

Innovators, Creators and Consumers United for Balanced Copyright

## Site-Blocking Violates America's Commitment to a Free and Open Internet

Big Content trade groups want to create a new process called **site-blocking** or a "**no fault injunction**" to have Internet Service Providers (ISPs) prevent internet users from accessing an allegedly foreign website or online service (i.e. web forums, blogs, or even a teacher's classroom page) that allegedly infringes their copyrights.

**Site-blocking leads to overblocking.** Under site-blocking proposals, ISPs would be ordered to restrict access to a site either by denying domain access or failing to resolve an IP address. This prevents users from accessing an **entire website** due to an **accusation** of copyright infringement rather than solely targeting the alleged infringement on the site.

**Site-blocking is censorship.** Site-blocking affects **everyone**! Site-blocking can lead to the takedown of legitimate content protected by **fair use**. Content creators, educators, businesses, and more can have their information blocked, not only suppressing their speech but also limiting the public's access to information. Undermining the principle of a free and open internet legitimizes censorship at home and erodes US credibility in standing up to censorship abroad.

**Site-blocking hurts e-commerce.** Blocking orders issued **without due process** forces e-commerce sites to go dark without an opportunity to defend themselves. These takedowns can last days, weeks, or even months as entrepreneurs struggle to regain access to sites that form the heart of their business.

**Site-blocking stifles innovation.** Access to the **free flow of information** inspires innovation and creativity. Site-blocking disrupts this flow and stifles opportunities for innovators, creators, and thinkers to use the open internet to create, explore, and discover.

**Site-blocking is easily abused.** Site-blocking can be used **maliciously** by anyone from government entities to corporate rightholders and trolls to take down the websites of competitors or silence critics.

## Re:Create Opposes Site-blocking and Stands for a Free and Open Internet

Big Content has wanted this internet killswitch for decades. Whether through SOPA/PIPA or however it may be rebranded in 2025, **Re:Create remains opposed to site-blocking and stands steadfast in its mission to support and defend a free and open internet.**