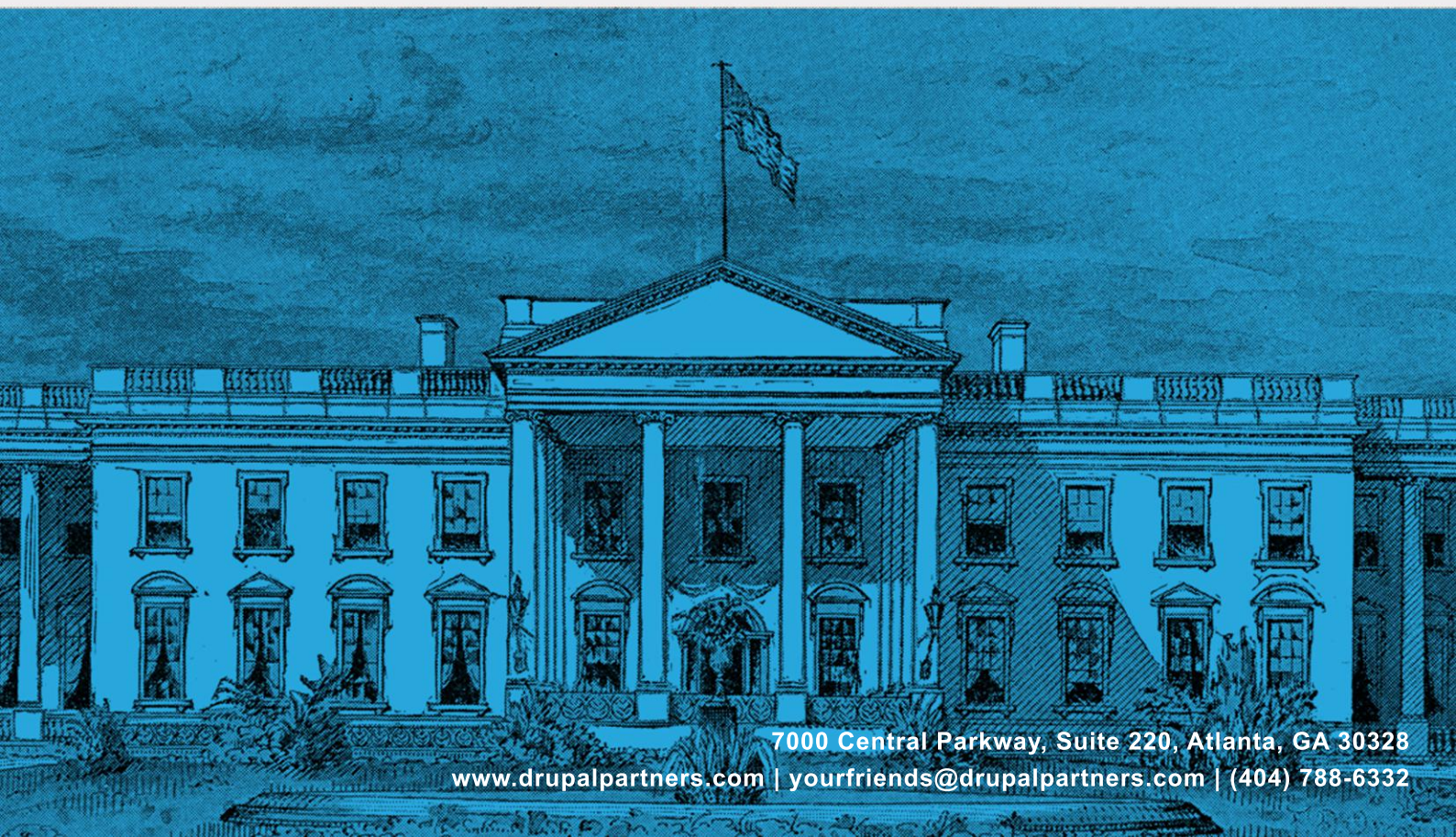


**WHITEPAPER**

# MIGRATING YOUR GOVERNMENT WEBSITE TO DRUPAL 8

A complete guide book about why your government website should migrate to Drupal 8 and how you can do it.

