

Illegal Content Online

Maria Stafyla | RIPE 88 Anti-Abuse WG | 21 May 2024

What is our role as a Regional Internet Registry (RIR)?

Our Goal Here

- Inform the community about conversations we're having on what the RIPE NCC can do to remove illegal content online
 - Various stakeholders interested in this
 - Relating to different types of illegal content online, e.g. CSAM, piracy of live events
- We are not referring to third-party content that we host, for which we qualify as a hosting provider, and therefore the Digital Services Act (DSA) applies to us





About Piracy

- Ongoing discussions at the EU level about how piracy of sports and other live events can be effectively combatted
- The European Commission has issued a Recommendation
- Industry stakeholders expressed that more obligations should be placed on the RIPE NCC





What is our view on this?



Our Response (I)

- We engage with the stakeholders and explain:
 - A. What our role is as a Regional Internet Registry (RIR)
 - B. How to use the RIPE Database to identify the relevant holder
 - C. What our onboarding process is for new members, and under what conditions we may take actions against them and/or the resources they hold
 - D. What the effects of taking actions against registered resources would be
 - E. Why such an action would be disproportionate and not effective





More Specifically (I)

What our role is as a Regional Internet Registry

- Registering Internet number resources to our members, maintaining the RIPE Registry
- Members choose how to use them; must be in line with the applicable RIPE policies, RIPE NCC procedures
- We do not have control of or responsibility for how the resources are used
- How to use the RIPE Database to identify the relevant holder
 - We explain how to use and interpret the information shown in the RIPE Database
 - RIPE NCC Contact Form can be used for reporting incorrect information in the **RIPE** Database







More specifically (I)

- What our onboarding process is for new members, and under what conditions we may take actions against them and/or the resources they hold
 - We perform various due diligence checks before entering into an agreement with a new member, registering Internet number resources to them
 - If a member is in breach of their contractual obligations, we have the right to take actions against their resources and/or terminate their agreement
 - Currently no RIPE policy describes for what kind of content the registered resources may be used
 - If we receive a legally binding court order obliging us to take actions against a member or their resources, we will comply



More specifically (III)

- What the effects of taking actions against registered resources would be
 - The content is not directly removed or might not be impacted at all
 - Routing decisions are the responsibility of network operators
 - We do not provide connectivity
- Why such an action would be disproportionate and not effective
 - The users of all networks supported by the range from which the illegal content comes will be affected
 - This would be excessive and not proportional for the desired outcome

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Next Steps



Next Steps

- We will keep following the relevant developments
- and raise awareness about what our role is as an RIR

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We will engage further with the relevant stakeholders to explain

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Questions ?

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