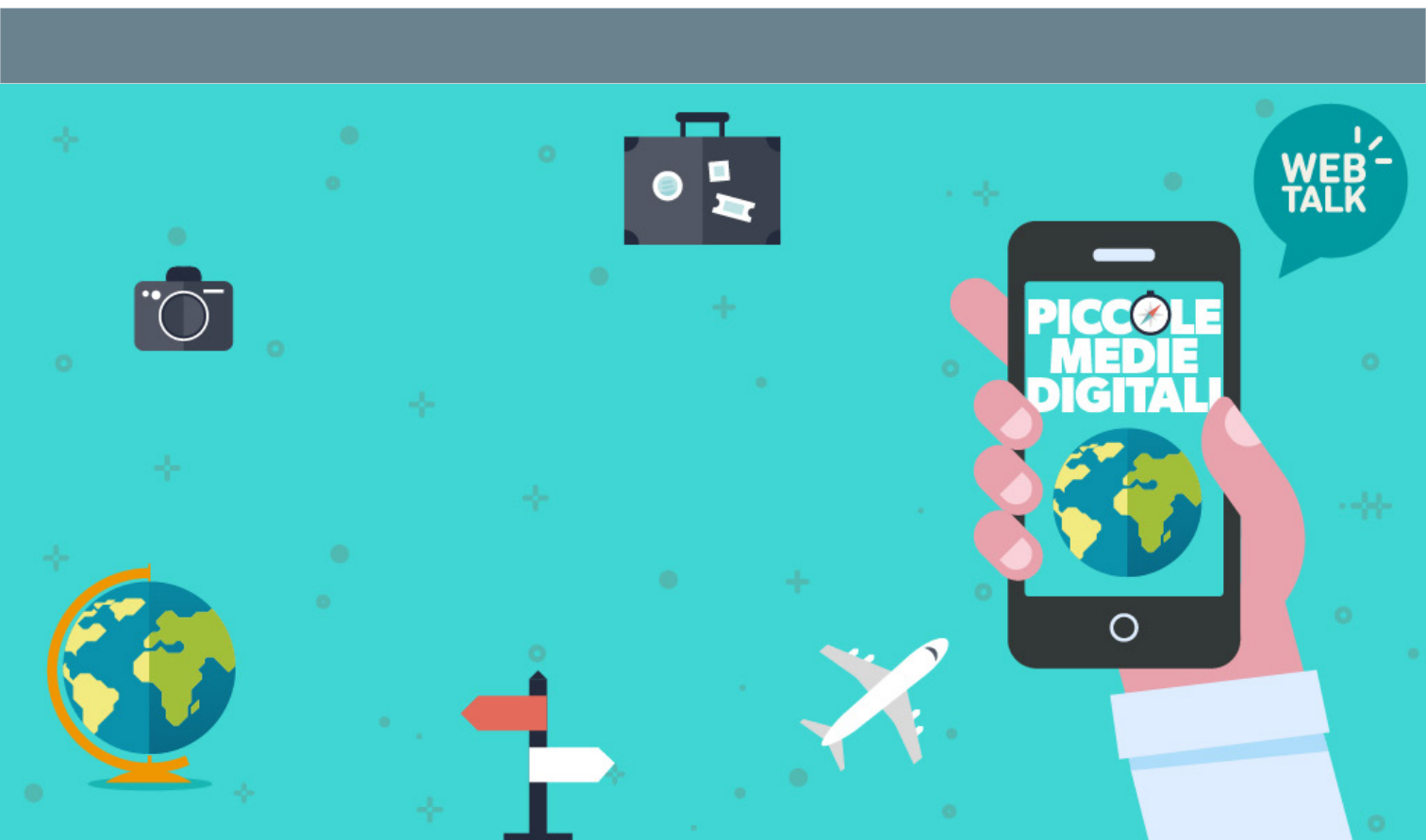


2 | duemila20

QUARTER ●



**3 QUARTER IN BRIEF**

- A summer to support Registrars, in the spirit of communication and new projects

**5 FIRST PAGE**

- Piccole Medie Digitali (PMD)  
Web Talk

**7 STATISTICS**

- Growth of new registrations
- Annual growth
- Top regions
- Entity types
- Reasons for opposition
- Opposition-reassignment ratio
- Trend of oppositions
- Opposition-reassignment trend
- Authinfo requests
- Requests from competent authorities
- Confidential names
- Verification of domains by the Registro

