

## **Alternative Dispute Resolution Proceeding**

### **Case No. DSE2026-0009**

#### **1. Petitioner**

The Petitioner is Evangeliska Fosterlandsstiftelsen, Sweden, represented internally.

#### **2. Domain Holder**

The Domain Holder is [Name Removed], Sweden.

#### **3. Domain Name and Procedural History**

This Alternative Dispute Resolution proceeding relates to the domain name <efs.se> (the “Domain Name”).

This Petition was filed under the Terms and Conditions of Registration for the top-level domain .se (the “.se Policy”) and the Instructions governing Alternative Dispute Resolution proceedings for domain names in the top-level domain .se (the “.se Rules”).

The WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center (the “WIPO Center”) verified that the Petition satisfied the formal requirements of the .se Policy and the .se Rules. In accordance with section 13 of the .se Rules, the WIPO Center formally notified the Domain Holder of the Petition on March 27, 2026. The Domain Holder submitted a response on April 19, 2026, and the Petitioner submitted a supplemental filing on April 21, 2026.

The WIPO Center appointed Monique Wadsted as the sole arbitrator in this matter on April 27, 2026. The arbitrator has submitted the Statement of Acceptance and Declaration of Impartiality and Independence, as required by the WIPO Center to ensure compliance with section 1 of the .se Rules.

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

The Petitioner is Evangeliska Fosterlandsstiftelsen, a Swedish Christian organization that uses the domain name <efs.nu>.

The Domain Name was registered by the Domain Holder after the previous registration had expired and the Domain Name became available for registration again.

## 5. Claim

The Petitioner requests that the Domain Name shall be transferred to the Petitioner.

## 6. Parties' Contentions

### A. Petitioner

The Petitioner submits that it has rights in the acronym "EFS", that is legally recognized in Sweden and has been used extensively in connection with the Petitioner's activities.

The Petitioner contends that the Domain Name is identical to the Petitioner's protected acronym.

The Petitioner further submits that the Domain Name has been registered and used in bad faith. In this respect, the Petitioner relies in particular on the Domain Holder's immediate contact with the Petitioner following registration of the Domain Name and the subsequent offer to transfer it for SEK 150,000 plus VAT.

According to the Petitioner, the circumstances demonstrate that the Domain Name was registered primarily for the purpose of selling it to the Petitioner for high price exceeding documented out-of-pocket costs related to the Domain Name registration.

The Petitioner finally submits that the Domain Holder has no rights or justified interests in the Domain Name.

### B. Domain Holder

The Domain Holder submits that the Domain Name was registered because it became available after expiration and because short three-letter ".se" domain names generally have commercial value.

The Domain Holder denies that the registration was made in bad faith or specifically to target the Petitioner, as it also contacted other organizations, such as EFS AB, that might have been interested in purchasing the Domain Name.

The Domain Holder further submits that the acronym "EFS" correspond to several different organizations or companies, including in Sweden, and that the Domain Name therefore does not exclusively identify the Petitioner.

The Domain Holder also submits that the offer to transfer the Domain Name reflected the general market value of short three-letter ".se" domain names and was not an attempt to exploit the Petitioner's rights.

## 7. Discussion and Findings

Under the .se Policy, a domain name shall be transferred if:

- (i) the domain name is identical or similar to a right legally recognized in Sweden and to which the petitioner can prove its rights;
- (ii) the domain name has been registered or used in bad faith; and
- (iii) the domain holder has no rights or justified interest in the domain name.

### **A. The domain name is identical or similar to a right which is legally recognized in Sweden and to which the Petitioner can prove its rights**

Under the .se Policy, the Petitioner must demonstrate that the disputed domain name is identical or similar to a right legally recognized in Sweden and to which the Petitioner can prove rights.

The Petitioner relies on the acronym “EFS”, which is stated to be an acronym used in connection with the Petitioner’s activities and organizational name. The material submitted further shows that the Petitioner uses the domain name <efs.nu>.

However, the Petition does not include any trademark registration, company name registration specifically relating to “EFS”, or other evidence demonstrating that the acronym “EFS”, as such, constitutes a protected right recognized under the .se Policy. Nor has the Petitioner submitted any more detailed evidence of acquired distinctiveness of the acronym “EFS” independently of the Petitioner’s full organizational name.

The Arbitrator notes in particular that “EFS” is a short three-letter combination which may potentially have multiple meanings and uses unrelated to the Petitioner. In such circumstances, clear evidence is generally required in order to establish that the acronym itself functions as a legally recognized identifier uniquely associated with the Petitioner.

While the material submitted indicates that the Petitioner uses the acronym “EFS” in practice, the Arbitrator does not find that the Petitioner has sufficiently demonstrated, on the record in this proceeding, that “EFS” constitutes a right legally recognized in Sweden within the meaning of the .se Policy.

Accordingly, the first element of the .se Policy has not been satisfied.

In light of these findings, no final determination regarding bad faith or rights or justified interest under the second and third elements of the .se Policy is required. Nevertheless, the Arbitrator notes that the circumstances relied upon by the Petitioner mainly concern the Domain Holder’s offer to sell and transfer the Domain Name to the Petitioner. However, such circumstances do not limit the Petitioner’s obligation to demonstrate a right legally recognized in Sweden.

Furthermore, the Arbitrator notes that the Petitioner’s supplemental filing of April 21, 2026, does not introduce any materially new facts or evidence in support of its Petition.

## **8. Decision**

Based on these reasons, in accordance with the .se Policy and the .se Rules, the Petition is denied.

## **9. Summary**

The Petitioner requested transfer of the Domain Name <efs.se> based on alleged rights in the acronym “EFS”. The Arbitrator finds that the Petitioner has shown that it uses the acronym “EFS” in connection with its registered domain name <efs.nu>. However, the material submitted does not sufficiently establish that “EFS”, as such, constitutes a right legally recognized in Sweden within the meaning of the .se Policy. In particular no trademark registration, detailed evidence of acquired distinctiveness, or other sufficient evidence of independent legal protection for the acronym has been provided.

As the first element of the .se Policy has not been satisfied, the Petition must be denied.

Accordingly, the domain name <efs.se> shall remain with the Domain Holder.

*/Monique Wadsted/*

**Monique Wadsted**

Date: May 17, 2026