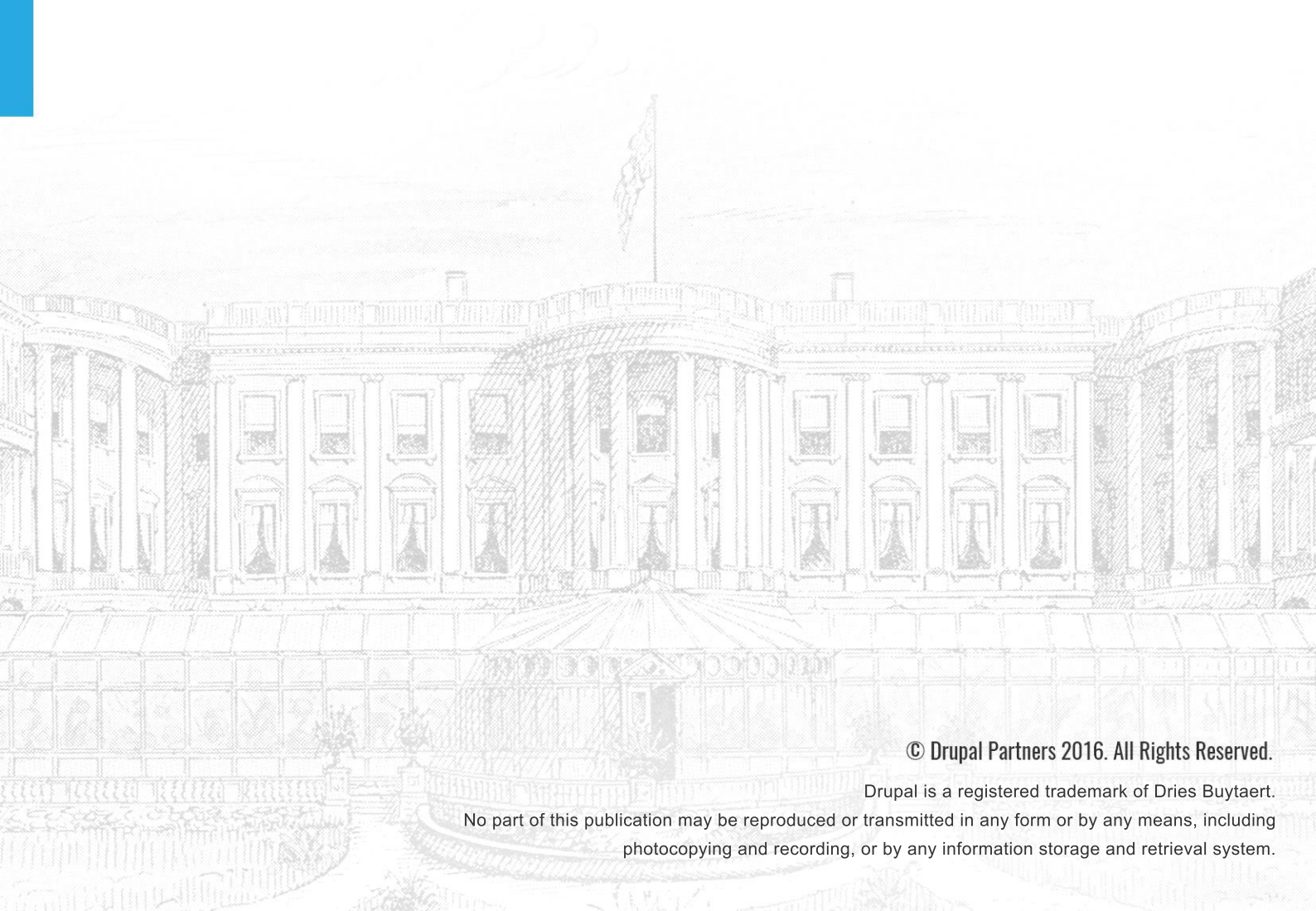
**BY DRUPAL PARTNERS**





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# Executive Summary



**24% OF GOVERNMENT WEBSITES ARE HOSTED ON THE CONTENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CMS).**

## > A new revolution in the content management ecosystem.

When Drupal 8 was released on November 19th, 2015, it marked the beginning of a new revolution in the content management ecosystem. With over 200 new features and other extended functionalities, Drupal 8 is good news for government websites, as nearly 24% of government websites are hosted on the content management system (CMS).

