



Brief report on RIPE 64, 16-20 April, Ljubljana, Slovenia

IP addresses for sale/DNS Changer's a bad precedent/What's in for you from the ITR Treaty

For World IPv6 Launch Day on June, 6th, Slovenia would finish the first phase of migrating to IPv6, Slovenian Minister of Science, Education, Culture and Sport, Žiga Turk, underlined in his welcome speech to [RIPE 64](#) in Ljubljana. All major access providers and the mobile providers Mobitel, Tušmobil and Simobil all provide Ipv6, major content providers like gov.si and the public broadcaster are dual-stacked and the expectation was that on Launch Day the rest of the large content providers would finally join. But despite that nice track record for the host country and the minister's compliments for the RIPE community and RIPE NCC on the good stewardship exercised. Discussions over the week showed that it's still some way to go to Ipv6-land.

The (unwelcome) Ghost of an IP-Address Market

The discussion of IP address transfers have come back again to the RIPE Community with the draft policy proposal 2012/1 and 2012/2 on Inter-RIR Ipv4 transfers. RIPE will be the next RIR that will run out of Ipv4 address space, potentially as early as August this year and therefore companies not prepared for IPv6 yet, could benefit from inbound transfers, especially from the ARIN region where there is an abundance of legacy Ipv4-space.

Inter-RIR transfers policies shall in the future enable the cross-region sale of IP-address resources. ARIN could decide next week at its meeting. The RIPE community discussed proposals, one [tabled](#) by an „IP-address-broker“, Sandra Brown, co-founder of Ipv4 Market Group. Brown started the business after having concluded the „Nortel-Microsoft deal“, then employee of Nortel. She now has been traveling the different RIR meetings to promote the transfers policies. Transfers might be a business for five or more years, she said, with current prices for one IP-address (sold in a block) of 10 Dollar.

There are still reservations against an IP-address market with many engineers pointing to a lack of need or it as IPv6 is available, yet quite obviously the pressure for transfers do grow where v4 is out. In APNIC which ran out of Ipv4 addresses on April, 15, 2011, this pressure was felt, said Paul Wilson, with Chinese officials asking, what could be done to retrieve some of the IP-wealth of North-America. APNIC has as the first RIR finalized policies to pre-approve those who want to buy addresses in order to fasten transfers, once possible. Also APNIC came out with an accreditation policy for brokers.

The Notorious Ghostclick and DNSChanger - a very bad précédent

Another ghost haunting the RIPE NCC was the Ghostclick investigation of the FBI – and questions from the community why it had not rejected an unjustified [order](#) by the Dutch police (pushed by the FBI) to freeze addresses in the RIPE database that were used by the Ghostclick gang.

Last November the FBI contacted the RIPE NCC to ask for the freezing of the addresses that were used as nameservers answering requests from DNSChanger infected machines. The gang allegedly made a fortune from click-fraud until the FBI and the Estonian police took them out. While RIPE NCC

asked for a Dutch Court order when contacted by the FBI, it gave in to an order presented to them quickly thereafter by the Dutch police. It was only after assessing the order, which was only based on paragraph 2 of the Dutch police law and therefore on the very general prevention of grave danger, that the RIPE legal department fought back. In January it unfroze the assets and filed a [complaint](#) against the state, which later this year might bring clarity about such orders.

„With hindsight, maybe it would have been better if we wouldn't have executed the order. I think in the future when it's just a police order and it hasn't been stamped by a court, we wouldn't do it like that“, said Jochem de Ruig, General Counsel at the RIPE NCC.

Despite RIPE fighting back now with the case filed there were warnings, that the event set a very bad precedent, not the least with regard to potential court orders to devalidate Route certificates. During the discussions about RPKI the potential that a RIPE member would be kicked out of the routing system when having his certificates devalidated because of law enforcement interventions had been heavily discussed. The problem according to Randy Bush from the Internet Initiative Japan was that with RPKI deployed and a ROA revoked on an order „you will instantly kill somebody's entire business when you cave.“

Another question was raised by Rüdiger Volk (Deutsche Telekom) on why the RIPE NCC had not informed members about the ghostclick/dns changer affair, to allow them to mitigate the problem for their customers. Joao Damas from ISC which is managing the servers where manipulated users will be redirected, too, announced that the recent extension to provide resolution for the manipulated PCs would definitely come to an end on July, 9th. „We cannot pretend that we can spoof the source of those addresses forever“, Damas said. In the meantime the ISC hoped that numbers of infected machines (still around 350.000 according to the DNS Changer Working Group Website) and could also provide the list of addresses to ISPs who wanted to start running the services internally, an option that would respect EU privacy laws.

State intervention in routing, a global anti-spam regime and mandated ITU recommendations?

What will make it into the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR)?

The upcoming review of the ITR, a treaty passed by the member states of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in 1988 in Melbourne might potentially lead to unwanted consequences for network operators, Phil from British Telecom said in a presentation at the Cooperation Working Group. Among the highly controversial proposals are state intervention in routing – national states should be able to decide about routes used for incoming and outgoing traffic according to one proposal from the Arab States.

The European Region, represented by the 46-member CEPT, is rejecting proposals referencing ITU recommendations (the technical standards developed at the ITU-T) in the ITR and making them part of a binding treaty by that. But the final outcome of the lengthy negotiations that will be prepared with two more preparatory meetings ([April, 23-25 and June, 20-22](#)) and culminate in the World Conference on Information Technology (WCIT) in Dubai in December is highly uncertain. Compromises – which are always part of the negotiation game – could for example lead to the CEPT accepting state routing intervention for certain purposes (like security). The RIPE NCC follows negotiations as a sector member, attends meetings of different regional preparatory meeting (including the upcoming Geneva Council and Arab regional meeting). Another source of information about WCIT and the ITR is the ISOC.