

Google says Turkey intercepting its Web domain

31 March 2014



Google logo is seen on a wall at the entrance of the Google offices in Brussels on February 5, 2014

Google says Turkey has been intercepting its Internet domain, redirecting users to other sites in the latest battle between Ankara and Web giants.

In a weekend post on Google's security blog, software engineer Steven Carstensen said the company has received "several credible reports and confirmed with our own research that Google's Domain Name System (DNS) service has been intercepted by most Turkish ISPs (Internet Service Providers)."

Carstensen said the DNS server "tells your computer the address of a server it's looking for, in the same way that you might look up a [phone number](#) in a [phone book](#)."

"Imagine if someone had changed out your phone book with another one, which looks pretty much the same as before, except that the listings for a few people showed the wrong phone number," he added.

"That's essentially what's happened: Turkish ISPs

have set up servers that masquerade as Google's DNS service."

The news came just days after Turkey banned YouTube after the Google-owned video-sharing website was used to spread damaging leaked audio files from a state security meeting debating possible military action in Syria.

Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan angrily lashed out at his political opponents for leaking the recording.



A man is seen through waved Turkish flags as supporters of Turkey's main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) take part in an election rally at Kadikoy in Istanbul on March 29, 2014

Earlier this month, Turkey's telecommunications authority blocked access to the US social network Twitter under orders from Erdogan after opposition members used it to post telephone recordings implicating him in a major corruption scandal.

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