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HEAD OF .IT REGISTRY

Domenico Laforenza

The first 4 months of the year

Francesca Nicolini

Figures, events and news about the .it world. Here's the report of Registro activities of the first four months of 2019

.it is the common thread: 2019 has positively registered a stable growth and an increase in new registrations more than 32 thousand new names.

It is a fact that Northern and Central Regions have registered more names and that natural persons and businesses excel in allocations. VAT identification numbers amount to 3 million euros in Italy and there might be further increases in registered Italian domain online. This is the aim of the communication campaign launched by Registro; different Italian cities (Udine and Ercolano) have hosted Registro roadshow, aimed at promoting the web and its virtual opportunities to businesses and self-employed professionals.

Businesses remain the focus of requests for objections, which, in the first 4 months of 2019, amount to 86% of the total requests, mostly in terms of violation of distinctive marks.

Besides businesses and brands, training was provided by Ludoteca for children and teenagers during the international event "Safer Internet Day"; in addition to this, lectures and meetings were held in primary and secondary schools to promote the correct use of Internet and explain its challenges and opportunities among young people.

In this connection, Registro has also presented its second graphic novel from the series "Nabbo e Linda a Internetopoli" (Nabbo and Linda in Internetopolis), with the illustrations of Gabriele Peddes, whose main character lives in a symbolic "Web City" and fights against dangerous IT viruses.

After the success of the first comic book published by Registro, the new story was

presented in March, with an exhibition of the original drawings and sketches held in Bologna.

Last but not least, two important innovations were implemented: on the one hand, the new 2019-2022 Registro/Registrar Agreement was introduced, while on the other hand, new technical guidelines entered into force in May 2.

Enjoy!



Meeting Registro/Registrars: Patrizio Roversi and the digital campaign

Stefania Fabbri

The annual meeting, held in Pisa on the 5th of April, set the chance to officially present “Digitali per caso” (Digital by chance), the web-series created by Registro .it to encourage Italian businesses towards the innovation and internationalization of their market through digital technologies.

The series, directed by Patrizio Roversi with his unique style, is based on a trip in Italy from North to South, to meet 10 Italian companies that were able to seize the web opportunities to create or change their business thanks to their “.it” name.

During the meeting, Patrizio Roversi has presented the Web-series “Digitali per caso” and its main characters: Italian entrepreneurs with different backgrounds and businesses – from fish to car spare parts, from pharmaceuticals to handmade masks, just to name a few. Roversi has explained how, thanks to a “proper” online presence, these entrepreneurs succeeded in making their businesses grow and in promoting ideas, talents, traditional products and regional areas.

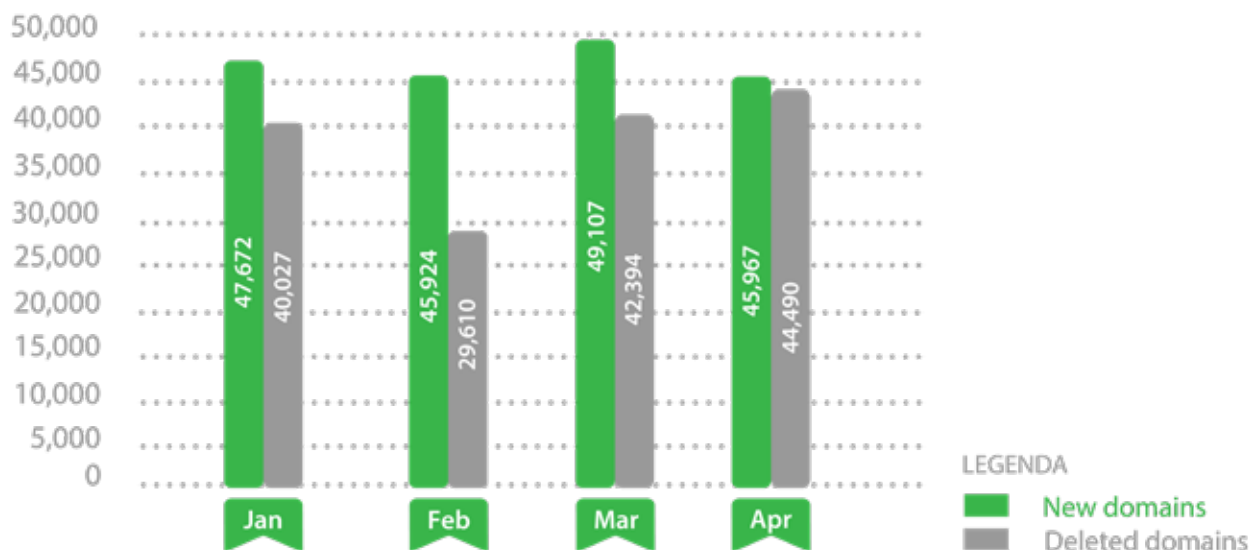
In his interview with the WebTV of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), Patrizio Roversi has defined the digital as a “real revolution” that might even cause “Nembo Kid syndrome”. If you want to know more about this mysterious syndrome and this director’s ideas, you can watch the full interview [online](#).

The first five episodes of “Digitali per caso” are available online on the website of [Registro](#).



