

Motion - DNS Abuse Small Team Report
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WHEREAS,

1. The GNSO Council recognizes that the topic of DNS abuse is a longstanding topic and the GNSO has undertaken a variety of activities on this topic in the past.^[1]
2. In April 2025, the GNSO Council tasked a small team consisting of Council members to consider what policy efforts, if any, the GNSO Council should consider undertaking after considering new data that has been received, since the last DNS Abuse Small Team Recommendations.
3. As part of its deliberations, the small team reached out to GNSO Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies, as well as the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC), for input on what problem(s) policy development specifically is needed to mitigate, if any, as well as the expected outcomes if policy development would be undertaken.
4. The Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) provided GAC Advice on the topic of DNS Abuse in its [ICANN83 Prague Communiqué](#).
5. In considering the external input received, new data provided by one year of [ICANN Contract Amendments](#) (proposed amendments aimed to enhance obligations by requiring registrars and registry operators to promptly take reasonable and appropriate action to stop or otherwise disrupt DNS Abuse), and the INFERMAL Study as well as the [Netbeacon Whitepaper](#) and [Blog on ICANN Contract Amendments](#), the small team has identified several gaps in existing DNS abuse mitigation frameworks.
6. While all identified gaps listed in the gap matrix will be considered in the Issue Report, the Small Team recommends elevating the three prioritized gaps for the draft Charter due to their recurrence in data sources and stakeholder input, meaning:
 - i) important/impactful gap to solve
 - ii) likely to gain broad consensus
 - iii) ideally, the potential solution(s) seem achievable having in mind current workload and resources.
7. The small team delivered its report, containing 4 recommendations, to the GNSO Council on 4 August.

RESOLVED,

1. The GNSO Council accepts the recommendations as outlined in the DNS Abuse Small Team report and requests that an Issue Report be initiated on the topics as outlined by the Small Team and requests that Staff create the report.
2. The GNSO Council thanks the small team for its efforts, as well as the community groups that contributed to it.

[1] Some past work includes:

- Registration Abuse Policies WG Final Report from 2010: <https://gnso.icann.org/issues/rap/rap-wg-final-report-29may10-en.pdf> (some, but not all recommendations adopted)
- Staff best practices discussion paper from 2011: https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield_26745/discussion-paper-rap-best-practices-28sep11-en.pdf
- Uniformity of Contracts to Address Registration Abuse Final Issue Report 2012: <https://gnso.icann.org/en/issues/registration-abuse/uofc-final-issue-report-20sep12-en.pdf>(Final Issue Report, but not sufficient support to initiate a PDP at the time)
- DNS Abuse Small Team Report 2022: <https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/policy/2022/correspondence/dns-abuse-small-team-to-gnso-council-07oct22-en.pdf>
- ICANN Contract Amendments 2024: <https://www.icann.org/en/contracted-parties/registry-operators/global-amendments/2024-global-amendments>