However, many Government websites (federal and local) are still clueless about how they can leverage Drupal 8 in today's technologically competent world and make it fully accessible to the public.

In this whitepaper, we will discuss the various features of Drupal 8 that are most specific to Government websites and why it's important for Government websites to migrate to Drupal 8.

# Why Drupal 8 Is The Best Fit For Government Websites

## ➤ Drupal 8 claims to be the biggest Drupal release yet.

When the WhiteHouse chose to shift its CMS to Drupal, it highlighted why Drupal is a strategic platform to community government policies and improve public relations. With the latest Drupal release, government websites will have a chance to enjoy extended features and functionalities.

With more than 4 years in the making, involving more than 3,000 developers and featuring more than 200 improvements, Drupal 8 claims to be the biggest Drupal release yet. Here's why Drupal 8 can be a wise decision for government websites.



HERE'S WHY DRUPAL 8  
CAN BE A WISE DECISION FOR  
GOVERNMENT WEBSITES.



**32,445**  
Modules



**2,200**  
Themes

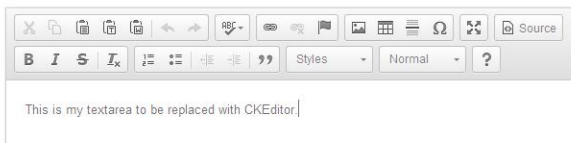


**983**  
Distributions



## 1. The Future Of Content Authoring - CKEditor WYSIWYG

### A simple page with CKEditor



- **Drupal 8 comes with a huge makeover in its content authoring through CKEditor module.**

An ideal CMS is complete only when it has strong, feature-rich and user-friendly content authoring tools. Drupal 8 comes with a huge makeover in its content authoring through CKEditor module. It simplifies the editing and content management. The quick edit also allows users to perform in-place editing so that they don't need to work on the back-end to make any content changes. With the drag and drop feature, language auto detection, spell check and other features to enhance style, integration and formatting, you take complete control of your content management.

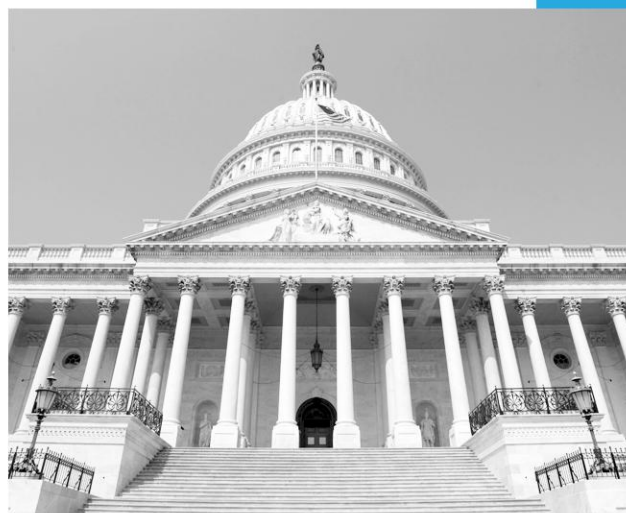
## 2. Easy Responsive Sites

- **Nearly 68% of Americans use their smartphones to access internet.**

Mobile devices have taken an important role in the online world. Nearly 68% of Americans use their smartphones to access internet. Hence, if your website is not mobile friendly, you could be disappointing the majority of the users who would prefer to visit your website through mobile devices. With Drupal 8, it's possible to create mobile-friendly websites and mobile apps to make sure the public is updated about the government activities through notifications, news, events, policy changes etc.

Moreover, with Google ranking websites higher that are mobile friendly, building your website on Drupal 8 or migrating to it makes your job much easier.

