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Publishing the "Tao of the IETF" as a Web Page
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Abstract

Discussion of the "Tao of the IETF" during 2012 made it clear that many people want the document published only as a web page, not as an RFC that needs to be periodically updated. This document specifies how the Tao will be published as a web page.

Status of this Memo

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1. Introduction

The "Tao of the IETF" ("Tao") has traditionally been published as an RFC. It has been RFCs 1391, 1539, 1718, 3160; it is currently [[RFC4677](#)]. There is now a strong desire in the IETF community to turn the Tao into a web page that can be edited more easily than an RFC.

During the discussion that lead to this document, there were many proposals for how the Tao as a web page should be published and edited. Some wanted just a web page; some wanted a web page and periodic snapshots as RFCs; some wanted a wiki that could be easily edited by anyone in the IETF community, with a master editor who would revert bad edits; some wanted a wiki with a more limited group of contributors.

This document contains the procedure agreed to by the IESG. The Tao has traditionally been an IETF consensus document, which means that the IESG has had the final say about what the Tao contained before it was sent to the RFC Editor. Thus, the IESG should have final say for what the Tao says when it is a web page.

2. Procedure for Publishing and Editing the Tao

The Tao will be published at [<http://www.ietf.org/tao.html>](http://www.ietf.org/tao.html) and [<https://www.ietf.org/tao.html>](https://www.ietf.org/tao.html).

The Tao will be edited by one person who is chosen by the IESG. The editor of the Tao accepts proposed changes and additions from anyone in the IETF community. The editor of the Tao decides which proposed changes should be submitted to the IESG for the next version of the Tao.

The editor of the Tao will occasionally submit a new version of the Tao to the IESG for its approval. The editor will publish the proposed changes in a version at [<http://www.ietf.org/tao-possible-revision.html>](http://www.ietf.org/tao-possible-revision.html), and there will be discussion of the changes on an open, Tao-specific mailing list. The IESG may accept as many of the proposed changes as it wishes. The IESG will then submit the changed version to the IETF Secretariat for publication on the IETF web page at the URLs given above.

Each version of the Tao will have a visible timestamp near the beginning of the document. All published versions will be archived using URLs of the form [<http://www.ietf.org/tao-YYYYMMDD.html>](http://www.ietf.org/tao-YYYYMMDD.html).

3. IANA Considerations

None.

4. Security Considerations

The Tao is available over TLS at <<https://www.ietf.org/tao.html>>.

5. Informative References

[RFC4677] Hoffman, P. and S. Harris, "The Tao of IETF - A Novice's Guide to the Internet Engineering Task Force", [RFC 4677](#), September 2006.

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