RIPE NCC
RIPE NETWORK COORDINATION CENTER

Engaging with Governments

Handling Requests for Information

Hisham Ibrahim | RIPE NCC | 31 October 2024

RIPE NCC

Who we are accountable to:

- RIPE community as its secretariat:
  - Facilitating discussions and implementing policies.

- RIPE NCC members as a membership-based association under Dutch law:
  - Being neutral towards our members and treating them equally.

- Governments in our service region:
  - Complying with Dutch and EU law.
  - Understanding the implications of other national legislation that applies to our members.

- Global system of Internet governance and Internet operations:
  - Internet Registry system, root servers, etc.

Engaging with Governments

- The RIPE NCC service region spans 70+ countries, with different regulations and laws.

- Governments are increasingly focused on the Internet due to growing geopolitical tensions and advancing digital agendas.

- Collaborating with governments and relevant authorities is crucial to support their understanding of Internet operations, enabling them to create well-informed public policies and avoid unintended regulatory impacts.

Our Approach to Engagement

External Engagement and Community

Key Focus Strategic Areas Interdependencies

25 **4.2** Be resilient in the face of political, legislative and regulatory changes that have the potential to affect our operations

1.2 Create and foster environments and dialogues throughout the service region to maintain a highly engaged community

1.5 Increase community knowledge through learning and development activities

25 **3.4** Be a centre of excellence for data, measurements and tools that provide insight on the Internet and its operations.
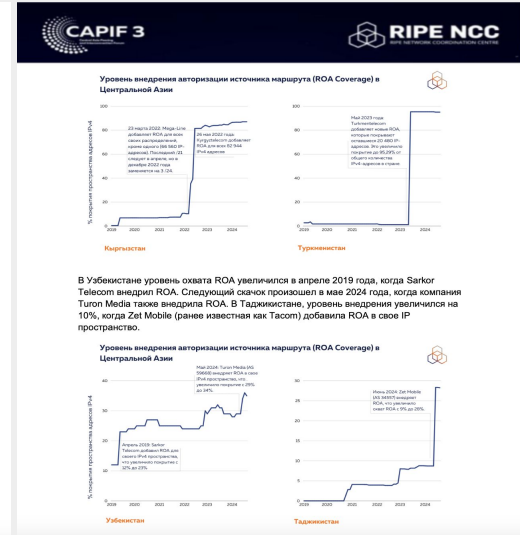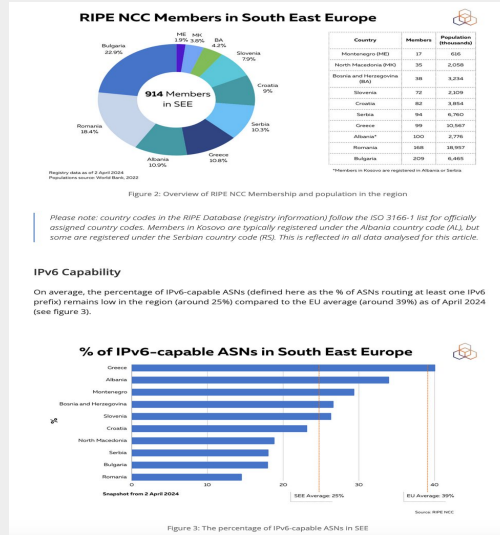
Research and Data Storytelling

- We leverage the RIPE NCC's registry data, our suite of tools —
RIPE Atlas, RIPEstat, and the RIPE Routing Information Service (RIS)—
and the understanding gained from our community engagements to provide valuable insights into the operations of the Internet.

Public Policy and Internet Governance

Roundtables

- We engage with governments, regulators and international organisations at RIPE NCC Roundtable Meetings in Brussels, South East Europe, the Middle East.

Roundtable Meeting (Middle East)

📍 Dubai, United Arab Emirates

📅 21 November 2023

Roundtable Meeting (Europe)

📍 Brussels, Belgium

📅 20 February 2024

Roundtable Meeting (South East Europe)

📍 Athens, Greece

📅 22 April 2024

Public Policy and Internet Governance

Memorandums of Understanding

- We develop and maintain excellent relationships with technical, governmental and standards bodies by collaborating through MoUs.

- The purpose of these agreements is to foster greater understanding and more effective coordination and cooperation.

Organisation	Effective Date	Agreement	Summary
The European Dialog on Internet Governance (EuroDIG) ⧉	19 June 2024	MoU	Focuses on collaboration on Internet Governance activities, strengthening the role of the technical community and Internet coordinating bodies in shaping public policy and providing advisory input to EuroDIG events. [News announcement]
Ministry of Digital Technologies of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Uzbektelecom ⧉	9 February 2023	MoU	Focuses on Internet development and capacity building through training courses and meetings, as well as coordination on RIPE Altas, RIS, IXPs and IPv6. [News Announcement]
Arab Information & Communication Technologies Organization (AICTO) ⧉	28 September 2022	MoU	Focuses on cooperation in the areas of Internet development and capacity building, RIPE Meetings, RIPE Atlas, RIPE NCC Certified Professionals and IPv6.
Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC) ⧉	22 July 2020	MoU	Focuses on cooperation in the areas of technical expertise, measurements, statistics, tools, and capacity building, including the RIPE Academic Cooperation Initiative (RACI) and the further deployment of RIPE Atlas within Saudi Arabia. [News Announcement]
National Crime Agency (NCA) ⧉	28 March 2019	MoU	Focuses on cooperation in attending each other's events, sharing information about cybercrime and Internet security trends, and enhancing the NCA's involvement in the RIPE community through participation in RIPE Working Groups and the RIPE Policy Development Process. [News Announcement]

Public Policy and Internet Governance

Consultations

- We also represent the technical community and its needs in <u>consultations and policy forums</u>.

