

1 Basic Information

1.0 NRENs that have responded to the Questionnaire

Fifty-three NRENs responded to the survey, from 50 different countries. Not all NRENs were able to answer all of the questions, but many were. The map and table below give an overview of the NRENs that sent their replies and gives an impression of the completeness of those replies.

NRENs have been asked to double-check and update their replies.

In most of the tables and graphs the English-language abbreviation of the NREN's name has been used in order to denote the NREN. Table 1.0.1 provides a list of countries and the abbreviations of the NREN(s) from those countries that submitted information. Table 1.0.2 provides a list of some countries where we know that research networking exist, but from which no replies were received.

Three projects are relevant in this context: the EUMEDCONNECT project aims at research and education networking in the Mediterranean region (see <http://www.dante.net/eumedconnect/>); the SEEREN project aims at research and education networking in South-Eastern Europe (see <http://www.seeren.org/>); and the Virtual Silk Highway project is aimed at Central Asian countries (see <http://www.silkproject.org/>). In addition, CEENet (<http://www.ceenet.org/>) maintains contacts and provides support to many NRENs in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union.

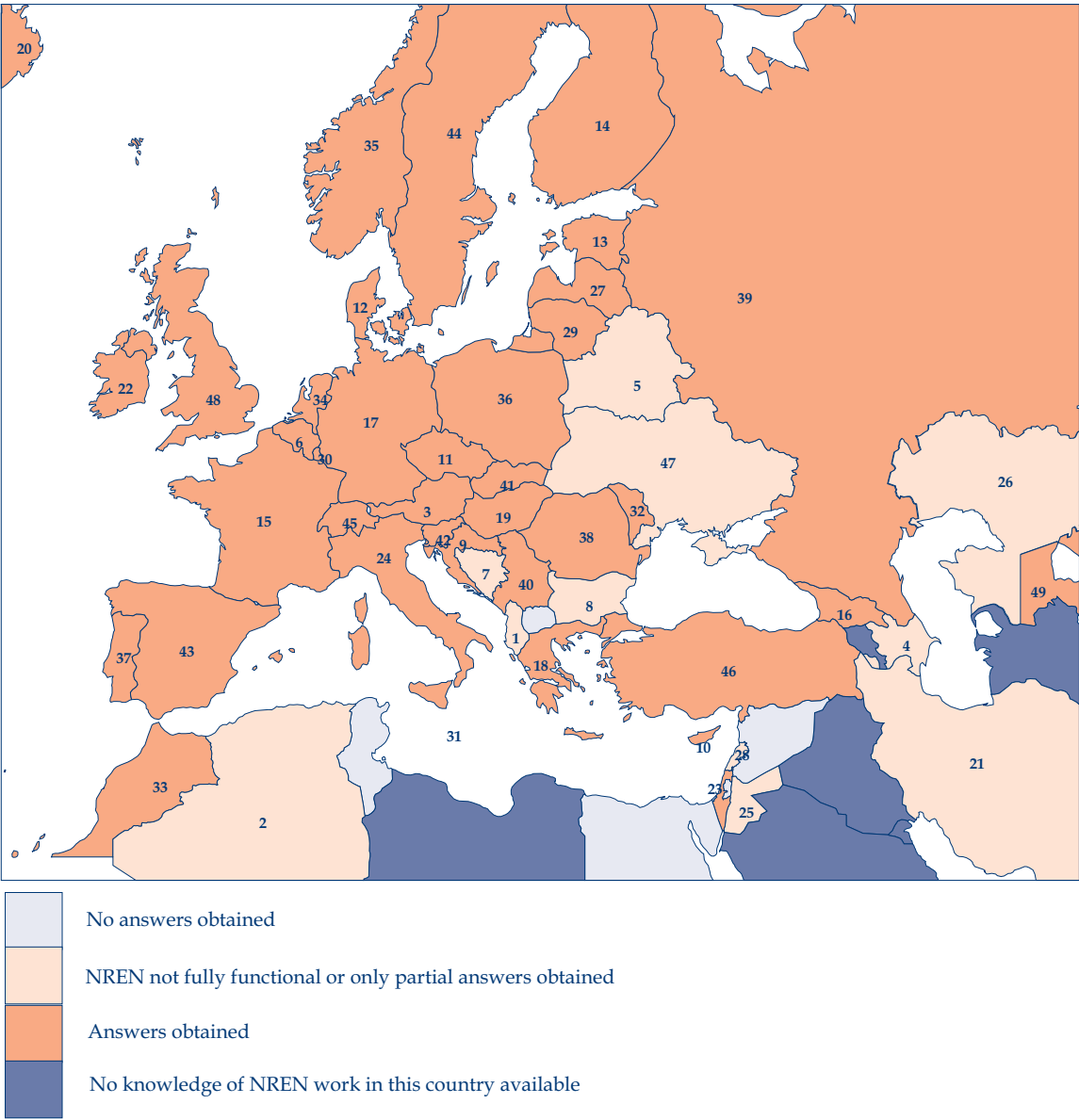


Table 1.0.1 NRENs and urls. NRENs in bold are TERENA members.

