



# Qwant

## **Qwant gives itself new means to pursue its development**

**In order to support the sustained growth of Qwant, Eric Leandri, his other co-founders and the shareholders of the European privacy-friendly search engine choose to provide Qwant with new means with governance suited to its ambitions and its stage of development.**

**PARIS, January 9, 2020** - Launched in its consumer version in 2013, Qwant succeeded in a few years in implementing and fulfilling the primary objective of its founders: to offer Internet users the first European search engine respectful of privacy, concerned with the greatest protection of its users' personal data and capable of embodying a solution to the necessary ambitions of digital sovereignty in France and Europe.

### **Achieved goals and renewed confidence**

Under the leadership of its co-founder Eric Leandri, Qwant has established itself as a recognized brand and has successfully created and gradually deployed its own search technology. This strategy, based both on ethical values and on a strong technological ambition, has enabled Qwant to experience exceptional growth in the number of its users in a particularly difficult competitive environment, and to have the confidence of a very large number of large private groups and public institutions, both national and international.

Thanks to this success and the significant increase in revenues in 2019, the reference shareholders Banque des Territoires (Groupe Caisse des Dépôts) and Axel Springer have decided to renew their confidence and have committed to participate in a new round table to be finalized in February.

## Enhanced governance

To continue the development and vision of Qwant, Jean-Claude Ghinozzi, current Deputy Managing Director Sales & Marketing of Qwant since 2017, is promoted as President of Qwant SAS. He will provide general management with the mission of strengthening the technological fundamentals of the search engine and its service ecosystem as well as its monetization. Tristan Nitot, who temporarily served as CEO, will once again focus on his role as VP Advocacy.

Qwant has also chosen to set up a Governance Council chaired by Antoine Troesch, Investment Director of Banque des Territoires.

This Council will be supported by a Strategic and Scientific Committee chaired by Eric Leandri. After successfully ensuring the development of Qwant, Eric Leandri fully wished to invest in the definition and implementation of the company's strategic and technological orientations by taking the chair of this Committee.

This new organization will be effective on January 15, 2020.

For Eric Leandri: **"After all these years of driving Qwant to its various successes and on all fronts, I am very enthusiastic about the idea of continuing the adventure with a solid team of which I am proud, who has all my confidence, and which allows me to focus on the strategic vision of what should be and become our search engine, serving the privacy of the Europeans and our technological autonomy. "**

Jean-Claude Ghinozzi says: **"I joined Qwant three years ago because the unprecedented challenge proposed by the shareholders was both immense and motivating. We have collectively succeeded in laying solid foundations to build the future, I know the strength and potential of our teams, and it is therefore with great pride and recognition that I agreed to take the lead in this phase significant development of Qwant in France and in Europe. I want to thank Eric Leandri and our shareholders for this renewed confidence and I am eager to continue working with them. "**

## **About Qwant**

Designed and developed in France, Qwant is the first European search engine to have its own web indexing technology, which protects the privacy of its users by refusing any tracking device for advertising purposes. Unlike the main search engines on the market, Qwant does not install any cookies on the user's browser, does not try to find out who he is or what he does, and does not keep a history of the requests made. With a warm interface that leaves plenty of room for results, Qwant allows you to efficiently find the information you are looking for across the web and social networks, while respecting total neutrality. Qwant processes all indexed sites and services without discrimination, without modifying the order of results according to its own interests or the user's sensitivities. Qwant handled more than 18 billion requests in 2018. <https://www.Qwant.com>

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