Gianluca Diegoli, Anna Vaccarelli, Ilaria Galli and Patrizio Roversi

STATISTICS



GROWTH OF NEW REGISTRATIONS

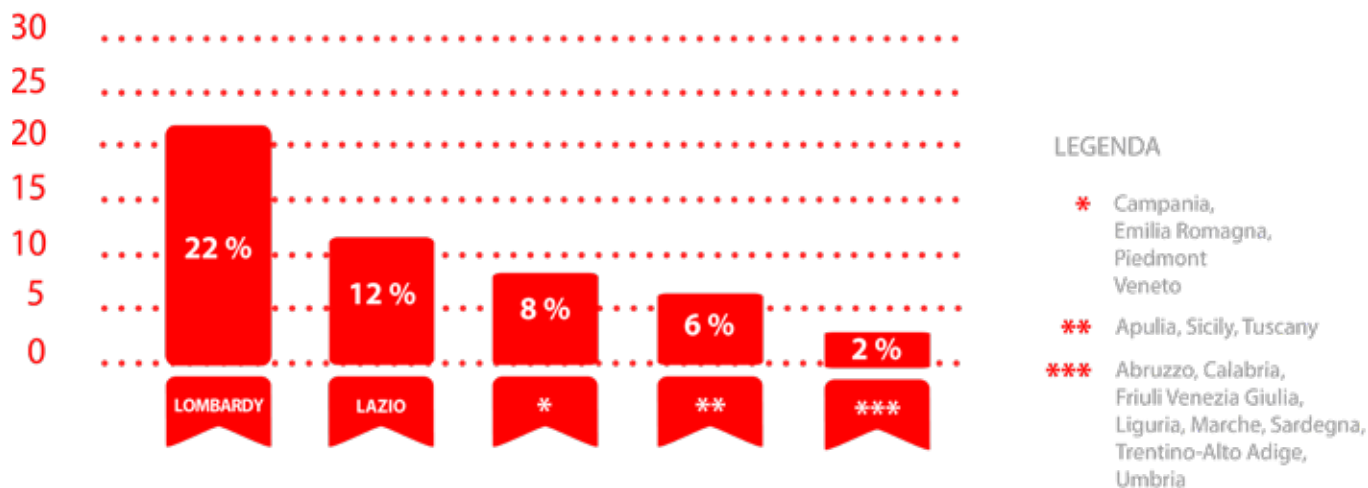
During the four first months of 2019, as in the previous ones, the amount of new registrations of domains exceeded the amount of cancellations. Therefore, the amount of the new registrations of domains exceeded that of the cancellations by 32 thousand. The significant gap between the new registrations and the cancellations in February (about 16 thousand domains) is noteworthy and it is mainly linked to the important decrease in the number of cancellations, if compared to other months.



ANNUAL GROWTH

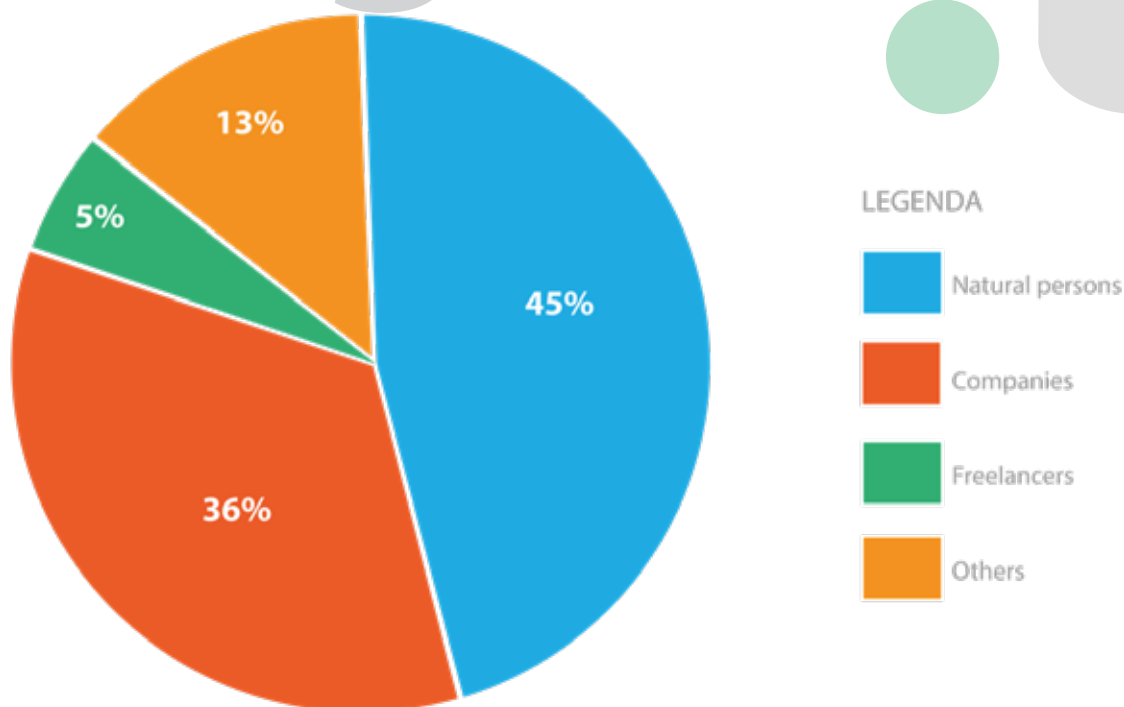
The overall amount of .it domains in the four first months of the year has reached 3,198,295, contributing to the increase in the amount of domains by 1.02% (32,148 domains), if compared to the previous year. This trend is in line with the one that was reported during the four first months of 2018.

