

Internet Society Chapter De-chartering Process

Chapters are chartered by the Internet Society upon signature of the [Chapter Charter letter](#). This letter states the minimum standards that the Internet Society expects its Chapters to meet.

In cases, where a Chapter no longer meets the minimum standards, it will go through a rejuvenation period of max. 12 months.

If after a 12 month rejuvenation period the Chapter is not successful in addressing the compliance issues, the Internet Society will have the right to terminate this Chapter Charter by providing written notice to the Chapter. A decision to terminate the Chapter Charter may be appealed by the Chapter in accordance with [Article IV of ISOC's Amended and Restated Bylaws](#).

Upon termination of the Chapter Charter, the license granted by Section 5 of the [Chapter Charter Letter](#) shall terminate and the Chapter shall cease all use of the Internet Society name, logo and chapter tools and shall take all actions necessary to renounce its legal right to use or reserve the name "Internet Society" or any derivative thereof in the Territory. *(See also: Charter Letter, 2018, 8b & 8c)*

The process in this case is the following:

- 1) **Formal de-chartering letter:** ISOC staff sends a formal de-chartering letter informing all outgoing officers and/or persons involved in the Chapter rejuvenation efforts that the deadline of 12 months has now been reached and that ISOC will thus de-charter the Chapter.
 - The Chapter's status will be moved from "In rejuvenation" to "Closed"
- 2) **Communication:** The following groups will be informed about the de-chartering.
 - ISOC Staff
 - Chapter Advisory Council (Steering Committee)



- The Chapters (Chapter leaders) in the region of the de-chartered Chapter
 - All individual members in the respective country
 - ISOC Board of Trustees at their next meeting
- 3) **Peer appeal process:** Should the Chapter dispute the de-chartering decision, it has the right to a peer appeal process
- The Chapter can send a formal request to the AC Steering Committee (ChAC) to evaluate the case;
 - ISOC staff will be requested to provide detailed background on the reasons for the de-chartering
 - The Chapter will present the reasons for its appeal
 - The ChAC SC will then come up with a recommendation for staff
 - Staff will implement this recommendation and re-evaluate the situation after 6 months (if the Chapter is at that point in compliance with the Charter Letter, it will be counted as an active Chapter again. If it is still not compliant with the Charter Letter, it will be de-chartered).
- 4) **Petition to the Board of Trustees:** If the Chapter also disputes the result of the peer appeal process: a subsequent right is to petition the Board of Trustees for a final appeal to retain active status, wherein the decision of the Board of Trustees will be final.
- An appeal should only go to the Board if
 - a.) the peer appeals process results in rejection of the appeal (i.e. agreement with staff's decision) and
 - b.) the closed Chapter wishes to pursue a further appeal to the board.