IE Domain Registry CLG

trading as .ie

Policy Advisory Committee – PAC #45
Minutes – 16 October 2025 Meeting

.ie We are Ireland online

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Minutes of the 45th Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting held on 16 October 2025

Meeting Location: Hybrid meeting: on Microsoft Teams and .ie Headquarters

Meeting Time: Called to order at 11:00 am by the PAC Chair.

Members and representatives (non .ie staff) present:

Chair
Department of Culture, Communications, and Sport (DCCS)
Department of Enterprise, Tourism & Employment (DETE)
HEAnet
.ie Board Representative
.ie Accredited Registrar (Blacknight)
.ie Accredited Registrar (EuroDNS)
.ie Accredited Registrar (Hosting Ireland)
.ie Accredited Registrar (Markmonitor)
Irish Internet Hotline
IRISSCERT

1. Introduction & Memberships Matters

Minutes from PAC 44

- The Chair confirmed that the Minutes from PAC 44 were taken as read and published online following the meeting (available at https://www.weare.ie/policy-development-process/).

2. Matters arising

2.1 Legislative & Regulatory Updates

- The PAC Secretariat discussed the 2025 Autumn Legislative Programme from the Government of Ireland and upcoming legislation that may have an impact on the Registry. This included:

    o *National Cyber Security Bill* – Priority for Publication;

    o *Criminal Justice (International Cooperation) (Amendment) Bill* – Priority for Publication;

    o *Criminal Justice (Protection, Preservation of and Access to Data on Information Systems) Bill* – Priority for Drafting; and,

    o *Defamation (Amendment) Bill 2024* - Seanad Éireann Committee Stage

- It was noted that the *National Cyber Security Bill* will have a large impact on the Registry, but the other legislative initiatives would likely have low impact.

2.2 Policy Updates

- The PAC Secretariat provided updates on updates to the .ie policy suite.

  - *De minimis amendments* were completed in Q4 2025. These included inserting version control tables into each document, and updating the list of eligible organisations in the PAC Terms of Reference.

  - The PAC Secretariat indicated that research was still underway on whether the Connection-to-Ireland could feasibly be amended. PAC Members unanimously expressed a need for caution on this issue and was adamant that the Connection-to-Ireland was essential to .ie. The PAC Secretariat committed to drafting a brief discussion paper on the issue for PAC 46.

  - Policy amendments to comply with NIS2 remained blocked, pending further updates on NIS2's transposition into Irish national law.

  - The PAC approved deferring conversation on amending or repealing the *Charity Policy* to after NIS2 was transposed.

2.3 Other Matters Arising

- The PAC Secretariat discussed the following updates:

  - The registry had applied to join the Irish Internet Hotline.

  - The registry was still awaiting final approval on the Terms of Endorsement from the Government of Ireland.

  - ICANN 84 was set to be hosted in Dublin from 25-30 October 2025. The registry was invited to give a host country presentation to the Government Advisory Council.

3. Disputes and Abuse

3.1 Disputes & Data Disclosures

- The PAC Secretariat presented 2025 YTD figures on Alternative Dispute Resolution and WIPO cases. There were 5 recorded disputes that went through the Alternative Dispute Resolution process, and 7 disputes that went through a WIPO process.

- The PAC Secretariat also reported on 2025 YTD requests for registrant data. There were 8 requests, 6 of which were from regulators/law enforcement and were approved following a due diligence check. 2 requests were from third parties and were rejected.

3.2 Technical Abuse

- The CEO of .ie presented on YTD figures from NetCraft. Monthly figures ranged between **1** and **14** attacks by group. Phishing URLs were the most detected attack type.

4. NIS2 – Directive on Security of Network & Information Systems (NIS2)

4.1 Key Updates

- The PAC Secretariat provided legislative updates on NIS2:

- o The *National Cyber Security Bill* was listed as Priority for Publication in the Autumn 2025 Legislative Programme.

- o Budget 2026 allocated funding for the NCSC to begin NIS2 implementation.

- o The NCSC had published guidance on risk management measures.

- o The NIS2 Working Group was set to meet in early November 2025.

5. Any Other Business & Next Meetings

- PAC 46 was set for **27 November 2025**. This will be the final PAC Meeting of 2025 and in-person attendance is encouraged.

- Following the PAC Meeting, an end of year holiday lunch is planned. A photographer is also expected to take headshots of PAC members for the PAC section of the .ie website.