STATISTICS



TOP REGIONS

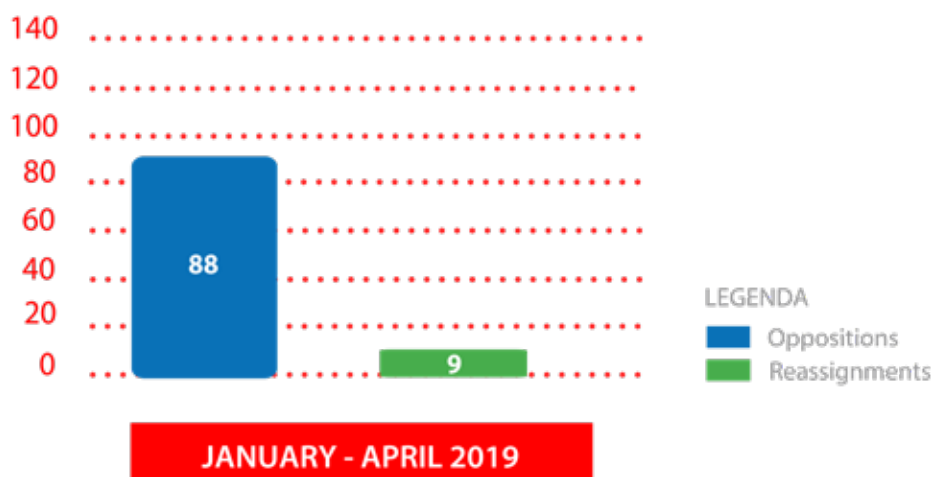
As for the regions, during the four first months, once again Lombardy reported the highest amount of new registrations, reaching 22%, followed by Lazio that reached 12%. Along with Northern regions, a Southern region, Campania, ranked third, reaching 8%



ENTITY TYPES

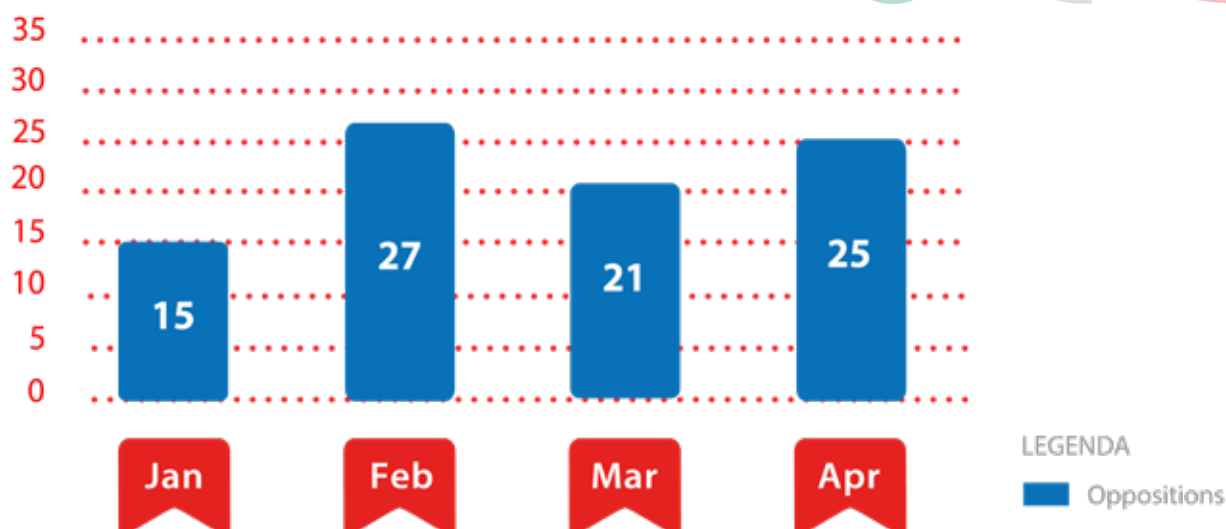
If compared to the four last months of 2018, the percentage of new registrations made by individuals increased with respect to other categories. For the four first months of 2019, indeed, individuals reached 45% of new domains. Companies follow reaching 36%

STATISTICS



OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT RATIO

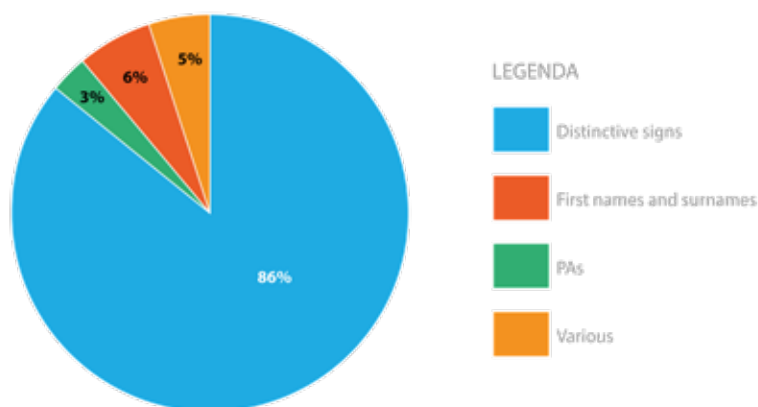
During the four first months of 2019, the opposition proceedings were 88 and the reassignments were 9. Of these 9 proceedings, 3 involved assignees or opponents owning an Italian citizenship or residency. 3 more proceedings were brought by Italian citizens against foreign assignees. Finally, 2 proceedings, one of which concerned 2 domain names assigned to the same person, were filed by non-Italian companies at the Dispute Resolving Service (DRS)



