

Freedom of Association and Internet Infrastructure

draft-tenoever-hrpc-association-04

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"We shape our tools and, thereafter, our tools shape us."

- John Culkin (1967)

1. Overview of changes

- a) The right to protest is no longer an angle of analysis
- b) Removal of the filter bubble section in the literature review
- c) New vocabulary
- d) Different research questions
- e) Changes in structure
- f) Added two discussions
 - Protocols vs. Platforms
 - The Internet as an association

New research questions

1. How does the internet architecture enable and/or inhibit freedom of association and assembly?
2. If the Internet is used to exercise the right to freedom of association, what are the implications for its architecture and infrastructure?

New vocabulary

- Architecture
- Autonomous System (AS)
- Border Gateway Protocol (BGP)
- Connectivity
- Decentralization
- Distributed system
- Infrastructure
- Internet

Internet

the Network of networks, that consists of Autonomous Systems that are connected through the Internet Protocol (IP).

A persistent socio-technical system over which services are delivered

A techno-social assemblage of devices, users, sensors, networks, routers, governance, administrators, operators and protocols

An emergent-process-driven thing that is born from the collections of the ASes that happen to be gathered together at any given time. The fact that they tend to interact at any given time means it is an emergent property that happens because they use the protocols defined at IETF

New structure

6.1. Conversing

6.1.1. Mailing Lists

6.1.2. Multi-party video conferencing and risks

6.1.3. Internet Relay Chat

6.2. Peer-to-peer networks and systems

6.2.1. Peer-to-peer system architectures

6.2.2. Version control

6.3. Grouping together (identities)

6.3.1. DNS

6.3.2. ASes

7. Discussion: Protocols vs Platforms

8. Discussion: The Internet as an association

We argue that the Internet constitutes an association (and not an assembly)

The Internet is made of up interconnected ASes which jointly form an association. This association should be protected.

2. Discussion

If every network is an association within the association, does it have absolute freedom to implement its own rules?

Or does the importance of a functioning 'larger' association (the Internet) prevail over the preferences of the smaller associations (individual ASes)?

And how does this impact users who for assemblies and association across ASes

When do ASes become part of the association?
Upon receiving AS? Upon announcing routes?
Upon shipping packets?

What are the implications of stating that the
Internet should be protected as an association?

3. Way Forward

Technical

- The obligation to pass (some) packets?

Legal

- What are the consequences of the right to freedom of association under international human rights law? What are the limitations? What does it enable?
- How are they applied to the Internet as an association?

Comments?

Disagreements?

Research Group adoption?