

# Tackling Your Domain Name Disputes at WIPO

The **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** is internationally recognized as the **leading service provider** for disputes concerning the abusive registration and use of Internet **domain names**, a practice commonly known as “**cybersquatting**”.

Initiated by WIPO in 1999, the **Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP)** provides trademark owners worldwide with an **effective remedy, outside of court** to address clear-cut cases of cybersquatting. The UDRP applies to all generic Top Level Domains (**gTLDs**) including the over 1,000 new gTLDs now operational. Many country code Top Level Domains (**ccTLDs**) also relying on WIPO services for their UDRP-based policies.

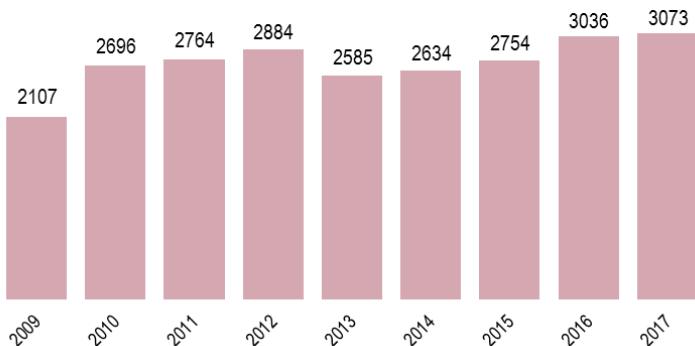
WIPO's non-profit UDRP services are **time- and cost-effective**: cases are resolved by independent trademark experts, normally within two months from start to finish. Following WIPO's paperless “eUDRP” initiative, cases are managed electronically by email, and normally decided on a **single round** of pleadings.

As the global leader, WIPO has administered **40,000 UDRP cases** covering **74,000 domain names**.

## WIPO and the UDRP

- 95% transfer rate in undefended cases
- Extensive WIPO language capacity
- Paperless e-filing
- Global jurisdiction
- Quick and inexpensive
- Direct implementation by registrars

WIPO Domain Name Case Filing  
(2009 - 2017)



## UDRP Filing Resources

- **Jurisprudential Overview**  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search/overview3.0](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search/overview3.0)
- **Model Pleadings**  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/complainant](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/complainant)  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/respondent](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/respondent)
- **Keyword-based Legal Index**  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search/legalindex.jsp](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search/legalindex.jsp)
- **WIPO Case Search Facility**  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/search)
- **UDRP Training Workshops**  
[www.wipo.int/amc/en/events](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/events)

“The UDRP is the only affordable and effective remedy open to brand owners for tackling cross-jurisdictional abusive domain registration. Across over 40,000 cases featuring more than 74,000 domain names, WIPO has demonstrated consistency, fairness and transparency. WIPO offers unique jurisprudential resources, its panelists are well-trained, and its decisions are reasonable and well-argued. Without the leadership of WIPO our brand-owning members would be much poorer and the consumers who rely on them would be exposed to the many perils that frequently accompany cybersquatting.”

*Executive Committee of MARQUES, the European Association of Trademark Owners ([www.marques.org](http://www.marques.org))*

# WIPO Dispute Resolution Services for ccTLDs

WIPO provides **best-practice** domain name dispute resolution services for **76 ccTLD operators**. Many of these ccTLDs have adopted the UDRP; others have adopted tailored UDRP variations or Expedited Arbitration.

Where a ccTLD has adopted the UDRP, those domain names may be **consolidated** with gTLD domain names against a single registrant in a **single UDRP complaint**.

The full list of ccTLDs for which the WIPO Center provides ADR services is at: [www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/cctld](http://www.wipo.int/amc/en/domains/cctld).

## ccTLDs adopting the UDRP:

.ag, .as, .bm, .bs, .bz, .cc, .cd, .co, .cy, .dj, .ec, .fj, .fm, .gd, .gq, .gt, .ki, .la, .lc, .md, .me, .ml, .mw, .nr, .nu, .pa, .pk, .pn, .pr, .pw, .ro, .sc, .sl, .so, .tj, .tk, .tt, .tv, .ug, .ve, .vg, .ws.

## Examples of UDRP variations:

.ch, .es, .fr, .mx, .nl.

Further to its not-for-profit ADR services, WIPO provides a free online database with links to the websites of over 250 ccTLDs so trademark owners may find the applicable procedure.

## Rights Protection Policy Work

WIPO is a recognized thought leader in addressing questions raised by the intersection of the DNS and IP laws. WIPO's unique UDRP stewardship is evident in its "eUDRP" proposal.

For new gTLDs, WIPO proposed a "post delegation" tool to address rogue registries, and a UDRP-complementary mechanism to suspend domain names in undefended cases.

WIPO continues to stand for balanced IP protection tools that contribute to innovation, and to a stable, credible DNS.

Currently, WIPO is actively engaged in helping to protect the future viability of the UDRP for all stakeholders.

## WIPO Arbitration and Mediation for Trademark Disputes

As **time- and cost-efficient** alternatives to litigation, **Alternative Dispute Resolution** (ADR) mechanisms such as **mediation and arbitration** can help parties resolve such disputes in an expeditious manner. Mediation and arbitration under the WIPO Rules are confidential procedures allowing parties to choose from **WIPO's database of over 1,500 external neutrals** a mediator or arbitrator with trademark-specific **legal and technical expertise**.

Mediation and arbitration provide a **neutral forum** where parties can resolve disputes through a **single procedure**, particularly beneficial in international arrangements. Moreover, parties decide the place of mediation or arbitration and the language of the proceeding, and can set timelines to suit their specific priorities. ADR can be designed in a way so as to allow for **efficient enforcement** of the outcome of the case.

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