TREND OF OPPOSITIONS

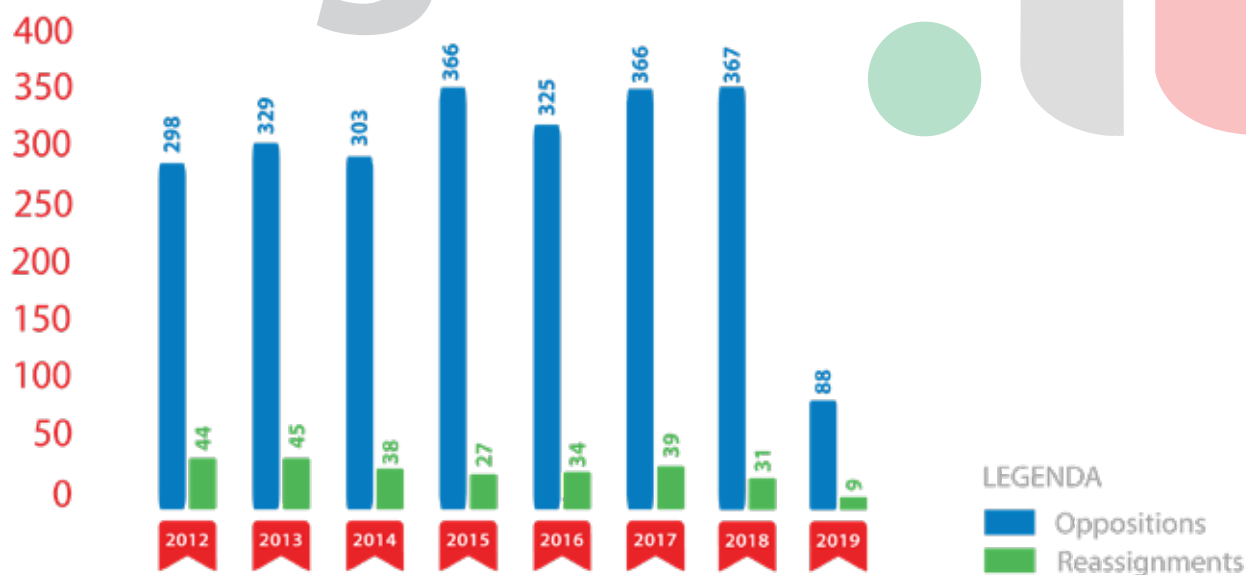
The graph indicates a variable trend of the number of oppositions. The monthly average is 22. 69 oppositions were brought against the violation of the distinctive signs of a company (firm, brand and signs), 14 concerned the violation of the right to name and/or surname and only in one case the applicant was a public institution. The remaining four are varied in nature

STATISTICS



REASONS FOR OPPOSITIONS

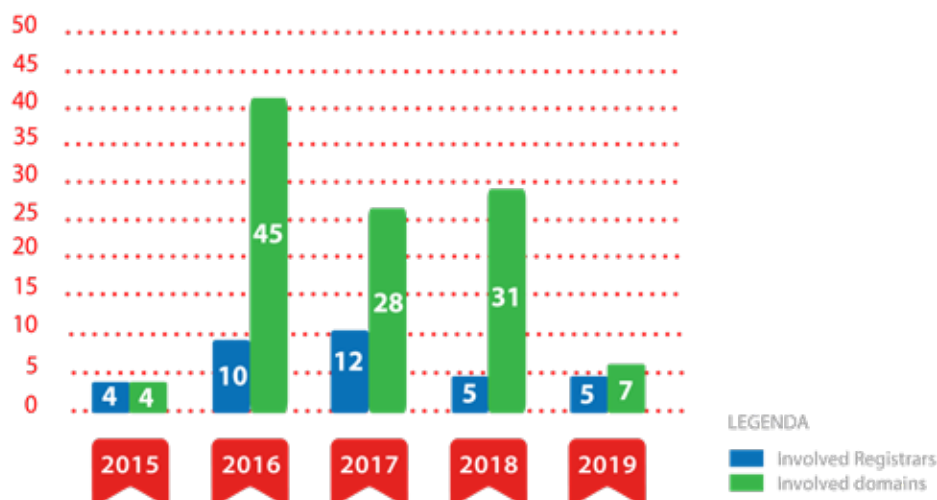
86% of the oppositions were filed because the opponent claimed the violation of the distinctive signs of the company. 6% of the requests concerned the protection of names and surnames. The remaining 8% is thus constituted: 5% due to various reasons and 3% due to public administrations



OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT TREND

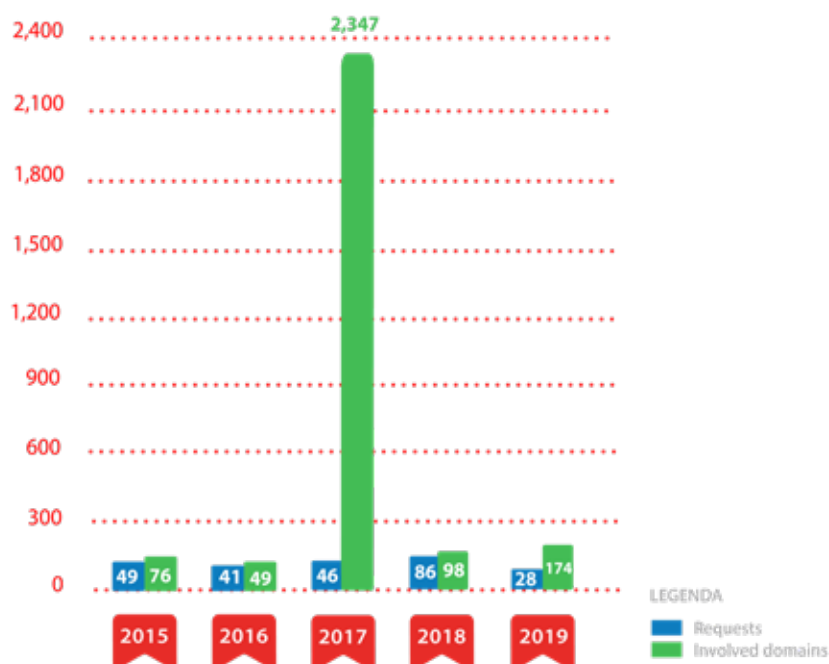
One to ten is approximately the ratio existing between the amount of domains subject to opposition proceedings and the amount of those who have decided to use the Dispute Resolving Service to settle the dispute. 5 proceedings have seen the assignment of the domain name to the opponent or complainant; 2 proceedings were rejected, so the domain name remained to the registrant; one proceeding was lapsed by the Board and another one pending the Board's opinion