**13 .IT PARADE**

- Ten years of IF: Keyword: "reset" (on the Internet)
- The Ludoteca is in the Manifesto of Repubblica Digitale
- "Il linguaggio della ricerca". The Ludoteca contributes with Webinars on the Web
- Since September, the Registro has been operational again at CNR headquarters

**17 HIGHLIGHTS**

- Support for Registrars in pandemic time: reduction in registration costs and suspension of renewal fees
- Awarded the 2020/2022 competition for the new communication and marketing campaign of the Registro

**19 NEWS FROM ABROAD**

- A study conducted by the EC on phenomenon of "DNS Abuse"
- CENTR and the Digital Services Act (DSA)
- ICANN and the Digital Service Act of EU
- GNSO: guidelines for the registration of the new gTLDs

**24 EVENTS**

- Ican
- Ietf
- Centr
- Ripe

**EDITORIAL COORDINATOR**

Anna Vaccarelli

**EDITORIAL COMMITTEE**

Valentina Amenta, Maurizio Martinelli,  
Rita Rossi, Anna Vaccarelli,  
Daniele Vannozzi

**GRAPHICS AND PAGING**

Francesco Gianetti

**PHOTO CREDITS**

Francesco Gianetti, Chiara Spinelli

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

Francesca Nicolini (editing coordinator),  
Giorgia Bassi,  
Stefania Fabbri, Beatrice Lami,  
Gian Mario Scanu, Gino Silvatici,  
Chiara Spinelli

**PARTICIPANTS TO THIS ISSUE**

Arianna Del Soldato, Adriana Lazzaroni,  
Sonia Sbrana, Michela Serrecchia,  
Daniele Vannozzi

**DATA SOURCE**

Systems and technological development  
Unit

**DATA PROCESSING**

Lorenzo Luconi Trombacchi, Michela  
Serrecchia (Systems and  
technological development Unit)  
Luca Albertario, Daniele Pancrazi e Sonia  
Sbrana (Legal and Contractual Unit)  
Daniele Vannozzi (Registrar Operations  
and Services Unit)

**EDITED BY**

External Relations, Media, Communication  
and Marketing Unit Via G. Moruzzi, 1  
I-56124 Pisa  
tel. +39 050 313 98 11  
fax +39 050 315 27 13  
e-mail: [info@registro.it](mailto:info@registro.it)  
website: <http://www.registro.it/>

**HEAD OF REGISTRO .IT**

Marco Conti

# A Summer to support Registrars, in the spirit of communication and new projects

by **Francesca Nicolini**

*Lockdown and anti-Covid measures marked a difficult period of restrictions and sacrifices, cancelled events and delayed projects. But Registro has never stopped, staying by the side of the Registrars, in support of their activities*

During the first quarter of the year, the new .it names marked an important growth compared to the same period last year, a clear sign that many companies and freelancers have bet on digital during a critical time for national and world economy due to Covid-19 pandemic. During the second quarter, in order to support Registrars, their .it registration activities and the ICT sector, the Registro decided to make two historical choices: from mid-March to the end of June, renewal registrations fees were suspended; from July to December 2020, the fees for the registration of new domains were reduced from 4 (a fee confirmed by the Registro-Registrar contract) to 3 euros. These actions in favour of Registrars are a clear contribution to the Italian economic recovery and, namely, that of digital economy.

For the same reasons, during summer, support to Small and Medium Enterprises continued with the launch of the PMD online project, aimed at explaining the importance of digital and small tricks to be successful on the Internet, with the help of experts and effective tools to promote business.

At the same time, during summer, a tender for the creation of a communication and marketing campaign for the Registro .it was awarded; the aim of this campaign is to give continuity to the diffusion of .it and 'made in Italy', as well as to enhance digital culture and the importance of online presence, a 'window' on the world to widen the investment boundaries.

But Registro has not forgotten the projects linked to digital culture, the Web and .it in particular, entrusted to the laboratory of the Ludoteca, which became virtual in times of Covid-19 with tutorials and webinars, showing some important results, such as the adhesion to the Manifesto di Repubblica Digitale and the dissemination initiatives of the project "Il linguaggio della Ricerca" ("The language of Research"), created within the CNR Research Area of Bologna.

