

Public Policy Aspects Committee

2017-2018 Activity Report

Starting in April 2017, there was active discussion on the PPAC list regarding filtering and blocking (proposed in particular in the revision of the law on gambling).

There was also discussion of surveillance laws in other countries, and of the possible impact on Internet of TIPP.

The archive of the PPAC mailing list is at:

http://lists.isoc.ch/mailman/private/ppac/

ISOC-CH submitted a contribution to the February-September 2016 Open Consultation of ITU Council Working Group on International Internet-related Public Policy Issues, see:

https://www.isoc.ch/archives/2363

We published sample letters that can be used by citizens to find out whether the Swiss information agencies have information on them, see:

https://www.isoc.ch/archives/2424

Following discussion on the mailing list, we published a statement condemning blocking, see:

https://www.isoc.ch/archives/2430

This statement was endorsed by several other ISOC chapters.

Richard Hill represented ISOC-CH at the 2017 meeting of the European Chapters, see:

https://www.isoc.ch/archives/2605

Bernie Hoeneisen and others actively represented ISOC-CH's point of view regarding blocking during the debates in Parliament on the revision to the gambling law, see details below. Our efforts, together with those of others, was successful at the level of the Committee that prepared the law, see:

https://www.isoc.ch/archives/2466

Unfortunately, the plenum (full National Council) took a different view and re-included the blocking provisions. As expected, the law (including network blocking) has also passed the final vote.

ISOC-CH's engagement with Swiss Politics

Several members of ISOC-CH have been actively engaged with the legislation process by bringing the topics of most relevance to the free and open Internet to the attention of government agents and members of the Swiss Parliament.

The most important topic in the past year has been network blocking provisions as introduced by the new gambling law for the first time. However, also draft proposals of the new Telecommunications as well as Copyright Acts contain network blocking provisions.

ISOC-CH's Head of Public Policy Bernie Höneisen as well as ISOC member Simon Schlauri attended a parliamentary Hearing regarding the new Telecommunications law. Bernie focused on network blocking suggesting "Removal of illegal content as opposed to network blocking" as successfully applied in other countries (e.g. Germany, Austria and others). Simon suggested to include further provisions to ensure Net Neutrality cannot be violated by Providers.

Several ISOC-CH members such as Jorgo Ananiadis, Simon Gantenbein and Marcel Waldvogel among others supported this work, which is a joint effort together with Digitale Gesellschaft and the Swiss Pirates' party.