draft-harrison-regext-rdap-redirect-with-content



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What is this about?

- When sending a redirect response, include what you know about the resource as the body of the response
- Use cases:
 - Redirector has useful less-specific information
 - Redirector conforms to an external profile
 - Redirector and target have differing information about the resource
 - Target is unavailable

Is this permitted? (1)

- RFC 7231: Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP/1.1): Semantics and Content
 - For all redirect codes relevant to RDAP, the body of the response is usually hypertext with a hyperlink to the new URI
 - But this is not a normative requirement returning substantive content appears to be fine

Is this permitted? (2)

- RFC 7480: HTTP Usage in the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP)
 - "A response may contain an answer, no answer, or a redirect, and clients are not expected to fork multiple paths of execution to make a query."
 - The general model points toward there being "an answer" for a given query
 - But there is also nothing normative here that prevents returning related information in a redirect

Client signalling?

- The current text is such that the redirecting server always returns relevant content
- Avoids problems where there is a chain of redirects
 - There's no need for each server in the chain to know about this document, and to pass on the client's signal
- Without signalling, may be possible to register as RDAP extension in IANA registry

Related work

- draft-blanchet-regext-entityid2rdapserver
 - Authoritative server includes details about how to access another server for more information about the query
 - Motivated by the thin domain registry use case
 - Addressed the possibility of the servers returning overlapping data, and needing to merge responses

Open questions

- Can this be registered as an extension?
- Is it useful in the domain name space?
- Should it require client signalling?