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Internet **Fragmentation:** state of the debate and a case study



What do we mean by 'Fragmentation'?

Different info and services available in different places under **different rules**.

1. Governmental

2

- 2. Commercial,
- 3. Technical.

Does **net neutrality** have anything to do with fragmentation?

3



Technical fragmentation: transport layer

incompatibility, different identifiers.

A Case Study

Chinese Stakeholders and ICANN

Contestation (2001 - 2005): 1. the Taiwan issue; 2. Multilateralism; 3. WSIS, ITU 2 IDNs (up to 2007/2009): 1. the Chinesecharacter name space question

"rapprochement" (2007/2009-onwards): 1. **Back in GAC** 2. **Beijing 2013** 3. **CAC and ICANN50**

A Case Study

Chinese Stakeholders and ICANN

Post-IANA transition (2016-onwards): 1.A GAC vice-chair from China. 2

Meanwhile in the IETF (2015-2021 c.a.): 1. Huawei ranks second in RFCs. Meanwhile in the ITU: 1. The New IP: what does it mean for fragmentation?

3

China uses the sar other countries.

What do we have now?



Chinese stakeholde the IETF.

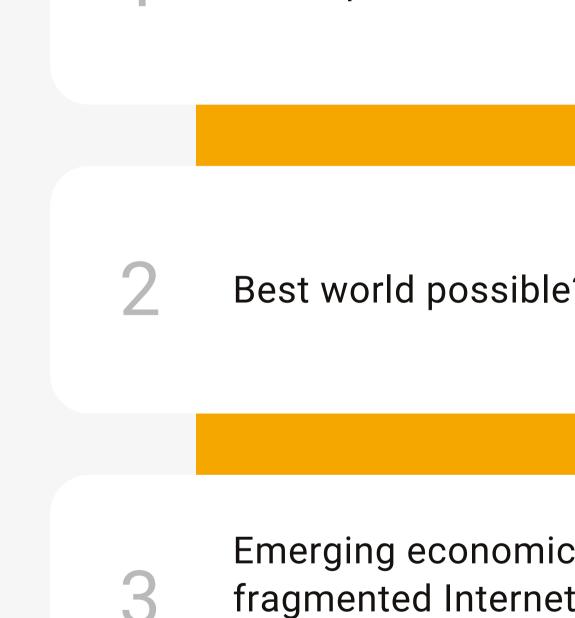
3

Why? Powerful global companies want network benefits, unattainable with split standards.



China uses the same DNS and protocols as

Chinese stakeholders participate in ICANN and



Conclusions on Fragmentation



Emerging economic powers see no benefit in fragmented Internet as they become globally influential.

A 'weapon of the weak'.

Best world possible? No, but a resilient one.

Thank you.

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