

TRANSPARENCY REPORT

June 2022

BITCHUTE

BITCHUTE.COM

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide transparency for our users, regulatory bodies and suppliers as to how we enforce our content policies and related appeals process.

Since we established BitChute in 2017, we have gone from a prototype with just two founders working part-time to a company of twelve people with tens of millions of monthly visits and thousands of daily uploads funded by you, our community. During this time, we have stuck to our principles by keeping important and sometimes controversial content available to millions of people when all other platforms buckled under pressure.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this incredible journey so far; we have a lot planned for 2022, and the best is yet to come.

At BitChute we put creators first and provide them with a service that they can use to flourish and express their ideas freely. To this end we have adopted a number of principles that are intended to foster an inclusive environment where users can express themselves, their thoughts and opinions for open discussion, without discrimination. These principles are as follows:

Freedom of Expression - We are committed to freedom of expression and the right for all ideas to be heard, provided they comply with our guidelines. We stand firmly behind this commitment, with the support of our community, donors, and countless like-minded individuals around the world.

Opportunity to Succeed - We are committed to treating everyone as equals with the same rights and opportunity to succeed, regardless of race, age, sex, religion, political beliefs, or any other immutable attribute or self-assigned designation. In order to prevent platform bias, all moderation decisions will be suitably transparent and open to appeal.

'People Power' - We are committed to the community having the power to choose which content is most prominent. Our algorithms use community-driven objective criteria such as views, likes and subscriber counts to determine which creators and content is most prominently featured. Every individual gets to determine which content will appear in their personal feed.

Individual Responsibility - We are committed to giving individuals power and responsibility for their content, even when that means allowing debate on edgy, distasteful or unpopular subjects. In return, we require them to act responsibly, in a way that is not detrimental to the platform or other individuals and complies with our policies and guidelines.

Empowering Creators - We are committed to providing creators with tools that support and empower their success. Including tools to present, manage, and monetise their content effectively.

Decentralised Distribution - We are committed to decentralising the distribution of content. We will endeavour to leverage, develop and implement decentralised technology that will give individuals power and responsibility over their content, for the benefit and not the burden of society.

For more detail on our principles and policies, please take a look at [Our Commitment](#) and [Community Guidelines](#) pages.



MODERATION PROCESS

We understand that moderation actions have a significant impact on the lives of those involved, and as much as possible human consideration should be part of this process. In some cases it is necessary to use automated removal for certain types of content, such as spam. In all cases we commit that every moderation appeal is reviewed by at least one person who was not involved in the original decision.

Our high-level moderation process flow is as follows:



New Report Raised – New reports can come from a number of external sources including members of the community, specialist organisations and state authorities. Additionally, BitChute has its own internal functions to identify policy violations, which contribute to the volume of reports raised.

Priority Assigned – When a new report arrives it is prioritised based on a number of factors, such as the report source, type of policy violation reported, age of the report, etc.

Material Reviewed – The content will be reviewed in priority order against report details and BitChute policies by a human moderator for any violations.

Moderation Applied – If a violation is detected then the appropriate action will be taken and applied to the content. Actions available to moderators include setting an appropriate sensitivity or category, applying a geo-block and blocking the material. For larger or repeated violations they may also apply moderation to channels and can apply for account suspensions in the most severe of cases.