**BUILDING YOUR WEBSITE ON  
DRUPAL 8 OR MIGRATING TO IT  
MAKES YOUR JOB MUCH  
EASIER.**



### 3. Improved Performance

- **In 2013, nearly 4.7 million Americans logged in to browse Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance exchanges that resulted in heavy website traffic clogs.**

Websites that take more than 3 seconds to load create unhappy users and increase bounce rates. Government sites experience heavy traffic all year. In 2013, nearly 4.7 million Americans logged in to browse Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance exchanges that resulted in heavy website traffic clogs. Similarly, the New York State of Health witnessed two million visitors during the first two hours of its launch. Therefore, it's quite normal for government websites to experience heavy traffic and downtimes. Thus, it's important to have a high performing website.

Caching is an important concept which helps your web pages to load faster. Due to the enormous amount of content on government sites, caching becomes highly complex, which drastically affects the speed of the website. Drupal 8 comes with a brand new and strong caching API like cache max-age, cache tags and cache contexts. Through these, Drupal 8 guarantees high performing websites, especially for mobile devices.



IT'S QUITE NORMAL FOR  
GOVERNMENT WEBSITES TO EXPERIENCE  
HEAVY TRAFFIC AND DOWNTIMES.

## 4. Marking Your Digital Presence

“ I WANT US TO ASK OURSELVES EVERY DAY, HOW ARE WE  
USING TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLE’S LIVES.”

– PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA



### ➤ A digitally driven government helps to serve its citizens better.

A digitally driven government helps to serve its citizens better. The 21st century is aimed at building a digital government that works for the welfare of her people, serving them smartly through highly customizable, secure, modular and cost-efficient web platforms. This can be achieved easily by migrating or building your site on Drupal 8.

When you migrate or build your website on Drupal 8, you’re ahead of the digital standards. Additionally, you get the benefit of:

- Third-party integrations including social media networks
- Run multiple sites under different agencies
- Increase productivity within the organization by enabling intranet
- Seamless exporting and importing of site configurations through Configuration Management Initiative (CMI)
- Multilingual features
- Google Analytics for understanding user interests and much more

# Your Options In Drupal

- **Ever since the release of Drupal 8, websites on Drupal aren't left with many options.**

Ever since the release of Drupal 8, websites on Drupal aren't left with many options. On February 24th, 2016, Drupal stopped its support for Drupal 6. If you're one among the 2,682 Drupal 6 websites, then you're running on a highly unsafe environment. Hence, your Drupal options are narrowed down to two choices: **Drupal 7 and Drupal 8.**

YOUR DRUPAL OPTIONS  
ARE NARROWED DOWN  
TO TWO CHOICES:  
**DRUPAL 7 & DRUPAL 8**





# Conclusion - Our Recommendations

- **We highly recommend Drupal 8 to streamline your services with a futuristic approach.**

Drupal 7 is a safe bet when compared to Drupal 6 because it's extensively flexible with several custom -made modules, secure with extended Drupal community support. Although we agree upon the various ways Drupal 7 can benefit your website, we highly recommend Drupal 8 to streamline your services with a futuristic approach.

With work already started for the next version of Drupal, Drupal 7 will lose support as soon as Drupal 9 launches. So, starting now on Drupal 8 doubles the possible life span of your site. The best part of Drupal 8 is the Drupal module upgrader which automatically converts your existing Drupal version to Drupal 8.



**EACH MODULE IN  
DRUPAL 8 IS BUILT WITH  
SECURITY IN MIND.**

Needless to say, Government websites are highly targeted by hackers and require a platform that doesn't compromise on security. Each module in Drupal 8 is built with security in mind.

D5.X

6,324

D6.X

2,682

D7.X

454,316

D8.X

1,379

## For Example

- **In 2013, nearly 4.7 million Americans logged in to browse Affordable Care Act (ACA) health insurance exchanges that resulted in heavy website traffic clogs.**

Drupal 8 uses TWIG templates for HTML generation as it's easier to validate third-party themes. The TWIG auto escaping feature prevents other vulnerabilities thus keeping the custom themes and contributed modules secure. Likewise, the Configuration Management Initiative (CMI) uses YAML for storing configuration format. Such enhanced security updates make Drupal 8 least vulnerable to any possible security hacks.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century government websites need to be futuristic, transparent, digitally advanced, scalable and easily accessible to the public. This is why Drupal has managed to become the most favorable choice for government websites. With the additional benefits of Drupal 8, Drupal has made it easier to achieve the goal of a digital government and fulfilling the vision of empowering the citizens.