#	Country	NREN	URL
1	Albania	ANA	
2	Algeria	CERIST	www.cerist.dz
3	Austria	ACOnet	www.aco.net/
4	Azerbaijan	OSI-AF/ Azerbaijan	www.aznet.org
		AzRENA	www.azrena.org/index_en.htm
5	Belarus	BASNET	www.basnet.by
6	Belgium	BELNET	www.belnet.be
7	Bosnia Herzegovina	BIHARNET	www.biharnet.ba (not functional)
8	Bulgaria	IST Foundation	www.ist.bg
9	Croatia	CARNet	www.carnet.hr
10	Cyprus	CYNET	www.cynet.ac.cy
11	Czech Republic	CESNET	www.cesnet.cz
12	Denmark	UNI•C	www.uni-c.dk
13	Estonia	EENet	www.eenet.ee
14	Finland	FUNET	www.funet.fi
15	France	RENATER	www.renater.fr
16	Georgia	GRENA	www.grena.ge
17	Germany	DFN	www.dfn.de
18	Greece	GRNET	www.grnet.gr
19	Hungary	HUNGARNET	www.hungarnet.hu
20	Iceland	RHnet	www.rhnet.is
21	Iran	IRANET	www.iranet.ir
22	Ireland	HEAnet	www.heanet.ie
23	Israel	IUCC	www.iucc.ac.il
24	Italy	GARR	www.garr.it
25	Jordan	NITC	www.niv.gov
26	Kazakhstan	KazRENA	www.kazrena.kz
	Kyrgyzstan *	KRENA/AKNET	
27	Latvia	LANET	www.lanet.lv
		LATNET	www.latnet.lv
28	Lebanon	CNRS	www.cnrs.edu.lb
29	Lithuania	LITNET	www.linet.lt
30	Luxembourg	RESTENA	www.restena.lu
31	Malta	CSC	www.csc.um.edu.mt

#	Country	NREN	URL
32	Moldova	RENAM	www.renam.md
33	Morocco	MARWAN	www.marwan.ma
34	Netherlands	SURFnet	www.surfnet.nl
35	Norway	UNINETT	www.uninett.no
36	Poland	PIONIER	www.pionier.gov.pl
37	Portugal	FNCC	www.fncc.pt
38	Romania	RNC	www.rnc.ro
	Romania	RoEduNet	www.roedu.net
39	Russian Federation	RBNet/RUNNet	www.ripn.net, www.runnet.ru
40	Serbia Montenegro	AMREJ	amrej.rcub.bg.ac.yu
41	Slovakia	SANET	www.sanet.sk
42	Slovenia	ARNES	www.arnes.si
43	Spain	RedIRIS	www.rediris.es
44	Sweden	SUNET	www.sunet.se
45	Switzerland	SWITCH	www.switch.ch
46	Turkey	ULAKBIM	www.ulakbim.gov.tr
47	Ukraine	URAN	www.uran.net.ua
48	United Kingdom	UKERNA	www.ukerna.ac.uk
49	Uzbekistan	UzSciNet	www.uzsci.net

* outside the map area

Table 1.0.2 NRENs not included in the Compendium

	Country	NREN	URL
	Egypt	EUN	www.eun.eg
	Macedonia, FYRo	MARNet	
	Syria *	SHERN	www.shern.net
	Tunesia	RNR	

* replies received after the deadline

1.1 Legal Form

NRENs have many different legal forms and those legal forms are themselves difficult to compare. What is called a ‘foundation’ in one country may be something very different from that which is called a ‘foundation’ in another country, and the same is true of many other designations. Also, governments and government departments are organised differently from country to country. Based on the work in earlier years, this Compendium distinguishes two parameters that together help to characterize the legal form of NRENs.

Separate legal entity

Many NRENs operate as a separate legal entity; many others form part of a larger organisation (often either a Ministry, a University or a research institution). A few NRENs have a special status in the sense that they do not operate as a separate legal body but are not either part of a larger organisation (for example, because they operate on a project basis). Typically, the final institutional identity of these NRENs has not yet been decided.

Relationship with the Government

Those NRENs that are a government agency or part of a government ministry are typically directly controlled by the government, even though in some cases (e.g., Turkey) such agencies can enjoy a reasonable degree of autonomy, comparable to that of some of the NRENs that are separate legal entities.

A number of NRENs that are separate legal entities have governing boards that are at least half government-appointed. Those NRENs are marked with ‘appoints’ in the table below.

Many NRENs have an indirect relationship with the government; they are controlled by the research and education community which in itself is (largely) government-funded.

Some NRENs have a mixed model, being governed both by government representatives and representatives from the research and education community.

The tables below show the relationship between the two parameters for the EU and EFTA countries and the other countries. As can be seen from the table, the most common model in the EU and EFTA countries is an NREN which is a separate legal entity and is controlled by the research and education community, which in itself is (largely) government funded. However, this is not the only model – it is the one chosen by a large minority of almost 40% of the NRENs. Seven other models are found.

In the other countries, a larger variety exists, with a total of 10 models. The largest minority (28%) is made up of NRENs which are separate legal entities, controlled by the research and education community.

