

Name of Regulation	Domain Name Regulation
Regulation diary number	TRAFICOM/257467/03.04.05.00/2024
Background and aim of the Regulation	The current Domain Name Regulation 68/2016 M is to be replaced by a new Domain Name Regulation, taking into account new legislation on the domain name function, such as the requirements derived from the NIS 2 Directive. The purpose of the regulation is to add information necessary for monitoring to the registrar notification form, to promote the accuracy of domain name holder data, and to update information security requirements.
Legal basis (law), EU law/ international law legal background	Act on Electronic Communications Services (2014/917), sections 165 to 168 and 170. The preparation of the regulation will take into account the requirements for domain name function and obligations for DNS providers set out in Article 28 of Directive 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures to ensure a common high level of cybersecurity throughout the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1972, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2 Directive).
Considering the Government Programme and Traficom's strategic goals	The changes will promote cybersecurity and improve the quality of the domain name function.
Effects of the Regulation	<p>The regulation is estimated to have positive effects on the information security management of domain name registrars and increase their maturity level of information security. The regulation aims to change the notification form of domain name registrars, among other things, so that a new domain name registrar must fill a self-assessment tool or method defined by Traficom in order to assess the registrar's level of information security. At the end of a transition period, it is intended that current domain name registrars will also fill in the self-assessment tool. Filling in the tool is estimated to impose some administrative burden on domain name registrars. The change is not estimated to have any significant financial impact on domain name registrars, as the Act on Electronic Communications Services already requires domain name registrars to ensure the information security of their operations, and the requirements related to information security management are specified in the regulation already in force.</p> <p>In the future, when submitting a domain name registrar notification or a notice of change, the domain name registrar should indicate, whether it is a DNS provider and, if so, the names of the name servers it manages. In addition to domain name registrars, Traficom also supervises DNS providers, a significant number of which are registrars. The change in regulation is estimated to have a positive impact on the supervision of DNS providers. The</p>

	<p>change is not estimated to have any significant impact on domain name registrars.</p> <p>Domain name registrars would be required to identify the domain name holder, verify the accuracy of the information provided to the domain name registry, and the technical functionality of the domain name holder's email address. The change is estimated to have a positive effect on ensuring the accuracy of the data of domain name holders. Verification of the technical functionality of the e-mail aims to improve the access to information and legal protection of the domain name holders, as under Section 312 of the Act on Electronic Communications Services, Traficom has the right to notify a document to the domain name holder by e-mail. It is left to the domain name registrars to consider the ways in which domain name holders are identified and the ways in which data is verified. The change in regulation is estimated to cause some costs for domain name registrars due to possible process and system development.</p> <p>Other regulatory changes are estimated to have only minor effects on the operations of domain name registrars.</p> <p>Regulatory changes are estimated to improve the quality of the domain name function, which is also reflected as positive effects on domain name holders. However, changes are estimated to potentially cause additional costs for domain name holders if domain name registrars increase their prices due to regulatory changes. Due to the user identification obligation, domain name registration may appear somewhat more laborious and slower for domain name holders depending on the identification and verification methods chosen by domain name registrars.</p> <p>The regulatory changes are estimated to increase Traficom's administrative burden. The review of the self-assessment tool to be filled out in connection with domain name registrar notifications requires significantly more time from the handlers of registrar notifications than is currently the case. In addition, Traficom should advise domain name registrars on the content of the regulation. The changes require additional training for Traficom personnel working with the domain name function, especially on cybersecurity.</p>
<p>Post evaluation (evaluation plan/not done)</p>	<p>The need for the regulation to be updated is continuously monitored based on the possible feedback from stakeholders. Otherwise, there is no immediate need for post evaluation.</p>
<p>The preliminary schedule of the Regulation</p>	<p>The regulation is prepared during the summer of 2024. The draft regulation will be made publicly available for comment in lausuntopalvelu.fi in early autumn 2024.</p>

	After public comments, the regulation will be finalized and published no earlier than October 2024.
Regulation notification (yes/no) Schedule of the notification	No
Relation of the Regulation to other projects	The timetable for the processing of a government proposal to implement the Cybersecurity Directive (NIS2) affects the timetable for issuing the domain name regulation. If Regulation (EU) 2024/1143 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Union geographical indications concerning wines, spirit drinks and agricultural products and voluntary quality labels on genuine traditional products and agricultural products, amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2019/787 and (EU) 2019/1753 and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 is implemented in Finland before the new Domain Name Regulation is issued, a paragraph regarding name protected products will be added to the regulation.
Hearing stakeholders	The draft regulation is made publicly available for comment in lausuntopalvelu.fi, giving stakeholders the opportunity to be heard on the matter.
Communicating about/Publishing the Regulation	The start and progress of the update of the regulation will be communicated on Traficom's website. In addition, domain name registrars and the Åland Government will be informed of the regulation by e-mail. The updated regulation will be published on the website of the agency and in Finlex.
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Date	16 May 2024
Adoption of the regulatory project decision	Jarno Ilme Deputy Director-General
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