

20 December 2021

ICANN Preliminary Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .budapest Top-Level Domain

On 13 October 2021, Minds + Machines Group Limited notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .budapest Registry Agreement entered into on 21 November 2013. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement, ICANN org consulted with Minds + Machines Group Limited to assess whether to transition operation of the .budapest top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

Subject to an ongoing evaluation, ICANN org has made a preliminary determination that operation of the .budapest TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator. ICANN org's review and determination regarding transition to a successor registry are subject to Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement and are based on various factors, including ICANN org's assessment that transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest. The Registry Operator attested that all domain name registrations have at all times been registered to and maintained by the Registry Operator or its affiliates for their exclusive use and Registry Operator has not at any time sold, distributed, or transferred control or use of any registrations in the .budapest TLD to any third party that is not an affiliate.

Before releasing its final determination, ICANN org will consider input provided by interested parties via email at ra-termination-comments@icann.org. The deadline to submit input is 19 January 2022 – 23:59 UTC.

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