A number of NRENs offer up-to-date information regarding their governing structure on their websites. A list of URLs is provided on page 7.

Table 1.1.1 Legal Form of NRENs, EU + EFTA countries

Relationship with Government	Separate legal entity	Not a separate legal entity	Other	Total
Indirect	11	3		14
Direct	2	5		7
Both	3	1		4
Appoints	2			2
Other	1			1
None				
Total	19	9		28

Table 1.1.2 Legal Form of NRENs, Other countries

Relationship with Government	Separate legal entity	Not a separate legal entity	Other	Total
Indirect	5	2	1	8
Direct	3		2	5
Both	1	1		2
Appoints	1			
Other		1		1
None	1			1
Total	11	4	3	18

Table 1.1.3 Relationship with Government

EU & EFTA countries	NREN	Separate legal entity?	Relationship with Government	Remarks/ Parent Organisation
Austria	ACOnet	no	indirect	Vienna University Computer Centre
Belgium	BELNET	no	direct	Ministry of Science Policy
Cyprus	CYNET	yes	both	Our governing body consists of representatives from education, research and government agencies.
Czech Republic	CESNET	yes	indirect	
Denmark	UNI•C	no	direct	For Forskningsnet: Danish ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, For UNI-C: Danish ministry of Education
Estonia	EENet	yes	direct	EENet is a public institution operating under the administration of the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research
Finland	FUNET	no	direct	CSC - Scientific Computing Ltd., owned by the Ministry of Education
France	RENATER	yes	both	Among funding members (on the Administration Board), the French Ministry in charge of Universities.
Germany	DFN	yes	indirect	
Greece	GRNET	yes	direct	Greek Ministry of Development, under the supervision of the General Secretariat for Research and Technology
Hungary	HUNGARNET	yes	both	Joint NREN function by HUNGARNET (independent) and NIIF (government supervised).
Iceland	RHnet	yes	indirect	
Ireland	HEAnet	yes	indirect	
Italy	GARR	yes	indirect	
Latvia	LANET	no	indirect	Ministry of Education and Science
Latvia	LATNET	no	indirect	The LATNET network is working as a financially independent subunit (department) of the Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science that is an independent unit of Latvia University.
Lithuania	LITNET	no	direct	Ministry of Science and Education of Lithuania
Luxembourg	RESTENA	yes	appoints	
Malta	CSC	no		University of Malta
Netherlands	SURFnet	yes	indirect	Stichting SURF (English: SURF Foundation)
Norway	UNINETT	yes	other	Limited company wholly owned by the Department of Education and Research
Poland	PIONIER	yes	indirect	
Portugal	FCCN	yes	indirect	
Slovakia	SANET	yes	indirect	
Slovenia	ARNES	yes	appoints	
Spain	RedIRIS	no	direct	Entidad publica empresarial RED.ES
Sweden	SUNET	no	both	The Swedish Research Council (the parent organization) is a government agency and part of the funding comes from the State
Switzerland	SWITCH	yes	both	The government has delegates in our governing body, the council of foundation.
United Kingdom	UKERNA	yes	indirect	

Table 1.1.3 Relationship with government (continued)

Other countries	NREN	Separate legal entity?	Relationship with Government	Remarks/ Parent Organisation
Albania	ANA	neither	indirect	
Algeria	CERIST		indirect	Ministry of higher education and scientific research
Azerbaijan	AzRENA		indirect	
Azerbaijan	OSI-AF/ Azerbaijan	no	other	Open Society Institute (SOROS Foundation Network)
Belarus	BASNET		indirect	National Academy of Sciences of Belarus
Bosnia/Herzegovina	BIHARNET	yes		
Bulgaria	IST Foundation	yes	indirect	The Foundation is founded by distinguished academic and IT industry figures.
Croatia	CARNet	yes	appoints	
Georgia	GRENA	yes	indirect	
Iran	IRANET			Institute for Studies in Theoretical Physics and Mathematics (IPM)
Israel	IUCC	yes	indirect	
Jordan	NITC	yes	direct	Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MoICT)
Kazakhstan	KazRENA		other	KazRENA works closely with the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan on a state programme.
Kyrgyzstan	KRENA-AKNET	yes	none	
Lebanon	CNRS	yes	direct	
Moldova	RENAM	yes	indirect	
Morocco	MARWAN	neither	direct	National Scientific and Technical Research Centre (CNRST)
Romania	RNC	no	indirect	Ministry of Education and Research
Romania	RoEduNet	yes	direct	
Russian Federation	RBNet/RUNNet	yes	both	We are controlled partly by the Government and partly by the research community.
Serbia/Montenegro	AMREJ	neither	direct	The NREN is now a special project funded by the Ministry for Science, Technology and Development. It is planned that it will become a separate legal entity.
Turkey	ULAKBIM	no	both	The Scientific and Technical Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK). TUBITAK is a semi-independent government agency managed by a self-elected manager.
Ukraine	URAN	no	indirect	Centre for European Integration Ltd. (CEI)
Uzbekistan	UzSciNet	yes	indirect	