



Individual Board Member Report PPI/PPI HQ

Term 2014-2015

This term in the board has been of the more challenging ones in my lifetime in board work. We have done a lot of positive work in the PPI board, but still has a very long road ahead of us to make PPI what it is intended to become, http://wiki.pp-international.net/Statutes#Tasks_and_goals

To achieve these goals PPI definitely needs to elect a more diverse composition of nationalities and maybe also competences into the board. But the first task should be to get a basic administration to take care of the routine tasks we actually need to do in order to be able to build a strong international entity for Pirate Parties and organisations interested in Pirate ideas.

I'll be running again the next term because PP-NO and myself still believe PPI is the best platform for Pirates to gain political power in a global perspective. We already have gained a lot of supporters from external organisations, but need a legally registered body to actually be able to involve Pirates in global politics. To be an introvert organisation was never the intention with PPI. Ref.: http://wiki.pp-international.net/Statutes#II._Goals

I have been involved in PPI matters as much as humanly possible this term. There have been a lot of disagreements within the board, which is a good thing, right?

First of all Koen, Maša and myself discussed a strategy before the GA in Paris 2014 on how to fix basic issues with the required formal tasks PPI HQ needs to do on behalf of PPI. We decided to run for the board in order to try to fix those issues and later develop PPI to what it deserves to be according to the agreed upon tasks and goals. Later Stathis came in as a very valuable asset for the board as well and we have moved towards the goals set by the PPI members.

Maybe the most significant is that PPI have established channels in which Pirates can communicate across borders. However, this is not sufficient to reach the other goals set by the members. We need to work harder with funding issues, as running an international organisation actually takes a lot of money to make successful. We see this in the Open Source environment as well. It's the commercial actors that drive the Open Source communities and they donate a lot of money to the communities through companies and private donations.

ThinkTwice2 Istanbul

I was representing PPI in the Organising Committee in cooperation with Dr. Arif Yildirim and Istanbul Commerce University. It was hard work and we had challenges with getting funding to pay for the conference, but managed to get the needed basic funding from PP-NO and Young Pirates Norway.



This was given as an interest free loan to PPI with no definite date to pay back, but with a required payback once PPI get member fees available.

I have worked hard to increase the involvement from academic institutions this year to try to get finances for ThinkTwice2015 paid mostly by academical institutions. This failed due to the lack of a formal judicial setup of PPI and PPI HQ. Basically just the fact that PPI/PPI HQ still does not have an official bank account registered in the name of any of the legal entities.

So it's basically sad to see PPI fails because we lack the basic judicial setup to actually make an impact towards external parties. It was the same experience I met when attending Internet Governance Forum 2014 in Istanbul as a PPI representative. A lot of companies and organisations want to cooperate with PPI, but we fail to be able to do so because the organisation does not have the basic registration in order.

IGF 2014 Istanbul

The forum is highly relevant for Pirates to attend and PPI and all members should have a stronger engagement in this forum both on local, regional and global levels. Having a strong presence in the global part of Internet Governance Forum is unfortunately requiring considerably amounts of financial resources to manage to do, so I have strong hopes this will become a reality in the near future. Pirate Parties needs to be present where the action is and where the future is discussed in order to actually make a difference. It's equally important to actually being elected into parliaments around the world.

Three major ISPs in Europe were stressing hard, and still are, for PPI to become a partner when it comes to sculpture the future of the Internet.

During this term there has been a particularly strong cooperation with the Co-chairs, unfortunately one of them is not with us anymore and Stathis Leivaditis. This cooperation has been crucial to get most of the basics on track that we need to actually start building PPI to something else than a basement organisation. It is sad to see that we still need time to change the world, but we do. So the basics are still very important until Pirate Parties manage to change legal practices in most countries. It is like registering a political party before you can actually join the game. PPI need to work as a formal legal body before we can start to do what PPI is designated to do.

So, like Koen, I am also willing to give PPI one more chance, because it's very important in a global perspective. I believe I have competences (MSc International Business) that PPI and PPI HQ can profit from having in a board. I hate when mostly voluntary organisations need professionals to get their act going. That is unfortunately still a requirement for all international organisations. Until we manage to change the world.

Koen did a very important job for PPI in Brussels. I went to Brussels to aid in fixing the remaining formalities on 2 occasions, but it seems the efforts were not 100% successful due to a non-cooperative environment present in parts of the current board.

For other stuff I have done, please see the minutes and listen to the recordings from board meetings.



Good luck with this very important GA in Warsaw to all of you. We need a strong PPI, so please be smart when the new board is elected. PPI is international, not European, nor any nationality. Too many from one geographical area is seldom a good thing for international organisations.

Pirate greetings

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