In Memoriam
Prof. Dr. Jón Thorhallsson, Reykjavik, Iceland

A friend and real European personality has been called home by God - in September 2016.

His friends and colleagues in information technology (IT) mourn for a grand Icelandic person, a bridge builder between IT experts, IT- and software industry, IT-users of all kinds of digital systems, software and their applications. He always regarded the human aspects, humanistic influences, heavy impacts on personal lives, on society and groups, on interdependencies inside the society, the serious and permanent impacts through new evolutions in and around IT media.

Prof. Thorhallsson was a wise man, with his bright senses observing and weighing the permanent changes and interdependencies, describing - gifted with literal capacity - the consequences and impacts on national, European and worldwide communication, humanity and mankind.

Prof. Dr. Thorhallsson was a highly estimated advisor to the EU Commission on numerous information technology issues as - Cyber security, speech recognition and real time translation, member of the European Internet Forum, EURid the European Registry of Internet Domain Names and many others.

Prof. Thorhallsson's special concerns focused on a "Bill of Rights" for users, consumers, citizens of all kinds of ICT and media. This Bill of Rights shall take under consideration the impact, the evolution, the changes of behaviour in business and private life. Men and women should not be influenced without limits by ICT, media structures and related pressure. A Code of Good Conduct for ICT and media is required. Important ideas for such aspects were formulated by Prof. Thorhallsson.

CECUA, the Confederation of European Computer (IT) User Associations has lost her president, one of its main thinkers, initiator of influential ideas and projects. CECUA deeply mourns for him – with many friends and colleagues. It seems nearly impossible to replace Prof. Thorhallsson.

Though, a group of his CECUA team, a group of highly appreciated persons will continue Jon Thohallsson’s good work, will finalize his started projects and will care for the future of CECUA. The CECUA board stays very active. And though, we are aware that we are not able to fully match the style of this Grand Seigneur.

For CECUA
- Tilo Steinbrinck, Kiel, Germany, former president of CECUA
- Prof. Dr. George Pangalos, Thessaloniki, Greece, former president of CECUA
- Stuart Goold, United Kingdom, former president of CECUA
- Alain Moscowitz, France, Vice President of CECUA
- Didier Carré, France, Vice President of CECUA
- Friedrich Dittmer, Germany, CECUA Director Media and Public Relations
- Dr. Bruno Vogel, Germany, CECUA Director Technology

October, 2016