First Insights from Partial Blocks in Wikimedia Wikis

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Wikipedia Blocks Historically
Partial Blocks
Timeline

- 2018: Anti-Harassment Tools team develops Partial Blocks
  - ...and defines a set of measurements for block effectiveness ([meta:Measuring the effectiveness of blocks](meta:Measuring the effectiveness of blocks))
- mid-2019: Partial Blocks deployed to 19 wikis (ref: [T218626](T218626))
Agenda

We’ll focus on Italian Wikipedia, because:

1. They were the first to adopt it.
2. They’ve been using it quite a lot.

We’ll focus on these questions:

• To what extent are partial blocks being used?
• How are they being used?
  ○ Blocking registered users or IPs?
  ○ Blocking pages or namespace?
  ○ If blocking namespaces, which ones?
Number of blocks per month?
Blocking registered users or IPs?
Blocking pages or namespaces?
Which namespaces?
What we learned today

- Partial blocks are being used, ≈50 blocks/month in Italian Wikipedia
- ≈50% of the blocks are of IP users
- ≈80% blocking pages, ≈20% blocking namespaces
- If it blocks namespaces, it’s...
  - Typically a single namespace
  - Typically the article namespace, secondly the File namespace
Next steps

- Continued work on analyzing effectiveness
  - Do partially blocked users make constructive edits while blocked?
  - Do partially blocked users have their blocks extended?
- Follow along on the Phab task (T209403) or the GitHub repository!
Thank you!

Please ask questions!
Acknowledgements

- Carcassonne - Rempart de la Bastide saint-Louis (le bastion Saint-Martial).jpg by Didier Descouens

- Fly swatter 2016-06-12.jpg by Santeri Viinamäki

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