

Exfiltration Mitigation

Mike West - TPAC 2025

TL;DR: Developers have a reasonable desire to mitigate the risk of data leakage.

We should provide them with a tool focused on addressing *that* threat.

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A Modest Content Security Proposal

Mike West, July 2019

TL;DR: *Let's break CSP in half and throw away some options while we're at it.*

Content Security Policy is a thing. We've been iterating on it for years and years now, and it shows. The backwards compatibility constraints are increasingly contorted, we've moved right past scope *creep* into scope *kudzu*, and the implementation status between browsers is inconsistent at best. I think it would be somewhat irresponsible to make these problems worse by starting on another iteration of CSP that did anything other than remove features, and I don't intend to do so.

In fact, let's think about the opposite approach: as a thought experiment, let's say we disabled CSP support in Chromium tomorrow. What would we be losing? What problems does it address that we care about? What mechanisms might we put into place to address them?

I think CSP is aiming to address three distinct problems:

1. **XSS mitigation:** We'd like to make it hard for attackers to inject script into pages in a way that causes execution. <https://csp.withgoogle.com/docs/strict-csp.html> outlines the approach taken inside Google, which

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wicg.github.io/csp-next/scripting-pol...

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mikewest Mike West
yoavweiss Yoav Weiss
Malvoz Robert Linder

Regarding exfiltration:

- ❖ CSP's model is too granular.
- ❖ CSP's syntax is not granular enough.
- ❖ CSP's coverage is incomplete.

default-src blob: 'self' https://*.fbsbx.com *.facebook.com *.fbcdn.net *.whatsapp.com whatsapp.com *.whatsapp.net whatsapp.net *.facebook.net facebook.net;

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Connection-Allowlist:

```
("https://*.?fbcdn.net" "https://*.?facebook.net"  
"https://*.?fb.com" "https://*.?fbsbx.com"  
"https://*.?whatsapp.com" ...); report-to=group
```

Open Questions

1. Is it actually worth building something like this when CSP is *right there* ([mikewest/anti-exfil#2](#))?
2. How do we deal with redirects?
3. What inheritance model makes sense ([mikewest/anti-exfil#1](#))?
4. How much of URLPattern's syntax is necessary (see [compression dictionaries](#), Service Worker's [static routing](#), etc)?