

**4 / March / 2022****ccNSO Council Statement on the neutrality of the ccNSO**

Understanding and acknowledging the independence and autonomy of all ccTLD Managers, and recognizing that all people participating in the ccNSO, including individual Councillors will have their own views, the ccNSO Council believes that it is crucial that the ccNSO remains impartial and does not take positions with regard to domestic political disputes, international conflicts or war.

The ccNSO guarantees equal treatment to all ccTLD Managers whether they are ccNSO members or not. This is the fundamental reason why the ccNSO, including its Council, has been able to fulfill its role as a trusted partner of all ccTLD Managers free from bias or political influence ever since its creation in 2003. Failure to adhere to this principle would jeopardise the model and operations of the ccNSO specifically and the Internet in general.

In making this statement, the ccNSO Council condemns war and also expresses solidarity with all those ccTLD Managers who have the difficult task of maintaining the DNS and Internet access in situations of crisis to assist people suffering from the terrible effects of armed conflicts and war.