Standardization: W3C & IETF

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Why standardize?
What should get standardized?
Should standards groups define policy?
Why standardize?

- Find consensus among stakeholders in open/public forum
- Define outcomes and understand tradeoffs
- Reduce complexity (consumer values, business practices, technology)
- Leverage past experiences and lessons learned
- Foster interoperability and consistent user experience
- Simplify implementation for developers and IT groups
- Define compliance and enforcement
What should get standardized?

- Tracking Protection Lists
- DOM
- Response Header
- DNT Header
- White Listing Capability
- Compliance/Audit
Should standards groups define policy?

We *do* have the expertise

We *don’t* have full range of stakeholders
IETF submission on DNT


• defines the syntax and semantics of HTTP header-based mechanism for DNT, and

• specifies how web services should respond to such a mechanism

All dimensions are up for discussion and we welcome suggested improvements!
TPLs & DNT header

TPLs are independent from the DNT header and DOM element:

- Goals and effects of the technologies seem to be quite different
- TPLs affect how clients interpret and access content, while DNT header and the DOM element ultimately affect what servers do to preserve privacy
- Standardization needs are very different (e.g., TPLs are about list syntax, DNT is about protocol design)
DNT across two standards groups

W3C
• TPL working group, with DOM subcommittee at W3C
• considerable experience working on privacy-related standards

IETF
• Standards-track specification of DNT HTTP header
• IETF generally maintains change control over HTTP protocol
• Public forum
Possible division of work

- Tracking Protection Lists
- Response Header
- White Listing Capability
- DOM
- DNT Header
- Compliance/Audit
Thank You.

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