Security and Privacy Demands Affecting the DNS

The Canadian Experience

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External Demands

• **Increased government awareness** of cybersecurity issues (including DNS abuse) in the context of COVID19

• Jan 2021: Regulatory consultation on the **development of a network-level blocking framework to limit botnet traffic and strengthen Canadians’ online safety**

• Bill C-11: Updates to Canadian **privacy legislation**
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Increased government **awareness of cybersecurity issues** (especially in the context of COVID19)

• Standing Committee on Science, Technology and Industry hearing on online fraud in May 2020

• Government announcements
  • Canadian Centre for Cyber Security created on October 1, 2018
  • National Cyber Security Strategy launched 2019
  • $80 million dollars for cybersecurity in Budget 2021
  • Over 100,000 users of CIRA Canadian Shield since 2020 launch

• The Canadian Government’s focus on cybersecurity has created opportunities for CIRA to lend its expertise through appearing at committee hearings and partnering with government agencies.
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CRTC 2021-9: Compliance and Enforcement Telecom Notice of Consultation

• In January 2021, the Canadian telecom and broadcasting regulator (CRTC) released a consultation on the development of a network-level blocking framework to limit botnet traffic and strengthen Canadians’ online safety.
CRTC 2021-9: Compliance and Enforcement and Telecom Notice of Consultation

- CIRA submission
  - This proceeding also isn’t about whether ISPs should filter malicious traffic — they already do. This is about subjecting that activity to independent oversight and a principled framework.
  - CIRA submitted several proposals on how a narrowly tailored framework could permit ISPs to filter malicious traffic for network security with independent oversight and accountability.
  - We argued that a blocking framework can only be implemented on a non-mandatory basis and any blocking framework must center the principles of transparency, non-discrimination, necessity and proportionality.
  - A new framework needs to be laser-focused on technical threats that weaponize the network itself – like botnets or malware. It should not be used to block content or online speech.
Bill C-11: Updates to Canadian privacy legislation

- It represented an overdue overhaul of Canadian privacy legislation to match the digital age.
- It still has a while to go before being ratified.