- We comment on various consultations and proposals led by different governmental organisations.

| Submission	Submitted to	Date	Relevant sources
RIPE NCC response to the IPv6 consultation in the Netherlands	Dutch Standardisation Forum	03/10/2024	Functioneel toepassingsgebied IPv6 verduidelijken (standaard voor veiliger internet)
RIPE NCC Submission to ITU Council Working Group	ITU	02/09/2024	CWG-Internet: Online Open Consultation (February 2024)
RIPE NCC feedback on the draft NIS2 Implementing Act	European Commission	25/06/2024	Cybersecurity risk management & reporting obligations
RIPE NCC response to the consultation on the draft law implementing NIS2 in the Netherlands	Dutch Ministry of Justice and Security	01/06/2024	Cyberbeveiligingswet
RIPE NCC contribution to the EU consultation on the Zero Draft of the Global Digital Compact (GDC)	UN Global Digital Compact	17/04/2024	Global Digital Draft
RIPE NCC response to NETmundial +10 consultation	NETmundial	30/04/2024	NETmundial
RIPE NCC response to the 'Internet We Want'	Internet We Want	06/03/2024	The Internet We Want
RIPE NCC response to the outline of the GDC zero draft	UN Global Digital Compact	08/03/2024	Letter to contribute to the GDC zero draft
RIPE NCC response to a questionnaire for the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society implementation	UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development	29/02/2024	United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

Key Areas of Interest for Governments

Politicising and Monetising Internet Resources

- Some governments interpret the use of country codes in the RIPE Database as indicators of "national resources".

- Governments are increasingly focused on the movement of these "national resources" and are monitoring both the influx and outflow of resources, which are now associated with monetary value.
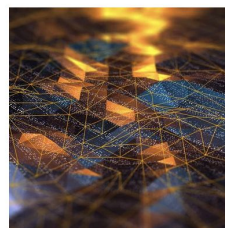
Country Codes in the RIPE Database

Kjerstin Burdiek • 17 May 2023 • 6 min read

Country codes in the RIPE Database serve a purely operational purpose. Nevertheless, questions can arise when defining which country code to use or what the code means. Let's look into how country codes are maintained in the Database.

database   operational   21 ♡   0 💬 🔗 🔖

Country Codes in the RIPE Database
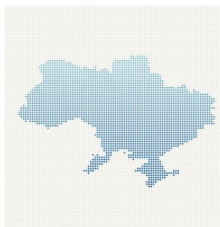
Fulfilling Our Mandate in Wartime

Hisham Ibrahim • 24 May 2023 • 8 min read

As part of the RIPE NCC's commitment to supporting the Ukrainian technical community, we actively research and facilitate discussions about the country's Internet landscape and its resilience in wartime. Recently, we have seen inferences being drawn from changes to country codes in the RIPE Databas...

ripe   country   database   20 ♡   0 💬 🔗 🔖

Fulfilling Our Mandate in Wartime

Resource Markets, Transfers and Leasing

Sanctions

- The growing market value of IP addresses has intensified scrutiny.

- Sanctions mandate controls on transfers to prevent designated entities from accessing or profiting from these resources.

- RIPE NCC is required to freeze resources held by sanctioned members.

RIPE NCC Quarterly Sanctions Transparency Report (Q4 2024)
Author: RIPE NCC
Document ID: ripe-830
Date: October 2024

Introduction

This quarterly report provides data on how RIPE NCC members, End Users and legacy resource holders are affected by sanctions, while respecting their confidentiality and privacy.

As an organisation based in the Netherlands, the RIPE NCC must comply with EU sanctions. If we believe that a member or other resource holder is subject to EU sanctions that are applicable to our services, we freeze the registration (not the use) of their resources in the RIPE Database. This means that sanctioned entities cannot acquire further resources or transfer existing ones. However, we do not deregister their resources or terminate their Standard Service Agreement (SSA) if they are RIPE NCC members.

If a member or End User does not cooperate with our checks, or if no documentation can be provided to conclude our investigation, we treat them as though they are sanctioned. This is because we have no way to establish otherwise. We have decided to include these members and End Users in this report for transparency; these cases are mentioned as 'on hold'. This replaces the 'non-cooperation' status used in previous reports, as this term does not cover situations where the member or End User is cooperative but unable to obtain the documentation requested.

