



**TLP:WHITE**

## Teams suspension from FIRST

March 25, 2022: The Board of Directors strongly believes that FIRST should be an inclusive organization with broad global participation and collaboration to make the internet safe for everyone. FIRST is a non-profit organization incorporated in the United States of America. We are obliged to take note and act upon sanctions issued by the US government.

Therefore, the FIRST Board of Directors had to temporarily suspend all member organizations originating in Russia and Belarus until the full implications of the issued rulings can be accessed. This was done to reduce the immediate risk of legal ramifications to the organization and its members.

FIRST and its Board will closely monitor the situation and will take appropriate action to navigate new restrictions as they develop and comply with sanctions. At the same time, we aim to seek clarification and provide input into any policy and governance that prevents our industry from operating and cooperating globally to its full potential.

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### About FIRST

FIRST aspires to bring together incident response and security teams from every country across the world to ensure a safe internet for all. Founded in 1990, the Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST) consists of internet emergency response teams from over 600 corporations, government bodies, universities and other institutions across 99 countries in the Americas, Asia, Europe, Africa, and Oceania. <https://www.first.org>.

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