In the context of the Commission’s proposed Regulation¹ to provide an effective long-term solution to child sexual abuse online, blocking orders are provided for situations where, for legal or technical reasons, it may not be reasonably possible to have providers remove or disable access to verified images and videos of child sexual abuse.

Under the proposed Regulation, blocking orders can only be issued subject to stringent conditions and safeguards. If the proposed Regulation were adopted, competent judicial or independent administrative authorities would only be entitled to address blocking orders to internet access service providers under their jurisdiction. The proposed Regulation subjects blocking orders to strict proportionality requirements. Moreover, the proposed Regulation ensures the respect for the rights to information and effective judicial redress of both providers and users affected by blocking orders.

Under the proposed Regulation, blocking orders can be addressed to one or more specific internet access service providers and thus do not have an EU-wide effect. It is for the provider concerned to take measures to comply with the blocking order on its services. As DNS4EU is not an internet access service provider, it cannot be the addressee of blocking orders under the proposed Regulation.

¹ Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules to prevent and combat child sexual abuse, COM(2022)209 of 11/05/2022