SOPA/PIPA and Online Copyright Battles

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Tell Congress: Please don’t censor the web!
Imagine a World Without Free Knowledge

For over a decade, we have spent millions of hours building the largest encyclopedia in human history. Right now, the U.S. Congress is considering legislation that could fatally damage the free and open internet. For 24 hours, to raise awareness, we are blacking out Wikipedia. Learn more.

Contact your representatives.

Your zip code:  Look up
January 18, 2012

Kim Kardashian
@KimKardashian

We must stop SOPA/PIPA to keep the web open & free. Click here en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page to learn more about how u can help fight this legislation.
January 18, 2012

19 Senators opposed PIPA in one day:

Kelly Ayotte (R-NH)*
Mark Begich (D-AK)
Roy Blunt (R-MO)*
John Boozman (R-AR)*
Scott Brown (R-MA)
Ben Cardin (D-MD)*
Tom Coburn (R-OK)
John Cornyn (R-TX)
Jim DeMint (R-SC)
Orrin Hatch (R-UT)*

James Inhofe (R-OK)
Mark Kirk (R-IL)
Mike Johanns (R-NE)
Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Marco Rubio (R-FL)*
Olympia Snowe (R-ME)
Pat Toomey (R-PA)
David Vitter (R-LA)*

* = former PIPA co-sponsor

Next Battleground—Congress

Source: http://occupyallstreets.tumblr.com/post/20614523602
Next Battleground—Executive Branch

Fact Sheet

Websites seized during the eighth phase of Operation In Our Sites

IPR Center seizes 150 website domains selling counterfeit and pirated merchandise

Nov. 28, 2011
Next Battleground—Executive Branch

Breaking News: Feds Falsely Censor Popular Blog For Over A Year, Deny All Due Process, Hide All Details...

from the copyright-as-censorship dept

Imagine if the US government, with no notice or warning, raided a small but popular magazine’s offices over a Thanksgiving weekend, seized the company’s printing presses, and told the world that the magazine was a criminal enterprise with a giant banner on their building. Then imagine that it never arrested anyone, never let a trial happen, and filed everything about the case under seal, not even letting the magazine’s lawyers talk to the judge presiding over the case. And it continued to deny any due process at all for over a year, before finally just handing everything back to the magazine and pretending nothing happened. I expect most people would be outraged. I expect that nearly all of you would say that’s a classic case of prior restraint, a massive First Amendment violation, and exactly the kind of thing that does not, or should not, happen in the United States.

But, in a story that’s been in the making for over a year, and which we’re exposing to the public for the first time now, this is exactly the scenario that has played out over the past year -- with the only difference being that, rather than “a printing press” and a “magazine,” the story involved “a domain” and a “blog.”

There are so many things about this story that are crazy, it’s difficult to know where to start, so let’s give the most important point first: The US government has effectively admitted that it
The Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)

Stopping SOPA and PIPA was a historic victory for digital citizens, but ACTA potentially poses a similar threat to the global Internet community. While the agreement’s stated goal of strengthening intellectual property rights is one all should support, it does so by undermining individual privacy rights and by empowering an unaccountable enforcement bureaucracy. And just like SOPA and PIPA, ACTA was crafted without input from citizens and key stakeholders in a secretive, closed-door process.

Worse, ACTA appears to be an unconstitutional power grab started by President George W. Bush and completed by President Barack Obama - despite the White House’s January 14 criticism of legislative solutions that harm the Internet and erode individual rights. The Constitution gives Congress the power to pass intellectual property legislation - like SOPA and PIPA - and gives the Senate the power to ratify treaties. But the Obama Administration maintains that ACTA is not even a treaty, justifying the exclusion of both American citizens and their elected representatives. It’s a practice Vice President Joe Biden defended as a U.S. Senator. Closed doesn’t cut it. We opened up ACTA in Madison so you can sign up, speak out and collaborate to build a better “treaty.”
Next Battleground—International Trade Agmts

Trans-Pacific Partnership

On November 12, 2011, the Leaders of the nine Trans-Pacific Partnership countries—Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam, and the United States—announced the achievement of the broad outlines of an ambitious, 21st-century Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement that will enhance trade and investment among the TPP partner countries, promote innovation, economic growth and development, and support the creation and retention of jobs. President Obama along with the other eight TPP leaders agreed to seek to finalize an agreement in the coming year.

- Trans-Pacific Partnership Leaders Statement
- FACT SHEET: The United States in the Trans-Pacific Partnership
- Outlines of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement
- Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Ministers’ Report to Leaders
- Remarks by President Barack Obama in Meeting with Trans-Pacific Partnership

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement will feature new cross-cutting issues not previously included in trade agreements, such as making the regulatory systems...
Next Battleground—Courts

DECKERS OUTDOOR CORP.,

Plaintiff,

v.

LIYANGHUA, et al.,

Defendants.

PHILIP MORRIS USA INC,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ZHLIN JIANG, et al.,

Defendants.
Next Battleground—“Voluntary” Initiatives

Center for Copyright Information

The Content Theft Challenge

The fact about how content theft hurts the economy, working people and consumers >>

READ MORE

Content Theft Costs America:

More than 373,000 jobs...
Thought Paper on Domain Seizures and Takedowns

by DAVE PISCITELLO on MARCH 8, 2013

Recent legal actions (Rustock, Coreflood and Kelihos, among others) resulting in disrupting or dismantling major criminal networks have involved seizures of domain names, DNS name server reconfiguration and transfers of domain name registrations as part of the takedown actions.

This thought paper [PDF, 449 KB] offers guidance for anyone who prepares an order that seeks to seize or take down domain names. Its purpose is to help preparers of legal or regulatory actions understand what information top level domain name (TLD) registration providers such as registrars and registrars will need to respond promptly and effectively to a legal or regulatory order or action. The paper explains how information about a domain name is managed and by whom. In particular, it explains that a seizure typically affects three operational elements of the Internet name system: domain name registration services, the domain name system (DNS)
Jan. 18: consumers who love the Internet vs. incumbent monopolists. YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

Post-Jan. 18 asymmetry: opponents need to win every battle; copyright owners only need to win once

The only way to avoid de facto SOPA/PIPA: enact new immunities/safe harbors