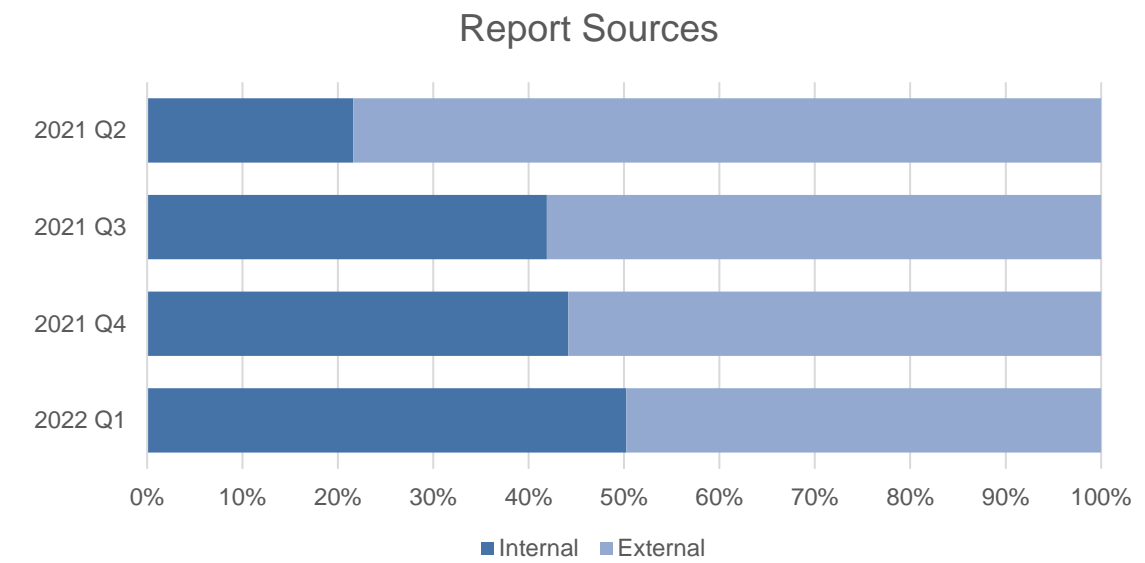
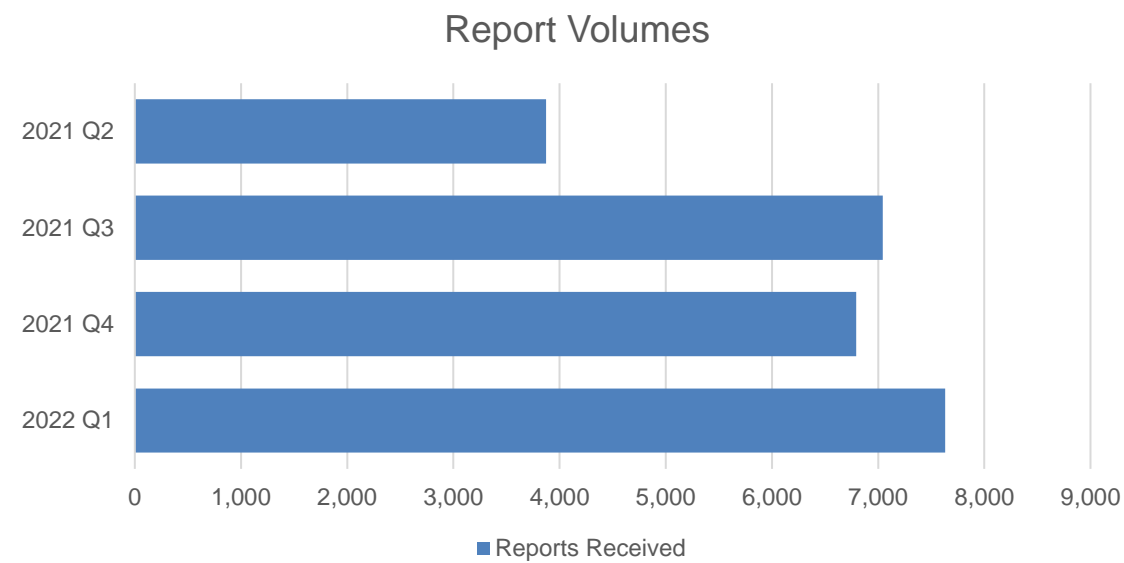
Stakeholders Notified – Once a moderation decision has been made the originator of the report will be notified of the outcome using the contact details provided with the report. If any action was required we will attempt to notify the content owner via their BitChute account.



