

DOCUMENT 1 OF 4 • VERSION 1.0 • 22 OCTOBER 2026

Responsible Scanning Statement

SocialNow · How the SocialNow website check works and where it stops

The free website check at socialnow.nl/check looks at the public side of a website, as any visitor sees it. This statement sets out exactly what the check does, what it never does and why it is designed that way.

ISSUED BY	SocialNow, Amstelstraat 43G, 1017 DA Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Chamber of Commerce 77146301
VERSION	1.0, 22 October 2026
APPLIES TO	The free website check at socialnow.nl/check
CONTACT	secure@socialnow.nl

ARTICLE 1 What the check does

- 1.1 The check opens the homepage of the domain entered with an ordinary request, as a browser does. If the site redirects, the check follows at most five redirects.
- 1.2 For the five-point report, the check also opens at most five pages of the same website that the homepage itself links to. A news feed referenced by the homepage counts towards those five. Before opening any extra page, the check reads the robots.txt file and skips whatever it excludes.
- 1.3 For that report the check also reads the public DNS records of the domain that every mail server also looks up: the mail servers (MX), SPF and DMARC.
- 1.4 For speed, the check asks Google PageSpeed Insights to load the homepage as a mobile visitor would. If that service is unavailable, the check measures how quickly the server responds.
- 1.5 Names and versions of software that the page itself mentions, such as a CMS or a JavaScript library, are compared with public lists of known vulnerabilities (OSV.dev and wordpress.org).
- 1.6 The check is identifiable. The part that reads the PHP version announces itself with the user agent **SocialNow-php-check/2.0**; the five-point report announces itself as **SocialNowCheck/1.0 (+<https://socialnow.nl/check>)**. Both point to our own website.
- 1.7 Every step has a hard limit: public addresses only, ports 80 and 443 only, a fixed time limit of a few seconds per request and a maximum amount of data per page. After every redirect the check verifies again that the address is public.

ARTICLE 2 What the check never does

- 2.1 **No attacks.** The check sends no exploit code and in no way attempts to trigger the PHP vulnerability php2shell (CVE-2026-109618 and CVE-2026-109619).

- 2.2 **No forms.** The check fills in nothing, submits nothing and makes read requests only.
- 2.3 **No guessing of hidden pages.** The check does not try addresses the site does not mention itself, such as admin pages, backups, or phpinfo and readme files.
- 2.4 **No logging in.** The check uses no passwords or accounts and makes no attempt to access protected areas.
- 2.5 **No port scanning and no load.** The check visits no other ports or internal networks, provokes no error messages and sends no large or unusual requests. If the same domain is checked again shortly afterwards, the requester receives the earlier result and the site is not visited again. A maximum number of checks applies per sender.

ARTICLE 3 The legal basis, in plain language

- 3.1 Under Dutch law, computer intrusion (Article 138ab of the Criminal Code) concerns breaking into a system: bypassing a security measure, carrying out a technical intervention, or using a false key or false identity. The check does none of these. It only reads what a website shows publicly to every visitor.
- 3.2 For that reason the free check does not ask for proof of ownership. Anything beyond the public side, such as reading the exact PHP version, takes place only in the extended check: after proof of ownership, with the owner's permission and within the agreed scope (document 4).
- 3.3 How we handle data is described in document 2: Privacy and Data in the Website Check.
- 3.4 A result is a snapshot of what is visible from the outside. It is not a security guarantee and not a certification.

ARTICLE 4 Opting out, questions and reports

- 4.1 If you do not want the report to open extra pages, add **User-agent: SocialNowCheck** and **Disallow: /** to robots.txt. The check visits the homepage itself as any visitor does; robots.txt determines which extra pages the report opens.
- 4.2 Questions or complaints about a check, or a vulnerability in the check itself, can be reported to **secure@socialnow.nl**. We respond as soon as possible and within ten working days at the latest.