EU Digital Agenda
European ccTLDs response

Polina Malaja
polina@centr.org
Virtual ccTLD News Session #2
Virtually everywhere
1 October 2020
The Digital Services Act (DSA)
“The sale of illicit, dangerous or counterfeit goods and dissemination of illegal content must be tackled as effectively as possible” (European Commission)
• CENTR comment

• Public consultation (2 October)
Why does it matter for ccTLDs?

*The NIS Directive:* the first EU legislation that specifically targeted ccTLDs (adopted in 2016):
- Identifies DNS service providers and TLDs as “operators of essential services”

*The DSA:* potentially “GDPR”-like legislation with an extraterritorial reach?
- Content moderation obligations?
- Status of domain name services when it come to illegal content online
- “Legal gap” when it comes to DNS
**European Commission** ran public consultation until 8 September: What would be *appropriate and proportionate measures for digital services* [...], other than online platforms, to take – e.g. [...] services deeper in the internet stack, like [...] DNS services, etc.?

**European Parliament IMCO**: calls for DSA to clarify to what extent *domain name services* fall within the scope of the DSA.
CENTR response to DSA

On 1 September CENTR submitted its response to the public consultation on the Digital Services Act

Content paper

Community discussions

- ccTLDs technical role and importance
- Legal clarity on issues related to illegal content
- Responsibilities for all actors involved (public authorities)

Technical community

Joint statement with RIPE NCC:

“Urging to make a distinction between the internet core infrastructure and the many applications and content that run on top of that infrastructure.”
NIS Directive Review

- Review by the end of 2020
- Sudden increase in the dependence on information technology during the COVID-19 crisis
- Lacking consistency in identifying “operators of essential service” across the EU – incl. DNS operators and ccTLDs
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