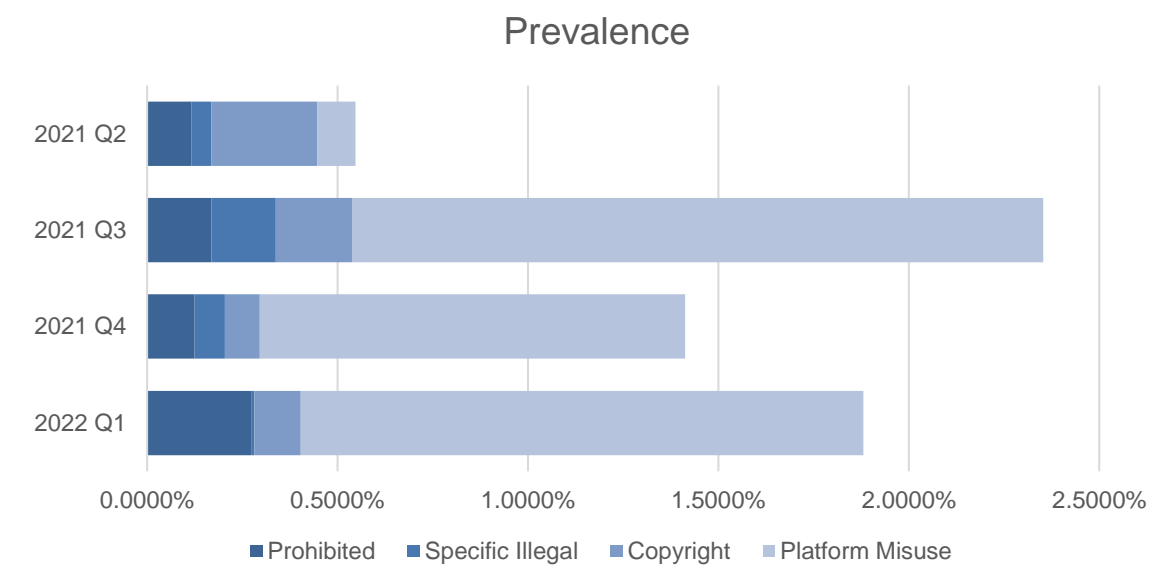
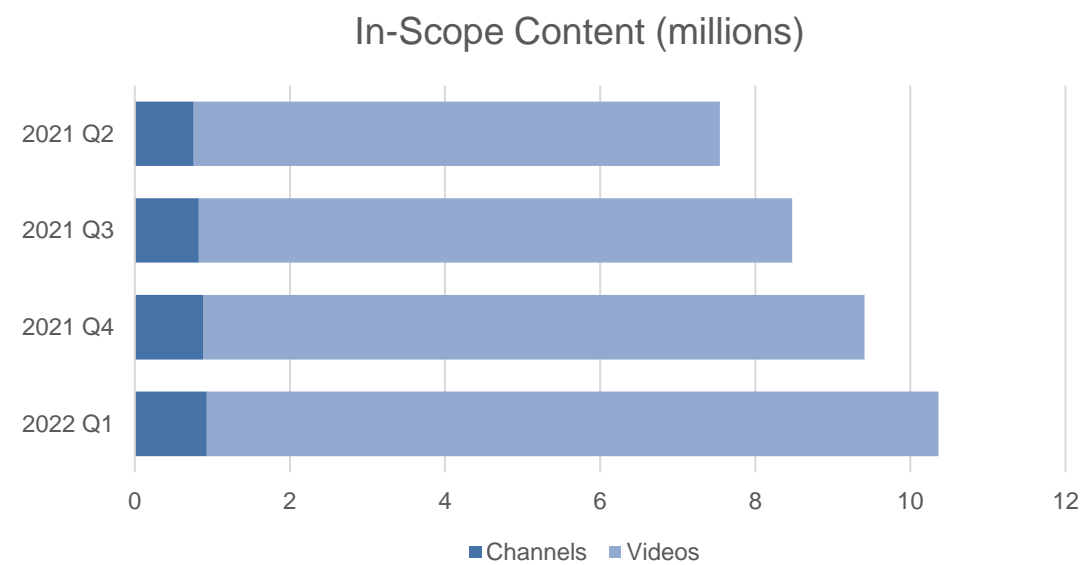
OVERVIEW

Moderation activity statistics presented in this transparency report are divided into four distinct groupings, Copyright Takedowns, Prohibited Content, Specific Illegal Content and Platform Misuse. For each of these we present an overview of the policy being enforced, links to the full policy wording. For each quarter covered we provide the report volume, how many of those that were valid and the volume of channel and video content that was impacted by the moderation actions taken.

Before we get into this detail here are some high level statistics on the volumes of reports we receive and the split between those originating internally and externally:



Additionally, the following show the volume of content in-scope for this transparency report, as well as the prevalence of moderated content within that data set. The Prevalence percentage provided is a calculation of volume of content on the platform that has been moderated as violating the specified policy within the stated time period.



The remaining section relating to moderation activity details the Appeals process and provides quarterly statistics on the volumes, validity and success rate of appeals.

The report then concludes with a section providing quarterly statistics around data disclosure requests that were accepted and fulfilled by BitChute.



