

# draft-association update

Joseph Lorenzo Hall (ISOC)  
Stéphane Couture (U. Montreal)

IETF 106, HRPC RG, 19 nov 2019

# Background

- draft-association is one of the specific rights drafts after 8280, specific to rights of association and assembly
- Joe/Stéphane took editorial role after Neils and Gisela handed off at IETF104
- Engagement to have a new version. However Joe and Stéphane both transitioned to new engaging job and didn't have time to follow-up.
- We also feel the need to have more discussions with previous authors and the research group about some choices made or to be made
- We propose here a “way forward”.

<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-irtf-hrpc-association/>

# Summary of the Draft

- RQ: “How does the architecture of the internet enable and/or inhibit the right to freedom of assembly and association?”
- Methodology: “test the ***causal relationship***” [protocols -> associate, assembly] through “typical and paradigmatic cases”.
- 7 “protocol cases”.
  - *Why them?*

## Table of Contents

1.	Introduction	. . . . .
2.	Vocabulary used	. . . . .
3.	Research question	. . . . .
4.	Methodology	. . . . .
5.	Literature Review	. . . . .
6.	Cases and examples	. . . . .
6.1.	Conversing	. . . . .
6.1.1.	Mailing Lists	. . . . .
6.1.2.	Multi-party video conferencing	. . . . .
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.	Autonomous Systems	. . . . .
7.	Discussion: Establishing the relation	. . . . .
8.	Discussion: Protocols and Platforms	. . . . .
9.	Conclusions	. . . . .
10.	Acknowledgements	. . . . .
11.	Security Considerations	. . . . .
12.	IANA Considerations	. . . . .
13.	Research Group Information	. . . . .
14.	References	. . . . .
14.1.	Informative References	. . . . .
14.2.	URIs	. . . . .
	Authors' Addresses	. . . . .

# Three issues we'd like to talk about

- What is the aim of the draft?
- Why these cases and not others ?
  - Should we privilege “event case” than “protocol cases” ?
- Literature review

# Issue #1 : Aim of the document?

Two stated goals :

1. “The document seeks to deepen the relationship between the Internet architecture, protocols, and standards without creating new guidelines”
  - Shouldn’t we talk about “human rights” here?
  - Why “without creating new guidelines” ?
2. “To test the relationship between protocols and association” ?
  - What does it mean “to test” ?
  - Are we interested in the relationship with “association” or the “right to assembly and association” ? Are these different?

**Most importantly : how is this document aimed at informing IETF?**

# Issue #2 : the cases

- Current cases :
  - 1) IRC; 2) Mailing lists; 3) WebRTC (*conversing*)
  - 4) P2P, 5) Versioning (*Peer-To-Peer*)
  - 6) DNS, 7) Autonomous Systems (*Grouping Together*)
- Why these cases? How are they “typical and paradigmatic”? It is not explained in the document.
- If not these cases, which ones?
- Should we address “event cases” (i.e. something that “socially” happened)? Which ones?

# Issue #3 : Literature review

This is easier to deal with but :

- We need to be more systematic and explicit in our review of definitions of “The right to freedom of assembly and association”.
- What are the limits of this right?
- Should we better distinguish between *enabling* the capacity to assembly (positive right), and *disabling* it (negative right) ?
- What about the “right to exit” (or to “dissociate”)?
- Have other people worked on the relationship between “right to assembly and association” and digital technologies?

## Possible new draft outline?

1. Introduction
2. Research goal and research question
3. Literature Review
  - 3.1. The Right to Association and Assembly
    - 3.1.1. Legal and philosophical definitions
    - 3.1.2. Legitimate limits to the right to association and assembly
    - 3.1.3. The right to dissociate
  - 3.2. Digital networks and the right to Association and Assembly : review of current analysis
    - 3.2.1. Right to privacy and the right to association and assembly
  - 3.3. Work on related concepts
    - 3.3.1. Interoperability
    - 3.3.2. Digital activism
    - 3.3.3. Network neutrality
    - 3.3.4. Right to disconnection
4. Internet Protocols and the Right to Association and Assembly
  - 4.1. Internet Protocols and enablers of association
    - 4.1.1. Case 1
    - 4.1.2. Case 2
    - 4.1.3. Case 3
  - 4.2. Internet Protocol as disablers of association
    - 4.2.1. Case 1: Gatekeepers? E.g., AppStore can remove FB, Twitter (but not IETF-relevant?)
    - 4.2.2. SMS (non-authenticated, non-confidential), add Signal (proprietary and non-interoperable).
    - 4.2.3. Case in Turkey: DNS Spoofing, and user reconfiguration, higher level (BGP).
5. Guidelines and recommendations for protocol development



# The way forward?

- We need input : the draft has to be made collaboratively. We can not work alone on this.
- We propose 3 online workshops/seminars to work on this before next IETF:
  - Before mid-December
  - Mid-January
  - Mid or end of February

**What do you think? Who's in?**