

Dear ICANN,

On behalf of Artists Against 419

Artists Against 419 hereby supports the sentiments expressed in this communication:

<https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/gdpr-comments-sheckler-et-al-article-29-wp-whois-05mar18-en.pdf>

Artists Against 419 is a consumer anti-abuse organization, a group of consumers attempting to protect consumers against the scourge of advance fee fraud. We use WHOIS data to monitor and document such instances we find, also using it to proactively identify consumer threats. Advance fee fraud is a recognized international issues that massively abuses the DNS system to the detriment of consumers globally. All our actions are taken in a ethical, responsible and accountable way. Our data is shared with authorities, rights holders and other parties that may be impacted by such fraud. However our mission is and remains purely consumer focused. We have been active since 2003 and our information has been used to mitigate numerous consumer threats by the authorities, some which also led to arrests. We have no commercial aspirations and all our efforts are self funded.

The simple reality is that consumers regularly alert the authorities to consumer threats. The authorities many a time do not take such issues seriously unless all the linked incidences of fraud is shown to them. The authorities cannot do it all alone. Please refer:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5570959/Just-one-100-crimes-web-ends-conviction.html>

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Derek Smythe

Administrator and custodian

Artists Against 419

https://wiki.aa419.org/index.php/Main_Page