

## **ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL DECISION**

Speroni General Trading LLC OPC v. zein hijazi, zein hijazi  
Case No. DAE2026-0001

### **1. The Parties**

The Complainant is Speroni General Trading LLC OPC, of United Arab Emirates, represented by Al Tamimi & Company, United Arab Emirates.

The Respondent is zein hijazi, zein hijazi, of United Arab Emirates.

### **2. The Domain Name and Registrar**

The disputed domain name <speroni.ae> is registered with AE Domain Administration (.aeDA).

### **3. Procedural History**

The Complaint was filed with the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (the “Center”) on January 23, 2026. On January 23, 2026, the Center transmitted by email to .aeDA a request for registrant verification in connection with the disputed domain name. On January 28, 2026, .aeDA transmitted by email to the Center its verification response confirming that the Respondent is listed as the registrant and providing the contact details. The Center sent an email communication to the Complainant on January 29, 2026, providing the registrant and contact information disclosed by the Registrar.

The Center verified that the Complaint satisfied the formal requirements of the UAE Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy for – UAE DRP approved by .aeDA (the “Policy”), the Rules for UAE Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy – UAE DRP (the “Rules”), and the Supplemental Rules for UAE Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy – UAE DRP (the “Supplemental Rules”).

In accordance with the Rules, paragraphs 2(a) and 4(a), the Center formally notified the Respondent of the Complaint, and the proceedings commenced on February 2, 2026. In accordance with the Rules, paragraph 5(a), the due date for Response was February 22, 2026. The Respondent did not submit any Response. Accordingly, the Center notified the Respondent’s default on February 23, 2026.

The Center appointed Nayiri Boghossian as the sole panelist in this matter on March 9, 2026. The Panel finds that it was properly constituted. The Panel has submitted the Statement of Acceptance and Declaration of Impartiality and Independence, as required by the Center to ensure compliance with the Rules, paragraph 7.

#### **4. Factual Background**

The Complainant is a footwear company incorporated in the United Arab Emirates. The Complainant owns many registrations of the trademark SPERONI such as:

- United Arab Emirates trademark registration no. 449926, registered on June 25, 2025;
- United Arab Emirates trademark registration no. 324879, registered on June 10, 2020; and
- International trademark registration no. 1231895, registered on September 24, 2014.

The disputed domain name was registered on May 16, 2024, and resolves to an error page.

#### **5. Parties' Contentions**

##### **A. Complainant**

The Complainant contends that the disputed domain name is identical to a trademark in which the Complainant has rights. The disputed domain name consists entirely and exclusively of the Complainant's trademark SPERONI. The country-code Top-Level Domain ("ccTLD") ".ae" is a registration requirement and does not serve to distinguish the disputed domain name from the Complainant's trademark.

The Complainant contends that the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the disputed domain name because: i. The Respondent is not affiliated with the Complainant. ii. The Respondent has not been authorized, licensed, or permitted to use the SPERONI trademark. iii. The Respondent is not commonly known by the name "Speroni". iv. The disputed domain name does not resolve to an active website and is not used for any bona fide offering of goods or services. v. There is no legitimate non-commercial or fair use of the disputed domain name.

The Complainant contends that the disputed domain name was registered and is being used in bad faith. The disputed domain name consists entirely of the Complainant's trademark. The use of the ccTLD ".ae" targets the Complainant's rights as it is the Complainant's country. The Respondent has no connection to the SPERONI name and has not been authorized to use it. By holding the disputed domain name, the Respondent prevents the Complainant from reflecting its trademark in the ccTLD ".ae", which refers to its home market.

##### **B. Respondent**

The Respondent did not reply to the Complainant's contentions.

#### **6. Discussion and Findings**

##### **A. Identical or Confusingly Similar**

The Complainant owns trademark registrations for the trademark SPERONI. The Panel is satisfied that the Complainant has established its ownership of the trademark SPERONI.

The disputed domain name comprises the Complainant's trademark SPERONI in its entirety. The ccTLD ".ae" should generally be ignored when assessing confusing similarity as established by prior decisions.

Consequently, the Panel finds that the disputed domain name is identical to the trademark of the Complainant and that the Complainant has satisfied paragraph 4(a)(i) of the Policy.

### **B. Rights or Legitimate Interests**

The Complainant has made a prima facie showing that the Respondent does not have any rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name, particularly by asserting that it never authorized the Respondent to use its trademark as part of the disputed domain name.

The burden of production moves then to the Respondent, and the Respondent has not provided evidence of circumstances of the types specified in paragraph 4(c) of the Policy, or of any other circumstances, giving rise to rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name.

Consequently, the Panel finds that the Complainant has met the requirement under the Policy of showing that the Respondent does not have any rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name. Accordingly, the Complainant has satisfied paragraph 4(a)(ii) of the Policy.

### **C. Registered or Used in Bad Faith**

It is more likely than not that the Respondent was aware of the Complainant's trademark when it registered the disputed domain name as the disputed domain name is registered with the ccTLD ".ae", which is the Complainant's place of incorporation and business. Moreover, the Respondent seems to be located in the United Arab Emirates where the Complainant is conducting business.

The website to which the disputed domain name resolves is an error page. This is a case of passive holding. Based on the submissions in the present proceeding and in the absence of any claims or evidence from the Respondent, the Panel notes that the Complainant is active in the United Arab Emirates where the Respondent is located, the Respondent's failure to submit a response, the fact that the disputed domain name was registered almost two years ago and still hasn't been put into use, and finds that in the circumstances of this case the passive holding of the disputed domain name does not prevent a finding of bad faith under the Policy.

The Panel finds that the Complainant has satisfied paragraph 4(a)(iii) of the Policy.

## **7. Decision**

For the foregoing reasons, in accordance with paragraphs 6(i) of the Policy and 15 of the Rules, the Panel orders that the domain name <speroni.ae> be transferred to the Complainant.

*/Nayiri Boghossian/*

Nayiri Boghossian

Panelist

Date: March 10, 2026