COPYRIGHT TAKEDOWN

BitChute’s approach to dealing with requests for the takedown of copyright content uploaded by its users is set out in the platforms [Copyright Policy](#), a brief overview of this policy is as follows:

- Copyright Notices are to be submitted by the rights owner (or their designated representative) and require a statement that a copyright claim is being made, clear identification of the content in question, a description of the copyrighted work, sufficient proof of copyright ownership, details of how it is being infringed, contact details and a signed statement that the claim is true and accurate.
- Copyright Counter Notices can be submitted to challenge a copyright takedown by providing clear identification of the content in question, evidence of why the copyright takedown is a mistake, contact details with agreement for them to be passed on to the originator of the copyright notice and a signed statement that the counter claim is true, accurate and made in good faith.

BitChute accepts Copyright Notices via the built-in flagging feature or by email to copyright@bitchute.com. At least one person will review each report against the requirements detailed within the policy before taking action.

BitChute accepts Copyright Counter Notices via the built-in flagging feature or by email to appeal@bitchute.com. All appeals are reviewed by at least one person who was not involved in the original decision.

The volume of unique copyright takedown requests represents a small percentage of the total volume of content available through the platform, as shown in the following table:

Table 1 – Copyright Notices

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	574	329	57	20,899	0.2779%
	Q3	845	394	216	16,885	0.2018%
	Q4	995	435	175	8,475	0.0919%
2022	Q1	840	343	194	12,393	0.1215%

PROHIBITED CONTENT

BitChute prohibits material within a wide range of areas which are broadly considered illegal, dangerous, harmful or otherwise unsuitable for the platform, further details of these areas can be found in the [Prohibited Content](#) section of our [Community Guidelines](#). A brief overview of this policy is as follows:

- BitChute does not permit the use of its platform for individuals, organisations or any other entity engaged in the prohibited activities listed below, nor does it allow any endorsing, empowering or otherwise promoting of material produced by such entities. Posting, celebrating, endorsing, glorifying or otherwise promoting material containing the prohibited activities listed below is also not permitted on the platform.
- We acknowledge that showing and/or referencing instances of the following activities may be necessary to hold the perpetrators to account. If this is the objective then the creator must clearly state this within the material, be respectful to victims and ensure that the material cannot be exploited to endorse, empower or otherwise promote individuals, organisations or any other entity engaging in the prohibited activities.

The activities prohibited on the platform are defined as follows:

Abhorrent Violence - Real-life non-consensual acts of kidnapping, attempted murder, murder, mutilation, rape or torture.

Animal Cruelty - As defined in the Prevention of Harm section of the [UK Animal Welfare Act 2006](#).

Child Abuse or Endangerment - Abuse, sexualisation, endangerment, exploitation of children or any offence defined within the [UK Children and Young Persons Act 1933](#).

Harassment - Any harassment that is determined to be unlawful within the domiciles of either the originator or the target, including unauthorised disclosure of sensitive personal information.

Harmful Activities - Injection / ingestion of dangerous substances, self-harm, suicide and other activities that are intended to lead to someone getting badly hurt or worse.

Incitement to Hatred (UK, EU, EEA & territories) - Material likely to incite hatred against a group of persons or a member of a group of persons based on any of the grounds referred to in [Article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union](#).

Sexually Explicit - Real, simulated or otherwise portrayed material containing sexual intercourse, sexual acts or sexual arousal.

Terrorism & Violent Extremism - Any act of violence or intimidation carried out with the intention of furthering a religious, political or any other ideological objective.

Threats or Incitement to Violence - Material containing threats of violence or likely to incite violence.

BitChute accepts prohibited content reports via the built-in flagging feature or by email to report@bitchute.com. At least one person will review each report against the requirements detailed within the policy before taking action.

The volume of unique prohibited content reports represents a tiny percentage of the total volume of content available through the platform, as shown in the following tables:



Table 2 – Abhorrent Violence

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	150	68	2	68	0.0009%
	Q3	306	143	14	1,689	0.0201%
	Q4	227	115	8	127	0.0014%
2022	Q1	463	321	3	105	0.0010%

Table 3 – Animal Cruelty

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	50	17	0	10	0.0001%
	Q3	48	27	1	16	0.0002%
	Q4	49	25	2	12	0.0001%
2022	Q1	56	14	0	5	< 0.0001%

Table 4 – Child Abuse or Endangerment (including exploitation & CSAM)

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	104	24	0	4	0.0001%
	Q3	145	16	0	9	0.0001%
	Q4	116	12	2	19	0.0002%
2022	Q1	81	13	0	5	< 0.0001%

Table 5 – Harassment

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	291	57	1	18	0.0003%
	Q3	260	42	8	59	0.0008%
	Q4	226	18	10	2,575	0.0275%
2022	Q1	298	17	8	598	0.0058%

