.od (Farlep-Internet)
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ua.pacolinks (PACO Links Int.)
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ua.monolit (venture "Monolit Internet")
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ua.netset (Netset Ltd.)
   19970905 195.114.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.od (Farlep-Internet)
   19991213 213.130/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.stcenergy (STC "Energy")
   19990720 212.90.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.svitolonline (Sovam Teleport Kyiv)
   19990629 212.109.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.telnet (Telnet Ltd. Networking Center)
   19971029 195.138.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ts (WAN Ltd.)
   19990629 195.114.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ts (WAN Ltd.)
   19970501 62.16/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ts (WAN Ltd.)
   19970417 195.66.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ts (WAN Ltd.)
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ua.ts (WAN Ltd.)
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ua.ukrnet (UkrNet Ltd.)
   19980624 212.42.64/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ukrsat (UKRSAT (Ukrainian Satellite Systems))
   19990413 212.35.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.ukrtelecom (UKRTELECOM,UKRAINIAN STATE
   TELECOMMUNICATION CORPORATION)
   19990927 195.5.0/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.uran (Center of European Integration)
   19990525 212.111.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.viaduk (Viaduk-Telecom, Inc.)
   19990709 212.68.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.visti (Elektronni Visti Ltd (ElVisti Ltd))
   19970813 195.64.224/19 ALLOCATED PA
ua.zz (UARNet Last Resort Internet Registry for Ukraine)
   19940217 194.44/16 ALLOCATED UNSPECIFIED

Uzbekistan

uz.uzpak (Uzpak Net (Country Net of Independence Republic
   of Uzbekistan))
   19960829 195.158/19 ALLOCATED PA

Yugoslavia

yu.crna (Internet Crna Gora)
   19971020 195.66.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
yu.eunet (YUnet International)
   19960314 194.247.192/19 ALLOCATED PA
   19990721 213.240/18 ALLOCATED PA
yu.infosky (Informatika a.d.)
   19970922 195.250.96/19 ALLOCATED PA
yu.opennet (Radio B92, OpenNet)
   19981204 213.102.128/19 ALLOCATED PA
yu.pttsrbija (JP PTT saobracaja Srbija)
   19990301 212.62.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
yu.telekom (TELEKOM SRBIJA)
   19970728 195.178.32/19 ALLOCATED PA
   19980224 212.200/16 ALLOCATED PA
yu.yubc (YUBC System)
   19990714 212.124.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
yu.yunet (YU Net)
   19951108 194.106.160/19 ALLOCATED PA
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Appendix III

Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement and the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property Rights (WIPO)


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Appendix IV

Summary of International Cooperation on Internet Development

The ubiquitous nature of the Internet means that it interacts with nearly every sector of the regulatory environment. The implications for changes in administrative practices, because of the development of the Internet, exist in the fields of health, education, industry and even governments’ own administrative practices.

The relatively recent birth of the public Internet, as well as its constant state of evolution, have contributed to the overall lack of concrete laws or regulations. The legislative agendas of most transition economies are in the nascent stage, with basic constitutional frameworks that are less than ten years old.

The process of development, in particular in the area of the Internet infrastructure technologies, has largely been carried out under the rubric of international associations from the private sector. However, there is a growing body of public sector initiatives from international and national government administrations that deal specifically with subsectors of the Internet industry.

Non-governmental Organizations

Non-governmental organizations have emerged to deal with many of the technical issues requiring immediate standardization, in order for the Internet to be a truly international, cross-platform compatible framework for the exchange of data. In addition to the groups that focus on technological issues, there are a number of high-profile non-profit associations, made up of leading executives from the Internet industry, which issue policy papers and work towards co-operative models of self-regulation. In particular, there are groups focusing on the issues of taxation, privacy and electronic commerce standards.

The following list is a sample of some of the leading organizations in this sector:

GIIC – The Global Information Infrastructure Commission
http://www.giic.org
An independent, non-governmental initiative involving communications related industry leaders from developing as well as industrialized countries. The focus of their activities is on Global Information Infrastructure Development, Electronic Commerce and Education in the Information Age. Principal activities: formulating policy recommendations.