## WANT TO MIGRATE YOUR WEBSITE TO DRUPAL 8?

CONTACT OUR DRUPAL SPECIALISTS WITH YEARS OF  
DRUPAL MIGRATION & DRUPAL FOR GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE!

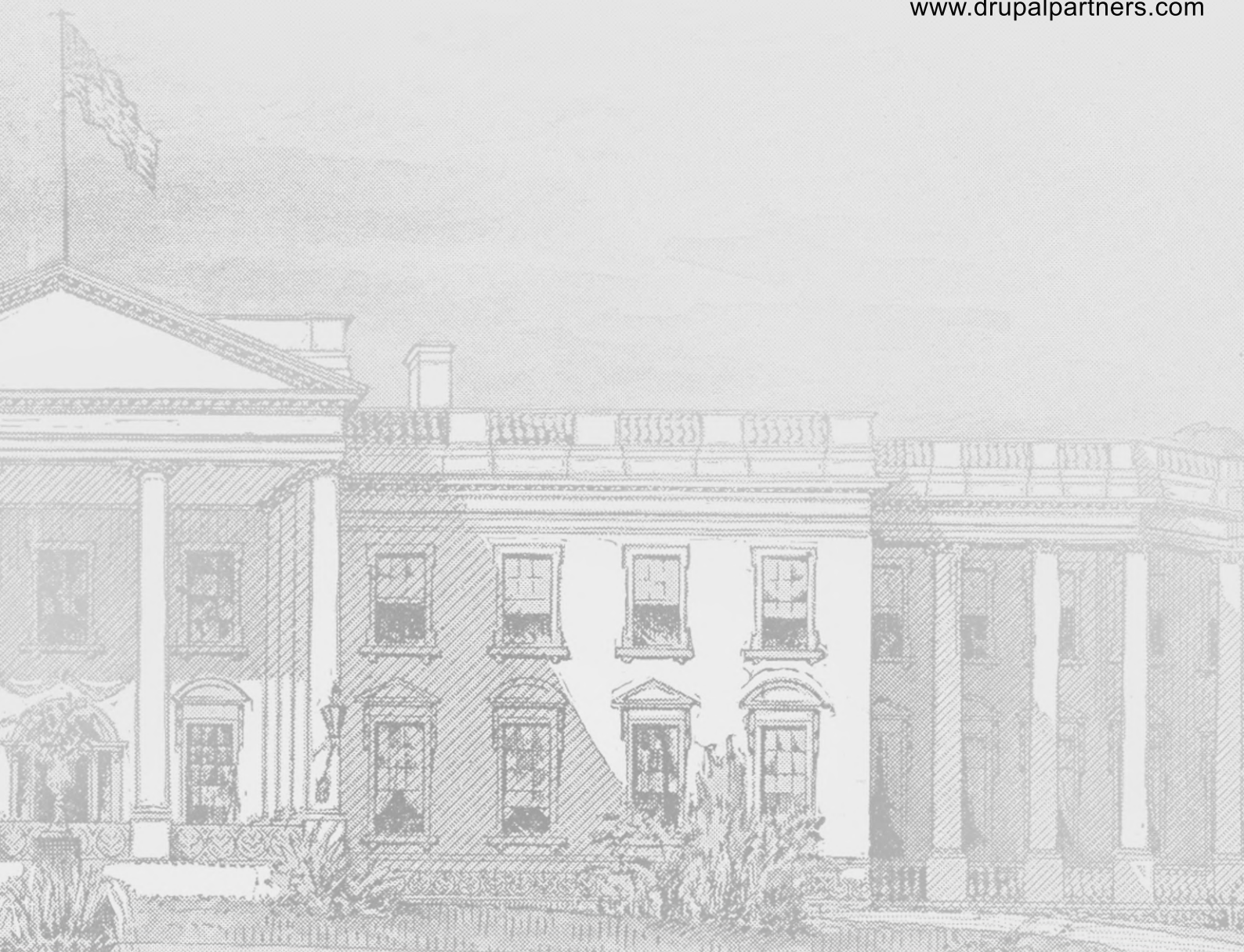


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