STATISTICS



AUTHINFO REQUESTS

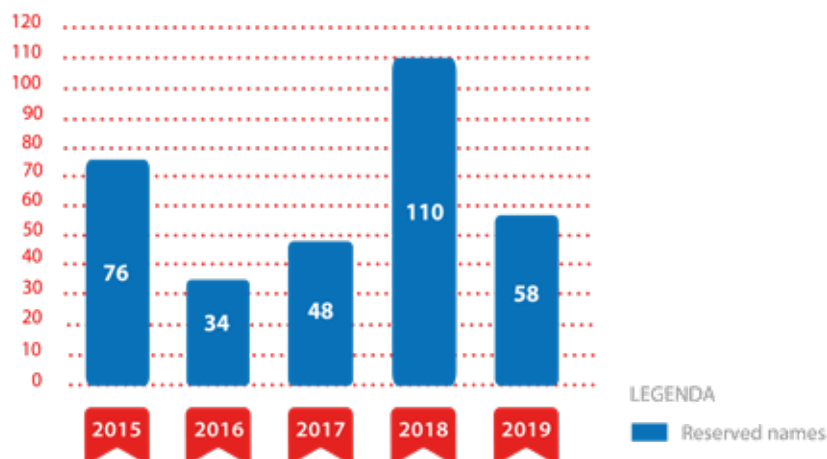
The statistics related to the release of AuthInfo codes from the Registro to the Registrants who have not received an answer from the domain name registrar continue to be negligible. This lack of response is mainly due to difficult issues that the domain name registrar sometimes has to face when interrupting and ceasing a contract. On the contrary, the amount of messages bemoaning on the difficulty to find the AuthInfo code is higher. The same applies to the amount of messages that report a positive outcome deriving from our interaction with the domain name registrar, as envisaged by the Registro-Registrar contract obligations



REQUESTS FROM COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

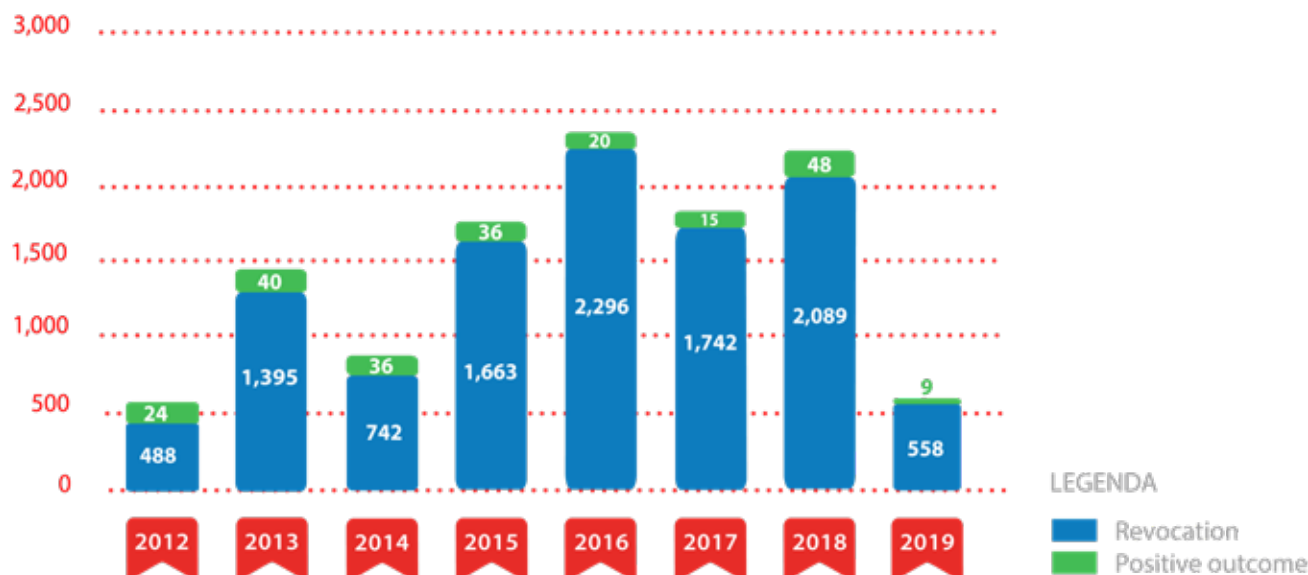
The first months of 2019 have confirmed the trend of the previous year concerning the number of information requests by the competent authorities (Police, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza, etc.) on the assignees and the operation which have involved the .it domain names. On the contrary, the .it names involved are increasing. The peak of .it domain names occurred in 2017 was analysed by the competent authorities and was determined in a single request involving 2200 names

STATISTICS



RESERVED NAMES

The amount of requests for reserved domains which can only be granted to Regions, Provinces and Municipalities is noteworthy. These requests come mainly from the Municipalities that have also been merged or incorporated