Table 6 – Harmful Activities

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	136	36	2	16	0.0002%
	Q3	252	98	13	515	0.0062%
	Q4	303	134	8	553	0.0060%
2022	Q1	373	211	3	44	0.0005%

Table 7 – Incitement to Hatred (UK, EU, EEA & territories)

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	731	272	63	2,665	0.0362%
	Q3	845	329	134	5,340	0.0646%
	Q4	714	305	187	5,806	0.0637%
2022	Q1	662	174	47	18,821	0.1829%

Table 8 – Sexually Explicit

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	393	141	15	893	0.0120%
	Q3	485	196	46	2,742	0.0329%
	Q4	815	312	66	947	0.0108%
2022	Q1	977	414	54	3,301	0.0324%

Table 9 – Terrorism & Violent Extremism

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	429	299	36	2,716	0.0365%
	Q3	642	352	106	3,597	0.0437%
	Q4	322	230	84	1,343	0.0152%
2022	Q1	272	137	57	5,165	0.0504%

Table 10 – Threats or Incitement to Violence

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	85	19	4	2,242	0.0298%
	Q3	116	12	3	79	0.0010%
	Q4	70	3	2	1	< 0.0001%
2022	Q1	68	1	1	0	< 0.0001%

SPECIFIC ILLEGAL CONTENT

BitChute recognises that, due to the nature of the internet, our service may be consumed within a wide range of countries around the world. Therefore, it is necessary to understand that not all countries have the same laws and this may lead to specific material being considered illegal only within specific countries. This is covered by the [Compliance with Law](#) objective within our [Community Guidelines](#).

To help meet this objective, we allow the appropriate recognised authorities to request the blocking of specific material within their jurisdiction. Such authorities should contact BitChute by email to legal@bitchute.com to start the process of getting set up to submit requests.

The volume of unique reports for this reason is shown in the following table:

Table 11 – Specific Illegal Content

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	110	75	54	3,946	0.0533%
	Q3	194	135	85	14,170	0.1688%
	Q4	133	78	53	7,423	0.0795%
2022	Q1	95	43	27	887	0.0088%

PLATFORM MISUSE

In addition to the previously covered reasons for moderation there are a number of others that grouped under misuse of the BitChute platform, examples of this are spamming, misleading metadata, incorrect category or incorrect sensitivity.

BitChute accepts platform misuse reports via the built-in flagging feature or by email to report@bitchute.com. At least one person will review each report against the requirements detailed within the policy before taking action.

The vast majority of reports in this grouping are generated by internal spam detection processes.

The volume of unique platform misuse reports represents a much larger percentage of the total volume of reports, and is shown in the following table:

Table 12 – Platform Misuse

		Moderation Requests	Valid Requests	Channels Moderated	Videos Moderated	Prevalence
2021	Q2	813	112	112	7,441	0.1001%
	Q3	2,906	1,836	1,822	151,808	1.8127%
	Q4	2,822	2,061	2,059	102,978	1.1163%
2022	Q1	3,445	2,749	2,743	150,249	1.4767%

APPEALS

BitChute is aware that sometimes the result of moderation activity may not always be satisfactory, and that new evidence may have become available to alter the outcome. For such circumstances, an appeal process has been put in place and is defined under our [Content Moderation Policy](#).

BitChute accepts appeals via the built-in flagging feature or by email to appeal@bitchute.com.

All appeals are reviewed by at least one person who was not involved in the original decision.

The volume of valid appeals is shown in the following table:

Table 13 – Appeals Requests

		Appeal Requests	Valid Appeals	Valid Appeals / Moderated Reports	Moderated Reports
2021	Q2	106	11	0.2841%	3,872
	Q3	775	47	0.6672%	7,044
	Q4	797	56	0.8245%	6,792
2022	Q1	605	40	0.5242%	7,630

DATA DISCLOSURE REQUESTS

BitChute is a legal business based in the United Kingdom and only discloses data in specific legal circumstances, limited to:

- United Kingdom Court Order.
- United Kingdom Investigatory Powers Act 2016.
- German Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz 2017 (Network Enforcement Act, “NetzDG”).

Any requests made from other countries must be sent via the appropriate authorities in the United Kingdom utilising Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLAT) or similar mechanisms.

Table 14 – Legal Orders

		UK Court Orders	UK IPA 2016	German NetzDG 2017
2021	Q2	0	22	0
	Q3	1	9	0
	Q4	0	7	6
2022	Q1	0	10	1

THANK YOU

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