## QUARTER IN BRIEF

And the mission goes on with the Internet Festival 2020 edition, a very special edition between on-site and online events. To find out more, follow us on the Registro's website and on our social channels.

Enjoy reading!





# Piccole Medie Digitali (PMD) Web Talk

by **Stefania Fabbri**

*New online edition of PMD of the Registro .it, dedicated to SMEs and freelancers, to make Italian companies and professionals aware of digital opportunities and help them to start over*

The Registro .it project starts again to talk about the opportunities of the Web and the digital transformation for Italian micro, small and medium enterprises. The aim is to give the public the keys to understand and tackle digital transformation, promote business and competitiveness. Under the spotlight, as always, also the .it names, enhanced by marketing tools and strategies specifically designed for companies ranging from micro to medium size.

The new online marathon of 2020 edition will take place in several episodes, in each of which Gianluca Diegoli, marketing consultant and IULM lecturer, will converse with sector experts and entrepreneurs to understand what role digital can play in overcoming the current moment and relaunching its activity, also with the help of "practical" advice.

In the wake of the road show that has gone through the Country in [seven stages](#) over the last two years, each live show will be dedicated to a key sector of the Italian economy.

The first virtual stage of this tour was launched live on the Web on 15 July. Tourism and web were the topics of the episode in which Gianluca Diegoli spoke with Roberta Milano, tourism consultant and lecturer at the Catholic University, Silvia Salmeri, Founder and Designer of the digital tour operator "Destinazione Umana" and Francesco Tapinassi, scientific director of

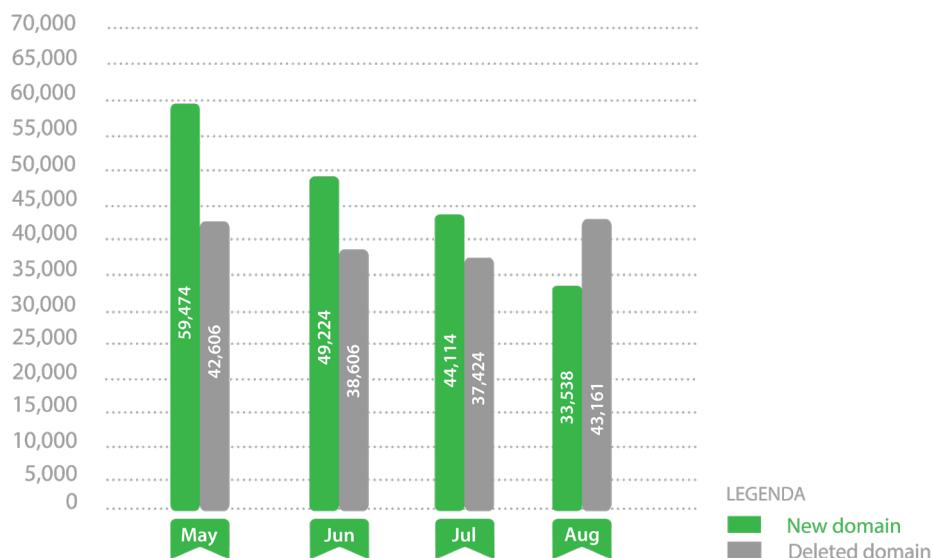
BTO (Buy Tourism Online).

During the interviews, the experts gave a lot of advice to make the best use of the tools provided by the Network for restarting the sector: centrality of the website for local tourism, use of social networks, new digital channels and much more.

You can watch the first episode of PMD online again at [www.nic.it](http://www.nic.it) or on the [Registro's Youtube](#) and [Facebook social pages](#).

