Annex B Reform

Mark S. Miller
tc39 June 2019

Annex B Intro

The ECMAScript language syntax and semantics defined in this annex are **required when the ECMAScript host is a web browser**. The content of this annex is **normative but optional** if the ECMAScript host is not a web browser.

NOTE
This annex describes various legacy features and other characteristics of web browser based ECMAScript implementations. All of the language features and behaviours specified in this annex have one or more undesirable characteristics and **in the absence of legacy usage would be removed from this specification**. However, the usage of these features by large numbers of existing web pages means that **web browsers must continue to support them**. The specifications in this annex define the requirements for interoperable implementations of these legacy features.

These features are not considered part of the core ECMAScript language. Programmers should **not use or assume** the existence of these features and behaviours when writing **new ECMAScript code**. ECMAScript **implementations are discouraged** from implementing these features unless the implementation is part of a web browser or is required to run the same legacy ECMAScript code that web browsers encounter.

JS Safety
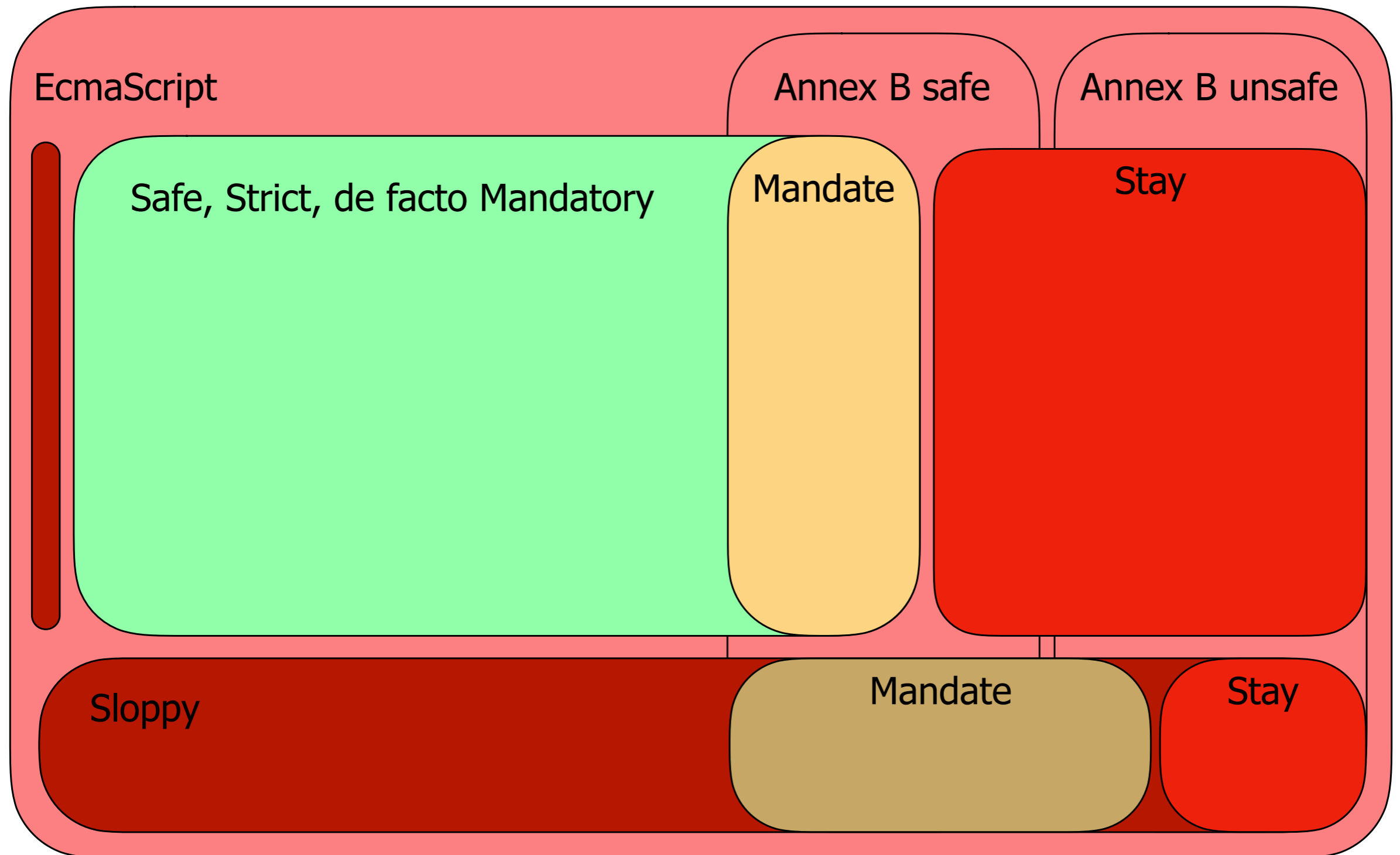
EcmaScript

Safe, Strict, de facto Mandatory

Mandate

Annex B safe
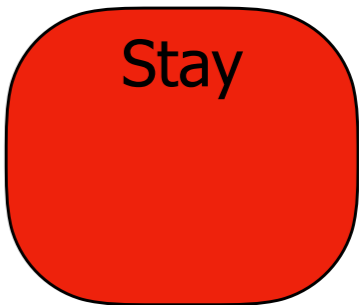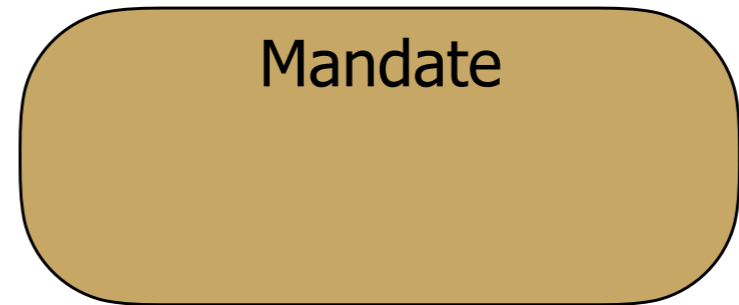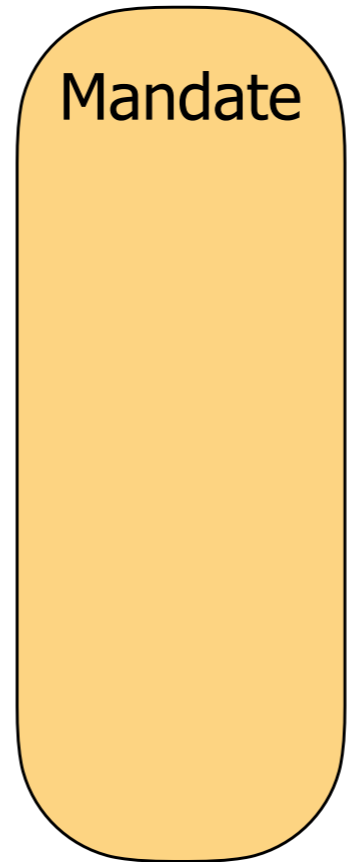
Stay

Annex B unsafe

Sloppy

Mandate

Stay

Mandate

Stay

Mandate

Stay

Mandate

escape
unescape

RegExp BMP,U(??)

__proto__   {__proto__: …}
__defineGetter__
…
__lookupSetter__

String.prototype.*
Date.prototype.*

Stay

RegExp.prototype.compile
RegExp.*
Error.prototype.stack
document.all
WeakRef.prototype.constructor(??)

for (var x=y in…)
catch (x) {var x;…} //???

HTML-like comments(!!)
<!−, −>

