Quad9 leaves France on 24 November: check what your networks use for DNS

19 November 2026 · 5 min read · blogs.iictp.org/quad9-leaves-france-dns-resolver-check

Quad9, the Swiss non-profit that runs the public DNS resolver 9.9.9.9, says it will stop serving users located in France from 24 November 2026. It announced the decision on 22 October, after a French court ruled in favour of the broadcaster beIN in a case over blocking domain names linked to alleged copyright infringement. Cloudflare returned to the issue on 17 November, warning that some users may not know the change is coming.

TL;DR The short version

- Quad9, the public DNS resolver, stops serving users in France from 24 November 2026 after a French court ruling on blocking domains.
- Quad9 says it cannot comply as ordered, and some users may not know the change is coming.
- Search configurations for 9.9.9.9 and Quad9's other addresses for any site, office or cloud region that may appear to be in France.

Read online, listen to it, or change the text size: https://blogs.iictp.org/quad9-leaves-france-dns-resolver-check

What was reported

- Quad9 says the ruling requires it to block resolution of certain domain names for users in France, and that the court reduced the financial penalty from €580,000 to €1,000 per day.
- Quad9 argues it cannot comply as ordered. It says it keeps no database linking users to countries, that blocking globally would apply a French decision to users everywhere, and that geographic blocking led to a contempt fine in an earlier German case that it eventually won.
- Quad9 says about 20 similar lawsuits are pending against it and other resolver operators in France.
- Cloudflare says French users of Quad9 include government bodies, schools, hospitals and utilities, and that Quad9 has no way to notify them directly. It warns that affected users will see failures with no explanation, and that devices hardwired to the resolver may be slow or impossible to fix.
- Cloudflare also says a Belgian court order would penalise Cloudflare, Google and Cisco if they do not begin blocking through their public resolvers by January 2027, and that the three have appealed.
- Quad9 and Cloudflare are both parties with a stake in this dispute. Their descriptions of the rulings are their own, and we did not read the court decisions or a statement from beIN.

What a practitioner should do

- Search configurations for the Quad9 addresses Quad9 publishes, 9.9.9.9, 149.112.112.112, 2620:fe::fe and 2620:fe::9, plus 9.9.9.10 and its secondaries. Include routers, DHCP scopes, forwarders, containers and infrastructure-as-code.
- Do this for any site, branch, remote worker group or cloud region that may appear to be in France, even if the company is based elsewhere.
- Check devices and appliances with hardcoded resolvers, along with any DNS-over-TLS or DNS-over-HTTPS settings that point to Quad9.
- Choose a replacement on its merits: privacy terms, filtering, support and who operates it. If you relied on Quad9's malware blocking, confirm that the replacement provides an equivalent control.
- Configure a secondary resolver from a different operator, and alert on rising DNS timeouts and failures so that a resolver outage is recognised quickly.

The wider lesson

A free public service is still a dependency, and it can disappear for reasons that have nothing to do with engineering. Critical dependencies deserve an owner, a recorded location in your configuration and a tested alternative, including the ones so basic that nobody remembers choosing them.

> Facts in this post were read from the sources listed below on 19 November 2026; this is a developing story or product and details may have changed since.

Sources and further reading

1. Quad9. Farewell, France. 22 October 2026. quad9.net/news/blog/au-revoir-france/
2. Cloudflare. Quad9's withdrawal from France: A canary in the coal mine. 17 November 2026. blog.cloudflare.com/quad9-withdrawal-from-france/

Published by IICTP, an independent technical credential body, on 19 November 2026. The current version of this post is at https://blogs.iictp.org/quad9-leaves-france-dns-resolver-check. More guides: blogs.iictp.org.