

Discussion: Impacts of proposals for Internet traffic regulations to the IXP ecosystem

APIX meeting
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Recent news articles and blogs have been saying...

ISOC blogs

- “Sender Pays” is a direct threat to the Internet - what’s happening in South Korea
- It leads to a) high costs b) misplaced investments c) barrier to entry d) affects neutrality e) risk market dominance by a few large ISPs,

Article 1: [Internet Impact Brief: South Korea’s Interconnection Rules](#)

Article 2: [Old Rules in New Regulations – Why “Sender Pays” Is a Direct Threat to the Internet](#)

“Our analysis finds that the existing rules create unnecessary costs and bottlenecks in South Korea’s digital ecosystem. They also risk increasing market concentration and dominance by a few large service providers.”

“A number of bills introduced since 2021 seek to mandate local and foreign content providers to enter into contracts with ISPs in South Korea to be able to use their networks. A contract would need to specify the ISPs’ usage fees, the period of use, and their available capacity, among other terms.”

Media coverage

- In BD: Cache servers need to be transferred from small regional ISPs to ISPs with specific licenses. It ‘slows down’ the Internet
- In PK: Consideration of a central DNS will ‘slow down’ Internet speed and make it more costly

[Cache server transfer likely to impact rural internet users](#)

“Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) President Emdadul Hoque Molla told Bangladesh Post, “While transferring the cache server people especially in rural areas may face slow speed of internet. While using social apps like facebook, instagram, streaming sites like youtube and others or browsing other websites they may stumble a bit.””

[PTA at odds with ISPs over domain policy](#)

“Serious differences have cropped up between the telecom sector regulator and internet service providers (ISPs) as the former wants to implement the central DNS (Domain Name System) while the latter are concerned that the move will make the internet speed slow and its rate costly.”

Recent regulatory trends impact IXPs: indirectly but sharply

- What does “sender pays” mean for this industry?
 - How might it impact IXPs? How might it impact the entire Internet?
- How would caching regulation impact IXPs?
 - Caches are deployed at many IXPs
 - Caches content is often filled through IXP peering
 - Does restriction on caches impact mid/small ISPs, or larger ISPs?

As an ecosystem - what impact would a regulatory change have on IXPs?
The peering industry has cooperated together in the development of interconnection in the APAC region.
We are seeing increased challenge to this autonomous cooperation.

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The industry has thrived through a cooperative ecosystem

We want to hear from the IXP operators

- Has traffic growth impacted your business?
- What would a possible traffic regulation solve for you?
- Tell us your story and experience with cache servers
- Who's leading the field when it comes to enabling safer, more robust interconnection?
- How can we best work together in the APAC region?