

**RIPE**



# RIPE Database Requirements Task Force

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**DBTF | RIPE 83**



# Task Force Members

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- Nick Hilliard
- James Kennedy (co-Chair)
- Shane Kerr (Vice Chair)
- Peter Koch
- Sara Marcolla (until February 2021)
- Bijal Sanghani (Chair)

## RIPE NCC Support:

- Boris Duval
- Maria Stafyla
- Edward Shryane

# RIPE Database Requirements Task Force

- The RIPE Database Requirements Task Force was formed in October 2019 as an outcome of the Big Picture BoF that took place at RIPE 78 in Reykjavik, Iceland.
- The Task Force was tasked to produce a RIPE document listing the requirements for the RIPE Database and their rationales.
- The Task Force published its final report ahead of RIPE 83:
  - <https://www.ripe.net/publications/docs/ripe-767>

# Our Work



- Regular meetings ([minutes publicly available](#))
- Two surveys
- Mailing lists feedback (ripe-list, db-wg)
- Three BoFs ([May 2020](#), [Oct 2020](#), [May 2021](#))
- Updates at RIPE Meetings ([RIPE 80](#), [RIPE 81](#), [RIPE 82](#))
- Data and information collection with support from the RIPE NCC
- Three draft published ([May 2020](#), [Oct 2020](#), [July 2021](#))
- [Final report published](#)

# Obstacles



- COVID-19 disrupted our working process (no face-to-face meetings, Zoom fatigue etc.)
- The scope of the document was large and ambitious
- Diverging community views on key topics (e.g. legal address)
- Technical topics - hard to steer away from implementation details

# What Went Well

- Different backgrounds and expertise
- Synergy between task force members
- Helpful feedback from the community via the surveys, BoF and mailing lists
- Strong support from the RIPE NCC (legal, technical and administrative)

# Principles and Purposes

## Data Management Principles

- Data accuracy
- Data consistency
- Data minimisation
- Data security

## RIPE Database Purposes

- Providing authoritative and accurate registration of Internet number resources
- Provisioning the Reverse Domain Name System (rDNS)
- Publishing routing policies by network operators (RIPE IRR)
- Facilitating Internet operations and coordination
- Enabling research on and analysis of IP networking in the RIPE region

# Requirements and Other Considerations

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- Each requirement has a rationale, recommendation and is attached to a purpose
- Topics that were considered but not retained as requirements are listed under “other consideration”
- The recommendations are only suggestions
- They will need to be discussed by the relevant Working Groups before being implemented



# Requirements and Other Considerations

- Baseline requirements for registration information of Internet number resources 6.1.2 IPv4 PA assignments
- The RIPE Database as an IPAM solution
- Historical data and personal data filtering
- Routing information
- Maintaining accurate routing origin information
- RPSL
- RPKI Database
- Operational Contact Information (PERSON and ROLE Objects)
- Publishing the legal address of resource holders

## Recommendation under 6.1.1 (RIPE 767)

- The task force believes that the following baseline requirements are sufficient to ensure uniqueness and to provide accurate registration as defined in RFC 7020:
  - Full legal name of resource holder
  - Contact information for administrative and technical matters
  - Country Code of where the resource holder is legally based
- The task force did not recognise the full postal address of resource holders as a baseline requirement for registration information of Internet number resources. Therefore, the task force recommends that information about the postal address be made optional and not compulsory. In the long term, the task force recommends taking this information out of the database. If the community accepts this recommendation, the relevant supporting documents should be updated accordingly.

## Recommendation under 6.1.2 (RIPE 767)

- The task force recommends that as resource holders have full responsibility over the registration of their IPv4 PA assignment(s), they are free to make assignments or not. If the community accepts this recommendation, the relevant RIPE Policies should be updated accordingly, and documenting IPv4 PA assignment(s) will stop being a policy requirement.
- [...]
- To ensure that the information published in the RIPE Database is correctly updated by resource holders, the task force recommends that the RIPE NCC continue to use ARCs (Assisted Registry Checks) to verify this data.

## Recommendation under 6.4.1 (RIPE 767)



- The task force recommends to promote ROLE objects instead of PERSON objects but to still make it possible for users to create PERSON objects if/where necessary. However, the task force is aware that users could also add personal data to ROLE objects. This is why stricter checks and measures should be implemented to prevent users from involuntarily entering personal data in both object types. This will also allow users to progressively move away from PERSON objects.
- Implementation details should be discussed in the RIPE Database Working Group in collaboration with the RIPE NCC.

## (Non-)Recommendation under 6.4.2 (RIPE 767)

- It is also important to note that since the implementation of NWI-10, a new attribute was added to the ORGANISATION object with the Country Code for the country in which the RIPE NCC Member or End User is legally based.
- The recommendation of publishing the legal address of resource holders was supported by LEAs and CSIRTs but received low support from the wider network operator community, which raised relevant concerns about disclosing this data.
- [...]
- Recommendation
  - After weighing the pros and cons and listening to community feedback, the task force decided not to go ahead with this recommendation, as there was no clear consensus.
  - However, the task force recognises the LEAs' need to access this information in a timely manner to be able to quickly respond to criminal activity on the Internet. Therefore, the task force's recommendation for legal address is that the community explore alternative solutions. The task force recommends that this work be carried out by the relevant working groups.

# Up Next



- The RIPE Chair Team will coordinate with the relevant WGs
- WGs to discuss the recommendations via their respective mailing lists
- The community and the RIPE NCC will work together to implement the recommendations

# Questions, feedback & dialogue