Mandate

Octal, "\octal"
label: function…
{function…}
if () function…

Stay

Possibly
.caller
.callee
.arguments

Mandate

escape
unescape

__proto__
__defineGetter__
…
__lookupSetter__

String.prototype.*
Date.prototype.*

RegExp BMP.U(??)

> substr
> anchor… // html stuff
> trimLeft, trimRight

HTML-like comments(!!)
<!—, —>

Stay

RegExp.prototype.compile
RegExp.*
Error.prototype.stack
~~ment.all
~~ef.prototype.constructor(??)

(var x=y in…)
catch (x) {var x;…} //???

Mandate

Octal, "\octal"
label: function…
{function…}
if () function…

Stay

Possibly
.caller
.callee
.arguments

Mandate

escape
unescape

__proto__
__defineGetter__
…
__lookupSetter__

String.prototype.*
Date.prototype.*

RegExp BMP,U(??)

getYear, setYear
toGMTString

HTML-like comments(!!)
<!—, —>

Stay

RegExp.prototype.compile
RegExp.*
Error.prototype.stack
document.all
...kRef.prototype.constructor(??)

...ar x=y in…)
...tch (x) {var x;…} //???

Mandate

Octal, "\octal"
label: function…
{function…}
if () function…

Stay

Possibly
.caller
.callee
.arguments

Mandate

escape
unescape

RegExp BMP,U(??)

__proto__   {__proto__: …}
__defineGetter__
…
__lookupSetter__

String.prototype.*
Date.prototype.*

HTML-like comments(!!)
<!−, −>

Stay

RegExp.prototype.compile
RegExp.*
Error.prototype.stack
document.all
WeakRef.r

for (var x=y
catch (x) {var x,

$1,… // match debris

Mandate

Octal, "\octal"
label: function…
{function…}
if () function…

Stay

Possibly
.caller
.callee
.arguments

Mandate

escape
unescape

__proto__   {__proto__: …}
__defineGetter__
…
__lookupSetter__

String.prototype.*
Date.prototype.*

RegExp BMP,U(??)

Stay

RegExp.prototype.compile
RegExp.*
Error.prototype.stack
document.all
WeakRef.prototype.constructor(??)

for (var x=y in…)
catch (x) {var x;…} //???

HTML-like comments(!!)
<!—, —>

Mandate

Octal, "\octal"
label: function…
{function…}
if () function…

Stay

Possibly
.caller
.callee
.arguments