VERIFICATION OF DOMAINS BY THE REGISTRO

It is still important and meaningful to analyse the amount of .it names, which have been undergoing the verifications of the subjective requirements during the last four years, mainly at the request of third parties. The unquestionable statistics say that almost all the verifications finish with the revocation of the domain name, as the Registrant cannot provide for the essential documents to prove the veracity of his/her identification data provided in the database when registering. The overwhelming majority of the names subject to verifications belongs to foreign Registrants

'Piccole Medie Digitali', the roadshow's next stage is 'tasty'

Chiara Spinelli

Sold out for the two 'tasty' events of the roadshow organised by Registro .it 'Piccole Medie Digitali': one in Udine, on the 14th of February, focused on wine, and another in Ercolano, on the 7th of May, dedicated to the food supply chain. We have talked about the universe of domain names and the importance of using the .it as a business card for the Italian trademark on the online global market to an audience of small entrepreneurs, communication specialists and curious people.



Registro Roadshow Udine, Mateja Gravner



Registro Roadshow Udine, Giampaolo Colletti

As usual, light was shed on digital marketing training, contents, e-commerce and social networks, with insights dedicated to the online promotion of wineries and local marketing strategies for restaurant owners. Furthermore, we presented successful stories of .it businesses and contributions from our Registrars, who have taken the floor by telling their business stories and the 'digital recipes' for their customers.

The next stop of the roadshow will be in Rome on the 6th of June, while the last two events will take place in Autumn in Modena and Erba.





Registro Roadshow Ercolano



Registro Roadshow Ercolano

The numbers of the Ludoteca

edited by **Beatrice Lami**

16th, 24th and 25th January - Project Let's Bit! – Lesson to the students of ITIS "G. Marconi" in Pontedera (PI) with the participation of 20 students

7th February - Cybersecurity seminars to 93 students of "Gragnani" lower secondary school in Torre del Lago (LU).

8th February - Cybersecurity seminars to 94 students of "Tomei" primary school in Torre del Lago (LU).

16th February - Cybersecurity seminars to 62 students of "Puccini" primary school in Torre del Lago (LU).

22nd March - Cybersecurity seminar to 40 students of "Mandela" primary school in Buti (PI).

25th March - Cybersecurity seminar to 129 students of different primary schools ("Gereschi", "De Santis" and "Oberdan" from Pisa; "Filzi" from Madonna dell'Acqua (PI); "Battisti" from Arena Metato (PI)), held in collaboration with the students of Liceo "Buonarroti" in Pisa.

2nd, 9th and 11th April - Seminars on Web opportunities at Liceo Artistico "Russoli" in Pisa with the participation of 60 students

29th April - Cybersecurity Seminar to 35 students of "Quasimodo" school in Calambrone as part of Solidarity Day Nicola Ciardelli

At the Safer Internet Day with Ludoteca

Giorgia Bassi

In this school year, Ludoteca of Registro .it has launched new laboratories on IT security, which have seen the participation of about 800 students.

Same topic was discussed at the Safer Internet Day, an international event held in Milan on the 5th of February, organized in partnership with the European Community and aimed at promoting the safer use of internet and new technologies, especially among children and young people from all over the world.

Ludoteca has contributed to the event with a workshop entitled "Web tools and IT security".



MINISTERO DELL'ISTRUZIONE,
DELL'UNIVERSITA' E DELLA RICERCA



Governo Italiano

Aggravamento per la salute della famiglia

"Young people on the Web: a futuristic place or a land of real opportunities?"

Giorgia Bassi

In April, the experts of Ludoteca have met the students of Liceo artistico "F. Russoli" of Pisa, during a series of seminars dedicated to Internet opportunities and dangers. During the seminar entitled "Young people on the Web: a futuristic place or a land of real opportunities?" the following topics have been presented: history of the Internet, domain names and Registro .it, social media, fake news, smart city, Internet of Things, Big Data. Moreover, given the specific artistic interest of the students involved, an additional focus was made on the relationship between Internet and the world of art.

Registro comic is the star in Bologna, with an exhibition and the last book

Stefania Fabbri

From the 4th to 17th of March, the covered square Salaborsa in Bologna has hosted the exhibition 'Nabbo e Linda a Internetopoli (Nabbo and Linda in Internetopolis) – Comics and graphics by Gabriele Peddes for the digital citizenship'.

The colourful sketches, drawings and cards depicting the amazing city of Internetopoli and its citizens were on show at the opening of the event on the 5th of March. The book is based on a story written by the students of class I C of the Istituto Comprensivo "Sandro Pertini" in Lajatico (PI), who won the competition ".itContest" launched for the 30th Anniversary of the first .it domain.



Domenico Laforenza (Director of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR) Institute of Informatics and Telematics of Pisa), Mirko Degli Esposti (Vice-Chancellor of UniBo), Andrea Plazzi (translator, writer and editor), Giovanni Eccher (scriptwriter), Gabriele Peddes (cartoonist) and Diego Caielli (writer, cartoonist and scriptwriter) have explained how the comic and sign language can help making difficult concepts easier.

Registro, in fact, has launched a collaboration with the magazine "Comic&Science", published by the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), to support a funny, easy and attractive way to spread the Internet culture, especially, among new generations.

The exhibition was also a chance for the launch of Gabriele Peddes and Giovanni Eccher latest comic entitled 'Nabbovaldo contro i pc zombi' (Nabbovaldo versus the zombie PCs); the story is set in the symbolic "Web City", where malwares – terrible IT viruses - threaten the main characters: a failure to update an antivirus and a film illegally watched on streaming bring chaos in the quiet town.

