The "create-form" and "edit-form" Link Relations

Abstract

   RFC 5988 standardized a means of indicating the relationships between
   resources on the Web. This specification defines link relation types
   that may be used to express the relationships between a resource and
   an input form for constructing data submissions.

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1. Introduction

   RFC 5988 [RFC5988] standardized a means of indicating the
   relationships between resources on the Web. This specification
   defines link relation types that may be used to express the
   relationships between a resource and an input form for constructing
   data submissions.

   The "create-form" and "edit-form" link relations are intentionally
   generic, and they can be used with multiple media types in a wide
   variety of use cases.

2. Notational Conventions

   The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT",
   "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this
   document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

3. Link Relations

   The following link relations are defined.

3.1. The "create-form" Link Relation Type

   When included in a response, the "create-form" link relation
   indicates a target resource that represents a form that can be used
   to append a new member to the link context.

   ```
   <html>
     <ul>
       <li>Entry Description 1</li>
       <li>Entry Description 2</li>
     </ul>
     <a href="..." rel="create-form">[Add New Entry]</a>
   </html>
   ```

   or, expressed as a Link header

   ```
   Link: <...>; rel="create-form"; title="Add New Entry"
   ```

3.1.1. Using the "create-form" Link Relation

   If the form representation includes a submission URI, this URI MUST
   be used to submit the form. The context URI SHOULD be used
   otherwise.

   If the form representation includes a submission method, this method
   MUST be used for submit requests. HTTP's POST method SHOULD be used
   otherwise.

3.2. The "edit-form" Link Relation Type

   When included in a response, the "edit-form" link relation indicates
   a target resource that represents a form that can be used for
   updating the context resource.

   ```
   <html>
    ...
    <ul>
      <li>
        Entry Description 1
        <a href="..." rel="edit-form">[Edit Entry]</a>
      </li>
    </ul>
    ...
   </html>
   ```

or, expressed as a Link header

    Link: <...>; rel="edit-form"; title="Edit Entry"

3.2.1. Using the "edit-form" Link Relation

If the form representation includes a submission URI, this URI MUST
be used to submit the form. The context URI SHOULD be used
otherwise.

If the form representation includes a submission method, this method
MUST be used for submit requests. HTTP's PUT method SHOULD be used
otherwise.

3.3. Error-Handling Example

When submitting forms in unsupported media type format, service may
respond to the client with HTTP's 415 Unsupported Media Type status
code.

```
HTTP/1.1 415 Unsupported Media Type
Link: <...>; rel="create-form"; title="Create new entry"
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: ...

<html>
  Use <a href="..." rel="create-form">
    this form
  </a> to create a new entry.
</html>
```

4. IANA Considerations

IANA has registered the "create-form" and "edit-form" link relations
below as per [RFC5988].

4.1. The Link Relation Registration "create-form"

Relation Name:

    create-form

Description:

    The target IRI points to a resource where a submission form can be
    obtained.

Security considerations:

    Automated agents should take care when this relation crosses
    administrative domains (e.g., the URI has a different authority
    than the current document).

Reference:

    See Section 3.

4.2. The Link Relation Registration "edit-form"

Relation Name:

    edit-form

Description:

    The target IRI points to a resource where a submission form for
    editing the associated resource can be obtained.

Security Considerations:

    Automated agents should take care when this relation crosses
    administrative domains (e.g., the URI has a different authority
    than the current document).

Reference:

    See Section 3.

5. Security Considerations

   See Section 7 of RFC 5988 [RFC5988].

6. Internationalisation Considerations

   See Section 8 of RFC 5988 [RFC5988].

7. Normative References

   [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate
              Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997.

   [RFC5988] Nottingham, M., "Web Linking", RFC 5988, October 2010.

Appendix A. Acknowledgements

Author's Address

Ioseb Dzmanashvili

EMail: ioseb.dzmanashvili@gmail.com