We also check against the Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) sanctions list, which is maintained by the United States Government. While we are under no obligation to comply with US sanctions, they are a factor for banking institutions in the Netherlands. This causes an impact for us on our ability to invoice members and receive payments from them.

Sanctions Data

The tables below show any changes since the previous quarter, as well as the total number of resource holders and resources affected. This includes the date of action and what action was taken. The table also shows our relation to a sanctioned entity – whether they are a RIPE NCC member, End User or legacy resource holder. We also specify the country in which the resource holder is legally registered.

Quarterly Sanctions Transparency Reports

Resource Markets, Transfers and Leasing

Acquiring IP addresses

- There is a need to understand the various options available for acquiring IP addresses today.

- There are growing concerns about widening the digital divide and the financial burdens that acquiring IP addresses imposes on developing countries with smaller economies.

How to Get IP Addresses for Your Network

The Registry and RIPE Database

- The RIPE community has tasked the RIPE NCC to maintain a repository of all allocated Internet number resources in its service region. This information is stored in the RIPE Registry and RIPE Database.

- The RIPE Registry is maintained by the RIPE NCC and contains all data, private and public, about resources in its service region and their resource holders. The RIPE Database provides a public view of some registry data.

- As a Regional Internet Registry, our role is to register Internet number resources to our members and maintain an accurate registry.

- Members are required to register their assignments and sub- allocations in the RIPE Database and keep this information up-to-date. This must be done in accordance with the relevant RIPE policies and RIPE NCC procedures.

- Members decide how to use their Internet number resources; there is no RIPE policy describing what purpose Internet number resources can be used for. We do not have control or responsibility over this.

The Registry and The Database

- Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) can access any publicly available data—including public records in the RIPE Database.

- The RIPE NCC does not voluntarily provide non-public member information to LEAs; we require a Dutch court order or other legally-binding order presented by a Dutch LEA.

- LEAs and other organisations operating outside the Netherlands are required to follow the applicable mutual legal assistance treaties (MLAT) procedures.

Handling Requests for Information, Orders and Investigations from Law Enforcement Agencies

RIPE-675

Publication date: 29 Dec 2016   State: Published

Author
RIPE NCC

File(s)
PDF (72.7 KB)

Updates

RIPE-588 ⌄

The RIPE NCC, in its role as a Regional Internet Registry (RIR), has a mandate to administer information relating to Internet number resources on behalf of the Internet community. In order to carry out this function, the RIPE NCC maintains both publicly available and confidential information about its members. Law Enforcement Authorities (LEAs) may have an interest in obtaining such information or intervening in the RIPE NCC's services. In such cases, the RIPE NCC strives to protect the interests of its members and will not provide any confidential or private information to LEAs without a court order or other legally enforceable order or request under Dutch law.

Additionally, part of the RIPE NCC's role is to guarantee that no other party aside from the resource holder can modify, delete or add

RIPE 675: Handling Requests for Information, Orders and Investigations from Law Enforcement Agencies

Looking Ahead

EU Regulations

e-Evidence Regulation

- The EU e-Evidence Regulation is a framework designed to streamline cross-border access to electronic evidence in criminal investigations.

- This will require a review of the RIPE NCC procedural document "Handling Requests for Information, Orders and Investigations from Law Enforcement Agencies" (RIPE 675).

- LEAs and other organisations operating outside the EU are still required to follow the applicable Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT) procedures.

Data Protection Regulations

- The RIPE NCC currently only complies with GDPR as it operates within the EU and handles personal data of individuals in its service region, which includes EU member states.

- There are other Data Protection regulations throughout our service region.

- While RIPE NCC itself may not be legally required to comply with each country's specific laws, our members within those jurisdictions must adhere to local data protection requirements.

EU Regulations

Network and Information Security Directive (NIS2)

- The NIS2 Directive is the EU's updated framework to strengthen cybersecurity across essential and important sectors, expanding on the original NIS Directive.

- It builds on the original NIS Directive, setting stricter security requirements and incident reporting obligations for a broader range of entities, and promotes collaboration between EU Member States to protect critical infrastructure from cyber threats.

- NIS2 applies directly to many of our members. The RIPE NCC is assessing the applicability of NIS2 on its operations.

- In the meantime, the RIPE NCC RPKI service has received a SOC2 Type I assurance report. The RIPE NCC is implementing an Information Security Management System in compliance with industry standards.

Engaging with Governments

- The RIPE NCC service region spans across 70+ countries, with difference regulations and laws.

- While RIPE NCC itself may not be legally required to comply with each country's specific regulations, its members within those jurisdictions must adhere to them.

Suggested way forward

Suggested Way Forward

- The RIPE NCC should work together with the membership to establish principles for holistic, transparent, and legally-compliant information sharing (a front door approach).

- The approach should incorporate transparent mechanisms to report periodically to the community.

- The approach should take into account the compliance requirements on the RIPE NCC's membership throughout our service region.

Questions & Comments ?

✉ **HMI@RIPE.NET** ♟

External Engagement and Community
Sustaining the Internet Commons