EURAO Special Newsletter on 2m threat

This summer amateur radio worldwide became shocked and concerned about a proposal from France to allocate 144-146 MHz to aeronautical service.

The reactions did not wait and EURAO did not stay still. Fortunately, the proposal could be rejected within the CEPT and we are proud of our modest contribution.

In this special issue of the EURAO Newsletter you will find all the actions carried out by our members and staff on this matter.

Amateur Radio News...

Global: 2 meters band in danger: CQ solidarity

Mid June EURAO supported an spontaneous protest action against the proposal of France to kick us out of the popular 2 meters band (144-146 MHz in Europe).

The action objective was: "let's occupy the 2 meter band on Saturday, June 15, 2019, between 20:00 and 21:00 UTC".

The operation was such a success that, not only the band was occupied during that hour, but the threat had an enormous diffusion among the global radio amateurs community.

France: REF and EURAO meeting on 2m crisis

The president of REF, F5DJL, visited the EURAO booth at HAM RADIO 2019 and met its Secretary-General, EA3CIW, who, a week before, had sent an email offering support and collaboration in the 144-146 MHz affair before French Administration.

Let's keep in mind that current EURAO HQ is in France. Both exchanged views and concerns and agreed on the importance of addressing this issue with diligence and trying the maximum consensus.

Belgium: Meeting with BIPT

Both Belgian members of EURAO (VRA and UFRC) met with the Belgian Institute for Postal services and Telecommunications (BIPT) late June and expressed their rejection to the proposal of sharing the use, with aeronautical service, of the 2m band (144-146 MHz), now allocated to the amateur service on a primary basis. BIPT agreed this position.

Later on a formal letter was sent to BIPT requesting its vote against that proposal at the next CEPT meeting.

Spain: Defending amateur radio before the Ministry

On July 12th, the Spanish EURAO member associations (FEDI-EA, FeRaCat and LigaCB) met with the people in charge of amateur radio issues in the Secretariat of State for Digital Progress (SEAD) to discuss, among other issues, the international threat of losing the 144-146 MHz band.

It is worth noting the good receptivity and harmony of the interlocutors in the main topics: 2m, 50 MHz, etc. Then the chronicle of the meeting that, by the way, no other association asked for.
Amateur Radio News... (cont.)

Portugal: 26 associations rejected other services on 2m

Among these associations, all Portuguese members of EURAO (TRGM, RCL and ARRlx) signed the initial statement of rejection to the unfortunate French proposal. This serious threat generated an unusual joint reaction from Portuguese radio amateurs' associations, which met on July 6 to analyze the situation and agree on the next measures to be taken. A commission of 6 radio amateurs (CT1BAT, CT1DBS, CT1DL, CT1END, CT2IQX and CT1FKF as a substitute) was appointed to represent the associations before ANACOM at the meeting held on July 15.

Italy: Meeting at MiSE

On August 1 the Italian member of EURAO, CISAR, attended the preparatory meeting at Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico (MiSE) on the next CEPT meeting, the last one before WRC-19.

The results were very positive with explicit support to all the claims of radio amateurs.

EURAO Party - Autumn 2019: claiming for 2m

The European Radio Amateurs' Organization announces a new party on the air, this time with the motto: "claiming for 2m". Remember this is not a contest, it is just a radio meeting with a few simple 'rules', better to call them recommendations.

Purpose: Suddenly the 2m band is in danger. Someone perhaps thought it was a good business to throw away radio amateurs from 144-146 MHz. But a huge reaction worldwide has taken place: activities, signature collection, meetings and letters to the PTTs, etc. EURAO supports all these kinds of actions and wants to contribute to them with this Party, in a more fun way. Go on air and contact everyone!

Date & time: September 28th and 29th, 2019, Saturday and Sunday, 00:00-24:00 UTC.

Bands & modes: these are the recommended modes/frequencies (+/-) for the 2m band:
- CW/144.050, FT4/144.170, FT8/144.174, SSB/144.300, WSPR/144.489, SSTV/144.500, RTTY/144.600, APRS/144.800, FM/145.500, repeaters/145.600-145.775 (input -600 KHz) and ISS/145.800 MHz. EFG.

Call: "CQ EURAO Party".

Exchange: because this is a QSO event, not a contest, you can talk about whatever you want, in any language, and for as long as you like. Here are some topic suggestions to get the conversation going: name, city, locator, weather, antennas, rigs, etc.

Also talk about QSL interchange. Tell the truth. Say "no, thanks" if you are not interested in the conversation going: name, city, locator, weather, antennas, rigs, etc.

Logs: for statistic purposes only, we ask participants to submit their logs to party@eurao.org in ADIF format, where the filename should be your callsign (e.g. EA3RKF.ADI).

There will be no results or league tables, only statistical information about number of QSOs, countries, callsigns, OMs/YLs/Clubs, etc.

Certificate of Participation: for ALL those sending the log and with a minimum of 10% QSOs confirmed.

EuroBureauQSL: you can use it to interchange QSLs even if you are not member. In this case, just send the QSL to the entry point of the station you have contacted.

More than 48.000 QSL cards !!! have been already managed by EuroBureauQSL

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