The comics and videos of the opening event are available online on the website of [Registro](#).





The new contract Registro/Registrars

Valentina Amenta

The agreement of Registrar 2019-2022 is included in the following legal framework:

- Subscription Agreement under art. 1341 of the Civil Code, and indeed, unfair clauses must be specifically approved in written under art. 1341, paragraph 2 of the Civil Code.
- Agreement by correspondence: it should be noted that, if no specific form is provided by law, the agreement may be concluded also by correspondence. In fact, according to the Supreme Cassation Court (see Decision 26 July 2018, no. 19799) the agreement concluded by correspondence differs from the non-authenticated private agreement because, in the latter, there is only one document in which the intentions of the contracting parties and their signature are formalized, while, in case of correspondence, each document includes the unilateral intention of only one of the contracting party. Therefore, the agreement by correspondence requires two separate letters, a proposal and an acceptance

letter respectively, without the need of including the intentions and signature of the contracting parties in the same document (see Decision of the Supreme Court of Cassation no. 30179/2017). This kind of agreement performance can also refer to public entities and public administrations when the latter act in iure privatorum (as for the previous agreements). In this hypothesis the agreement is concluded in the place and time in which the proponent (in this case IIT – Registro .it) is aware of the acceptance on behalf of the other contracting party, in compliance with the general regulations for the performance of the agreement (art. 1326 of the Civil Code).

The contract is considered as concluded when the proponent communicates the proposal to the other contracting party and, the latter, accepts the proposal; the contract is considered as concluded after the terms of the proposal and the acceptance of such terms on behalf of the other contracting party are completely re-written. Basically, a double, autonomous and identical document is necessary. The different rights and obligations of the contracting parties result from a meeting of wills of the contracting parties, namely from the conclusion of the contract, or from the exchange of the two unilateral deeds.

The contract thus identified makes the conclusion of the agreement between IIT - Registro .it and the Registrars quicker, easier, timelier and more pragmatic. In fact, since it is written as an offer to the public, and since it contains identical contractual terms for all the Registrars, the proposal is necessarily unequivocal, a uniqueness also deriving from digital signatures and protocol code numbers.

The new Registrar 2019-2022 contract contains the following innovations:

1. Two addendums drafted in 2018 have been included in the contract, one concerning the European Regulation 679/2016 and the other concerning the Registration of domain names in the SDL edu.it, respectively.
2. Multiple registration of domain names was inserted.
3. Invoicing: introduction of electronic invoicing, elimination of invoices with amounts equal to zero.
4. Introduction of the logo “edu.it” in Annex A of the contract for the Acknowledgement of Ownership and Qualities of the ccTLD .it and SDL edu .it logos.

Technical guidelines: here's the new provisions in force from the 2nd of May

Maurizio Martinelli and Sonia Prignoli

ConsentForPublishing

Starting from the 2nd of May last, only Registrants of natural persons and the technical and administrative contacts, referenced by a domain name, are entitled to give express consent for the publication and dissemination of their data on the Internet. Consent may be given by using the field ConsentForPublishing and data may be displayed via Whois service.

Starting from the 2nd of May, Registrants other than a "natural person", namely legal entities, are not entitled to hide their data and, consequently, the ConsentForPublishing can assume only the value "true/1".

Such change does not affect the "legal entities" Registrants referenced by domain names registered before the 2nd of May, for which the value of the ConsentForPublishing does not change. The Registrar can only carry out the operations of "simple change" to such Registrants, these operations include, for example, phone number, e-mail address, or the ConsentForPublishing (in this case, the value can only switch from "false/0" to "true/1" and not vice versa).

In addition to this, "legal entities" Registrants registered before the 2nd of May with a ConsentForPublishing value set to "false/0", cannot be referenced in the registration of new domain names and they cannot be used in operations involving a change of the Registrant.

Another provision involves the transfer of domain name between two Registrars: when a domain name is assigned to a legal entity with ConsentForPublishing field set to “false/0”, the automatic “duplication” of contacts, carried out by the system, sets to “true/1” the ConsentForPublishing of the Registrant.

This is the main innovation introduced by the Technical Guidelines v. 2.5, in compliance with the new EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on the protection of individuals, with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

New Form and Written Document of registration

The changes introduced in the ConsentForPublishing also implied a review of the disclosure contained in the “Registration Form”, that the Registrar must prepare to acquire the Registrant’s data and to obtain the explicit acceptance, of the Registrant, of any declaration of assumption of responsibility relating to domain names registration.

The new Technical Guidelines now involve two versions of the “Registration Form”, depending on whether the Registrant is a natural person or a legal entity.

The changes of the “Registration Form” are also reflected in the “Written Document of Registration”, that Registrars must send to the Registry in case of random checks, at any time the Registry deems it necessary or urgent, and in all cases provided for by the “Rules and Regulation of assignment and management of domain names in the ccTld .it”.

The new Technical Guidelines, in fact, involve two different versions of the “Written Document of Registration” depending on whether the Registrant is a natural person or a legal entity.

Drop time

Another new provision introduced by the new Technical Guidelines v. 2.5 applies to the Drop Time process, which enables the cancellation of domain names at scheduled times. From the 2nd of May, the domain names that will be cancelled in the next two days can be displayed.

Password length

From the 2nd of May, the minimum length allowed for the Registrar’s password changed from 6 to 8 characters. The maximum length remained unchanged with 16 characters.

