

GNSO Council-requested WHOIS studies –

Study Area/Topic	Original Study Areas/#s Included	Specific studies defined (work in progress)
1. WHOIS Misuse  Extent to which publicly displayed WHOIS data is misused	Previously Group A Study # 1, #14, #21 GAC data set 2	1. Experimental: register domains and measure spam 2. Descriptive: study misuse incidents reported by registrants
2. WHOIS misrepresentation	Previously Groups C & D GAC 5, GAC 6 #13a, #18 GAC 9, GAC 10	1. Gather info about misrepresentation of registrants. 2. Correlate such misrepresentation with use of proxy/privacy services.
3. Proxy and privacy services	Previously Groups B & E #13b, #13c, #17 GAC 1, GAC 11 #3, #19, #20	1. Relationship between use of proxies and abuse, if any 2. Proxy responses to information requests
4. Impact of non-ASCII registration information on accuracy and readability	Previously Study #11	This is a technical analysis of how the entry of non-ASCII registration information could increase risk of inaccurate data, particularly through use of client-side software that fails to properly check the syntax of fields that contain both IDN and ASCII strings. Analysis will examine and recommend methods to display WHOIS info such that those accessing WHOIS can effectively read, recognize, and reliably use the information to reach registrant contacts and name server resources.
5. WHOIS service requirements	Separate request-7 May	Compile a list of WHOIS service requirements based on current + previous policy discussions

Note: Study areas 1-4 reflect all the studies initially requested by the GNSO Council 4 March, 2009. Study area 5 was requested by the Council 7 May, 2009