ICANN - The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
http://www.icann.org/
A non-profit, private sector corporation formed by a broad coalition of the Internet’s business, technical, and academic communities that assumed responsibility for the IP address space allocation, protocol parameter assignment, domain name system management, and root server system management functions which had previously been performed, under U.S. Government contract, by IANA and other entities. Principal activities: co-ordination and administering the four areas mentioned above which all require some centralized oversight.
ICC/IBCC - The International Bureau of Chambers of Commerce
http://www.icc-ibcc.org/

IBCC is the World Forum of Chambers of Commerce. It is an international meeting place for the exchange of experience and expertise on policy and technical issues. Participants in the IBCC’s work are executives of chambers from developed and developing countries as well as economies in transition. The IBCC also represents chambers of commerce from all over the world in contacts with intergovernmental organisations and other international bodies, including the UNDP, WTO and UNCTAD.
Principal activities: education, networking.

IEEE - The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.
http://www.ieee.org/

The IEEE is a non-profit, technical professional association of more than 350,000 individual members in 150 countries. Through its members, the IEEE is a leading authority in technical areas ranging from computer engineering, biomedical technology and telecommunications, to electric power, aerospace and consumer electronics, among others. Of particular interest is the work of its Standards Association which includes recent developments in the field of wireless personal area networks (WPAN).
Principal activities: education, standardization.

ILPF - The Internet Law and Policy Forum
http://www.ilpf.org

The ILPF is a US-based organization made up of internet-centric corporations with a common interest in fostering the growth of Internet electronic commerce and communications. In addition to their yearly conferences, the main work of the ILPF takes place in expert working groups, in such areas as digital signatures, certification authorities, self-regulation and content protection. They are also able to provide consultative legal and research services for short term assignments through the assembly of Rapid Assessment Teams (RATS).
Principal activities: policy formulation, lobbying, consulting.

ISOC - The Internet Society
http://www.isoc.org/

The Internet Society is a non-profit, non-governmental, international, professional membership organization. It focuses on: standards, education, and policy issues. In addition to the activities of the many local chapters of the Internet Society, the organization also acts as an umbrella organization for several key leaders in developing internet standards, including the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and the Internet Architecture Board (IAB).

IETF - The Internet Engineering Task Force
http://www.ietf.cnri.reston.va.us/home.html

The IETF is a large open international community of network designers, operators, vendors, and researchers concerned with the evolution of the Internet architecture and the smooth operation of the Internet. It is open to any interested individual. The mission of the IETF is to study operational and technical problems with the Internet, specify protocols and architectural solutions for these problems, and make recommendations to the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). The recommendations of the IETF are formalized in the documents called ‘Requests For Comments’ (RFC), many of which have become standards that now define how the internet works. (Source: http://livinginternet.com/i/iw_mgmt_ietf.htm)
Principal activities: standardization.
IAB - The Internet Architecture Board  
http://www.iab.org

The IAB is a technical advisory group of the Internet Society. Its responsibilities include: overseeing the appointment of the administrative and senior personnel of the IETF and IESG; it also oversees the process used to create Internet Standards such that the IAB serves as an appeal board for complaints of improper execution of the standards process.

Principal activities: standardization review.

W3C - The World Wide Web Consortium  
http://www.w3.org

W3C is an international industry consortium, jointly hosted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Laboratory for Computer Science [MIT/LCS] in the United States; the Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique [INRIA] in Europe; and the Keio University Shonan Fujisawa Campus in Japan. Services provided by the Consortium include: a repository of information about the World Wide Web for developers and users; reference code implementations to embody and promote standards; and various prototype and sample applications to demonstrate use of new technology.