New “EPP Group”

Another technological innovation applies to the [Rain-NG Portal](#) reserved for accredited Registrars. For several years Registro .it has considered the possibility to create Users, belonging to specific groups, to provide for different “views” of the portal and, consequently, to provide for different information and operations by type of user. Belonging to a particular group gives the user specific authorisations and functions. The innovation introduced on the 2nd of May involves the chance, for the Registrar, to create users belonging to a new group, the “EPP group”. The users associated with this group can access the EPP Server and use the main functions of the domain names.

Centr General Assembly appointed two new members for the Board of Director

Gino Silvatici

On the 22nd of March 2019, during the 61st Centr General Assembly in Bordeaux, two new members of the Board of Directors have been appointed: Hilde Thunem (Norid) and Danny Aerts (Internetstiftelsen). Aerts was appointed treasurer. The former members Danko Jevtović and Elisabeth Ekstrand were removed from the same office.

Centr's answer to the EU proposal on "e-Evidence"

Gino Silvatici

During the 61st General Assembly in Bordeaux, the members of Centr have approved a public comment on the EU proposal on electronic evidence in criminal matters (EU Rules on "e-Evidence"). The Rules on "e-Evidence" aim at ensuring a cross-border easy access to the electronic data stored by service providers, including Registrars and Registries. The members of Centr have raised concerns and asked the legislators to properly assess the impacts of such regulation on ccTld operators.

New gTld: actions, a way to solve contentions

Arianna Del Soldato and Adriana Lazzaroni

Among the different aspects of the next gTld round, one topic is especially discussed among the Icannc constituencies: the recourse to electronic auctions to solve gTld contentions.

The Icannc working group called “gTld Subsequent Procedures Working Group” (in charge of examining the 2012 gTld Programme to evaluate past experiences and propose potential changes in future procedures for the assignment of gTld) has interrogated the constituencies during a “public comment” period.

The group has especially asked the community whether the auctions of last resort may be considered an appropriate tool to solve contentions or not, whether rules must be set out to discourage the misuse of auctions to generate profits, and, lastly, some clarifications about the redistribution of the proceeds gained by Icannc from the awarded auctions.

Such requests basically arise from concerns, of the Internet community, about the speculative activities detected in many private auctions (the so called “gaming”), and from the need to have further clarifications on the use and retention of the auction proceeds on behalf of Icannc (which currently amount to 233.5 Million USD) resulted from gTld contentions.

The last messages sent from Icannc to Kobe, Japan, show that:

- The new gTld programme restates the recourse to public auctions as a tool of last resort to solve new gTld string contentions;
- The auction proceeds must be considered as a one-off and exceptional income;
- The amount of the auction income will be kept confidential until the Board of Icannc will authorise a specific plan for its proper use.



When, some years ago, Icann was asked about the proceeds resulted from gTld auctions, the BoD reassured the Internet community by saying that such income would have been limited, reported and solely used for the gTld programme, and that possible remaining funds would have been spent in favour of the Internet community. Clearly, things have gone differently, thus arising concerns and pressures of the Internet community for further clarifications.

DoH, a new protocol for the DNS resolution

Arianna Del Soldato and Adriana Lazzaroni

One of the new topics discussed in the last events of TechDay and Dnssec of Iann64 was the DoH (DNS over Https). The DoH establishes a specific protocol to perform the DNS resolution over the Https protocol. It is defined in the RFC 8484, which was taken as Standard Track by the IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force) in October 2018.

The protocol was implemented in order to increase the user privacy and security by preventing the DNS data from interception and manipulation caused by man-in-the-middle attacks. According to McManus, one of the Standard authors, the key factors that have led to the implementation of DoH are the assurance of integrity and confidentiality of the DNS requests; he has also stated that many recent cases of privacy invasion are caused by the fact that the DNS traffic is commonly at risk and that, although the DNSsec ensures the data integrity, such traffic can be intercepted by anybody, including the provider.

Among the issues connected to DoH, in fact, there are spoofing and tracking of the DNS requests, which aim at identifying the users on behalf of organisations and governments. The purpose is to beat those networks using the DNS to impose a certain policy on the "Network Traffic".

On the other hand, the same advantages connected to the privacy of users have been used by DoH opponents, thus creating a break in the Internet community. According to the opponents, DoH is a serious threat for Internet security, since it deprives network administrators of their chance to manage and defend the network from malwares and hackers. One of the staunchest opponents is Paul Vixie, DNS and Bind developer, who has repeatedly rejected the supporters' arguments and declared war on the Standard.

On which side do the users stand? Are they ready to accept the fact that Internet will be controlled by a limited number of corporations to ensure the privacy of every user? Such as Google, Mozilla (co-author of the Standard) and CloudFlare, which have started testing the

use of DoH. Or they will stand with those thinking that Internet should remain as it was at its creation, that is, a place in which everyone is equal and a network that must be able to get away from those who want to control it?

International appointments in the world of the Web

(section edited by Gian Mario Scanu)

Icann (<https://www.icann.org/>)

24-27 June, **Marrakech**, Morocco: Icann 65

Centr (<https://www.centr.org/>)

19-20 September, **Oslo**, Norway: 48th Centr Administrative workshop

24-25 September, **Spalato**, Croatia: 60th Centr Legal and Regulatory workshop

8 October, **Bruxelles**, Belgium: Centr Registrar Day

9 October, **Bruxelles**, Belgium: 62nd Centr General Assembly

10 October, **Bruxelles**, Belgium: Centr Leaders Meeting

Ietf (<https://www.ietf.org/>)

20-26 July, **Montreal**, Canada: 105 IETF Meeting

Other events

3-4 June, **London**, England: Cyberscience

11-14 June, **Tunis**, Tunisia: RightCon 2019

19-20 June, **The Hague**, Holland: EuroDIG