

Community Objection Grounds for _____

Community

The objector must prove that the community expressing opposition can be regarded as a clearly delineated community. A panel could balance a number of factors to determine this, including but not limited to:

Criteria for community	Pass/Fail	Notes
The level of public recognition of the group as a community at a local and/or global level		
The level of formal boundaries around the community and what persons or entities are considered to form the community		
The length of time the community has been in existence		
The global distribution of the community (this may not apply if the community is territorial)		
The number of people or entities that make up the community.		

If opposition by a number of people/entities is found, but the group represented by the objector is not determined to be a clearly delineated community, the objection will fail.

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Substantial Opposition

The objector must prove substantial opposition within the community it has identified itself as representing. A panel could balance a number of factors to determine whether there is substantial opposition, including but not limited to:

Criteria for substantial opposition	Pass/Fail	Notes
Number of expressions of opposition relative to the composition of the community;		
The representative nature of entities expressing opposition;		
Level of recognized stature or weight among sources of opposition;		
Distribution or diversity among sources of expressions of opposition, including: Regional, Subsectors of community, Leadership of community, Membership of community		
Historical defense of the community in other contexts; and		
Costs incurred by objector in expressing opposition, including other channels the objector may have used to convey opposition.		

If some opposition within the community is determined, but it does not meet the standard of substantial opposition, the objection will fail.

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Targeting

The objector must prove a strong association between the applied-for gTLD string and the community represented by the objector. Factors that could be balanced by a panel to determine this include but are not limited to

Criteria for targeting	Pass/Fail	Notes
Statements contained in application;		
Other public statements by the applicant;		
Associations by the public.		

If opposition by a community is determined, but there is no strong association between the community and the applied-for gTLD string, the objection will fail.

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Detriment

The objector must prove that the application creates a likelihood of material detriment to the rights or legitimate interests of a significant portion of the community to which the string may be explicitly or implicitly targeted. An allegation of detriment that consists only of the applicant being delegated the string instead of the objector will not be sufficient for a finding of material detriment.

Factors that could be used by a panel in making this determination include but are not limited to:

Criteria for Detriment	Pass/Fail	Notes
Nature and extent of damage to the reputation of the community represented by the objector that would result from the applicant's operation of the applied-for gTLD string;		
Evidence that the applicant is not acting or does not intend to act in accordance with the interests of the community or of users more widely, including evidence that the applicant has not proposed or does not intend to institute effective security protection for user interests;		
Interference with the core activities of the community that would result from the applicant's operation of the applied-for gTLD string;		
Dependence of the community represented by the objector on the DNS for its core activities;		
Nature and extent of concrete or economic damage to the community represented by the objector that would result from the applicant's operation of the applied-for gTLD string; and		
Level of certainty that alleged detrimental outcomes would occur.		

If opposition by a community is determined, but there is no likelihood of material detriment to the targeted community resulting from the applicant's operation of the applied-for gTLD, the objection will fail.