W3C’s Team of experts works with its Members to advance the state of the art in each of the four Domains: User Interface, Technology & Society, Architecture, and the Web Accessibility Initiative. A large part of their work is to produce W3C Recommendations which become industry standards, in particular they have become the authority responsible for producing standardized versions of new languages such as XML, XHTML, and HTML 4.0.

Principal activities: standardization.

WITSA - World Information Technology and Services Alliance  
http://www.witsa.org

WITSA is an umbrella organization of national and regional trade associations in the IT sector. Its role is to develop public policy positions on issues of concern to the information industry and present these positions to governments and international organizations.

Principal activities: policy formulation and lobbying.

International and Regional Organizations

At the regional level, the EU has been very active participant in the articulation of regulatory strategies for the internet, particularly in the field of electronic commerce. In addition to the work of the UN/ECE, a number of United Nations organizations and OECD have also taken on a leadership role in key areas.

European Union  
(http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg13/eeurope/home.htm). The main focus of work relating to the internet regulatory environment takes place in Directorate-General XIII – Information Society (http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg13), which
ISPO produces the European Survey of Information Society (ESIS), which has recently been expanded (ESIS2) to include Central and Eastern European countries (See Chapter on Internet Services section). Also of interest to Commonwealth of Independent States member countries, the External Relations Directorate-General will administer the TACIS Program (http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg1a/tacis/index.htm n.b. this url will change with the restructuring) which provides assistance for economic reform and recovery in the region.

**OECD – The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development**
http://www.oecd.org/

The OECD has taken an active role in attempting to develop an international consensus on the issues falling under the umbrella of electronic commerce. Their efforts began with the Ministerial Conference, ‘Realising the Potential of Global Electronic Commerce’, which was held in Ottawa in October 1998. They recently published the OECD ‘Guidelines for Consumer Protection in the Context of Electronic Commerce’. (http://www.oecd.org/dsti/sti/it/consumer/prod/guidelines.htm)

Important publications include: ‘Information Technology Outlook 2000’ and ‘Communications Outlook 1999’.

**ISO – International Organization for Standardization**
http://www.iso.ch/

ISO is non-profit organization which has the structure of a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from 130 countries. Its mission is to promote the development of standardization in the world in order to facilitate the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity. ISO's work results in international agreements which are published as International Standards, e.g. ISO international codes for country names, currencies and languages.

**ITU – International Telecommunications Union**
http://www.itu.int/

In addition to its extensive standardization work in the general field of telecommunications, the ITU is active in the development of widely used standards for electronic commerce (e.g., X.509 Digital Certificate). Its experience in the design, development and implementation of electronic commerce applications and services will be shared under the framework of its special development initiative, ‘Electronic Commerce for Developing Countries (EC-DC)’.

**UNCTAD – United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**
http://wwwunctad.org/

In addition to its working party on electronic commerce,
UNCTAD operates the Global Trade Point Networks (GTPN) which fosters greater participation in international trade by SMEs in developing countries by promoting better trade practices through the use of information technologies.

**UNDP – The United Nations Development Programme**
http://www.undp.org

The UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy (BDP) seeks to capture the potential of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for sustainable human development and the fight against poverty. UNDP – Africa launched the ‘Internet Initiative for Africa’ in 1997 which seeks to enhance civil society participation and transparency in governance; support for SMEs; Trade Promotion; and the advancement and empowerment of women.

**UN/ECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**
See UN/CEFACT.

**WIPO – The World Intellectual Property Organization**
http://www.wipo.int

WIPO is an intergovernmental organization, one of the 16 specialized agencies of the United Nations system of organizations. It is responsible for the promotion of the protection of intellectual property throughout the world through cooperation among States, and for the administration of various multilateral treaties dealing with the legal and administrative

**WTO – World Trade Organization**
http://www.wto.org/

The WTO is an international organization dealing with the multilateral trading system. The 1998 WTO Ministerial Conference issued a ‘Declaration’ (http://www.wto.org/ecom/e_mindec1.htm) that established a comprehensive work programme to examine all trade-related issues relating to global electronic commerce.