

# Internet Society Switzerland Chapter

## Activity Report 2015

Right before the General Assembly 2015 we held presentations on actual Internet matters, where Nicolas Seidler (Internet Society Global), Jens Kaessner (BAKOM/OFCOM), Simon Leinen (SWITCH) and Carla Licciardello (International Telecommunication Union ITU) presented.

In May 2015, ISOC-CH supported and participated in the Swiss Internet Governance Forum. The new ISOC-CH website ([www.isoc.ch](http://www.isoc.ch)) was also launched that month. The structure and the content of the website was updated to reflect the current organization. Also a new design was implemented to reflect the corporate design of ISOC.

With ISOC InterCommunity 2015 held in July, we actively participated at Internet Society's first virtual meeting with their entire community. Together with ISOC EMEA we set up and organized two regional nodes in Switzerland: One was hosted directly at the ISOC EMEA Headquarters in Geneva, while the other was located in the SWITCH Headquarters in Zurich. ISOC-CH member and National Councilor Balthasar Glättli provided an update on the latest proposals for the new surveillance acts in Switzerland (BÜPF and NDG) to the audience located at the 4 nodes in Europe (Amsterdam, Istanbul, Geneva and Zurich), as well as to the global participants connected through the internet.

In October 2015, Richard Hill (ISOC-CH Vice-Chair External) was elected vice-chair of the newly created Chapters Advisory Committee of the global Internet Society. The Chapters AC is the advisory body of the Internet Society representing its Chapters and issues advices and recommendations to the President and Board of Trustees of the Internet Society.

In December 2015 ISOC-CH released a press release to express our concerns regarding the implementation of internet blocking lists that came up in the law drafts of the new telecommunications act (FMG), the copyright act (URG), as well as the new gambling law (BGS).

In January 2016, shortly before the debate on the new gambling law (proposing network blocking lists) in the parliamentary process started, we sent a letter to members of the Swiss parliament. The letter provided a short overview explaining why blocking lists are vastly useless and cause substantial collateral damage to the Internet Ecosystem. This was a joint effort with Digitale Gesellschaft.

Throughout the year we held several informal After-Work events both in Bern and Geneva to give our members the opportunity to meet other ISOC-CH members, as well as to provide input to the Board on their wishes and expectations.

Apart from the events and our involvement in the BÜPF Referendum Committee, ISOC-CH and its members have been involved in various political activities. ISOC-CH also formulated a number of opinions in response to public consultations.

Richard Hill (ISOC-CH Vice-Chair External) attended the BAKOM/OFCOM Plateforme Tripartite meetings and Bernie Hoeneisen (ISOC-CH Chair) presented in a hearing in the parliamentary committee.

All in all, it has been a busy year with various activities and events.

### **The ISOC-CH Board (2015-2016)**

- Bernie Hoeneisen, Chair
- Roxana Radu, Vice-Chair for Internal Affairs
- Richard Hill, Vice-Chair for External Affairs
- Raoul Sanchez, Treasurer
- Lukas Mergenthaler, Secretary

## Detailed activities:

### GA and Board Meetings:

- 17.04.2015: Annual General Assembly 2015 – University of Bern, Bern
- 22.05.2015: Board Meeting
- 15.09.2015: Board Meeting
- 29.10.2015: Board Meeting
- 04.02.2016: Board Meeting
- 07.03.2016: Board Meeting

### Events:

- 17.04.2015: Presentations on Current Internet Matters – University of Bern, Bern
- 07.05.2015: 10th After-Work Drink, ISOC Greater Geneva Area – Lady Godiva Pub, Geneva
- 19.05.2015: Swiss IGF 2015, Bernie Hoeneisen (Chair) acted as a moderator – Hotel Ador, Bern
- 04.06.2015: 12th After-Work Drink, ISOC Greater Bern Area – Grosse Schanze, Bern
- 08.07.2015: ISOC InterCommunity 2015 – SWITCH, Zurich
- 08.07.2015: ISOC InterCommunity 2015 – ISOC EMEA, Geneva

### Web and Social Media:

- New Website launched in May 2015
- Twitter: 464 followers, more than 980 tweets (as of 6 April 2016) and outreach to tech firms, other ISOC chapters, IPv6 groups, and more.
- Facebook: 110 Members of ISOC-CH group, regular updates and member engagement.

## Public Relations and Attendance

- 09.04.2015: Participation/Representation at BAKOM/OFCOM Plateforme Tripartite in Bern (Vice-Chair for External Affairs)
- 23.04.2015: Participation/Representation at the Spring Meeting of the Digitale Gesellschaft in Bremgarten (Chair)
- 27.04.2015: Hearing in parliamentary committee in Bern (Chair)
- 24.06.2015: Participation at BÜPF Referendum Committee in Olten (Chair)
- 22.08.2015: ISOC-CH supports the platform FreedomVote.ch
- 31.08.2015: Participation at BÜPF Referendum Committee in Olten (Chair and Secretary)
- 24.10.2015: Participation/Representation at the Autumn Meeting of the Digitale Gesellschaft in Bremgarten (Chair)
- 03.11.2015: Participation/Representation at BAKOM/OFCOM Plateforme Tripartite in Bern (Vice-Chair for External Affairs)
- 06.11.2015: Participation at the UVEK Infrastrukturtagung 2015 in Zurich (Chair)
- 24.11.2015: Participation at BÜPF Referendum Committee in Olten (Chair and Secretary)
- 22.12.2015: Press release on concerns about three draft laws that concern
- 14.01.2016: Participation in the signature submission for the NDG referendum (Chair)
- 22.01.2016: Flyer concerning the proposed Internet blocking / filtering lists in the gambling law
- 04.02.2016: Endorsement of the SecureTheInternet.org campaign
- 23.02.2016: Participation at BÜPF Referendum Committee in Olten (Chair)
- 22.03.2016: Participation at BÜPF Referendum Committee in Olten (Chair and Secretary)

06.04.2015, Lukas Mergenthaler, Secretary