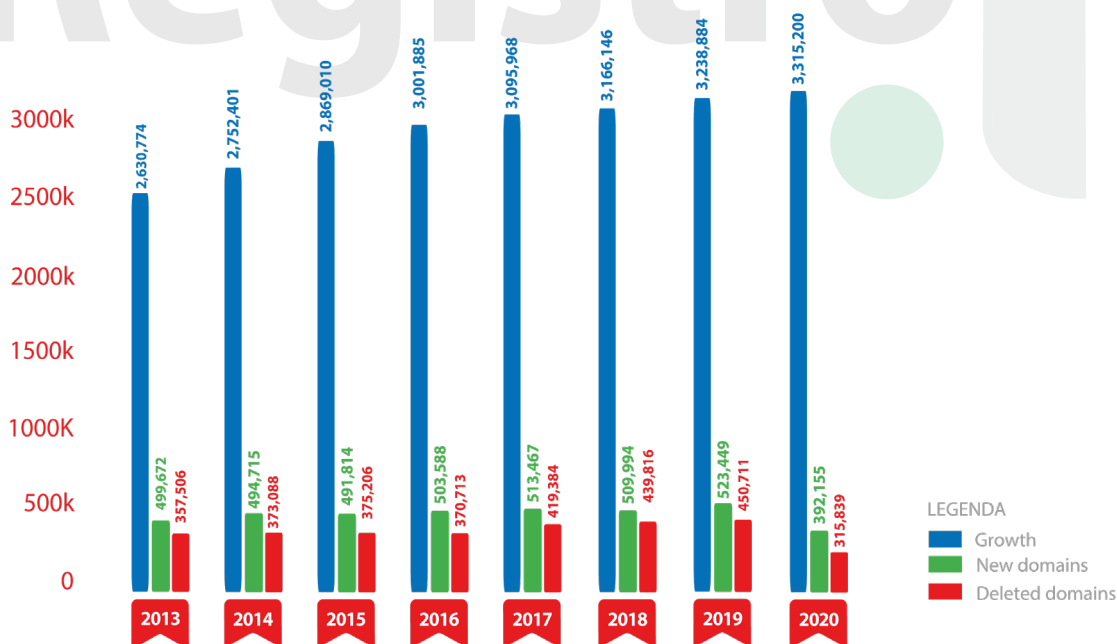
The new stages: on 23 September, food and restaurant and, on 9 October, fashion supply chain.

## STATISTICS



## GROWTH OF NEW REGISTRATIONS

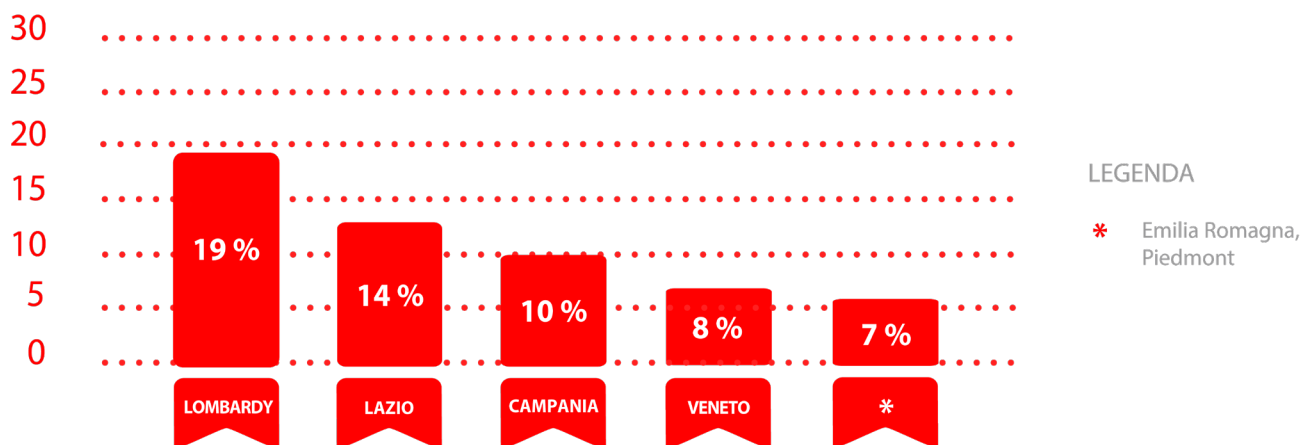
In general, the analysis of the performance of .it names registrations during the second quarter confirmed the increased performance of new registrations, as already occurred in the previous quarter. In May, new registrations increased significantly, while the number of cancellations remained almost stable, compared to May 2019: in this month, the difference between the number of new registrations and cancellations was approximately 17 thousand domains. However, it should be noted that, although in August cancellations considerably increased compared to new registrations, the number of new registrations net of cancellations in the second quarter is approximately 25 thousand domains, much higher than in the second quarter of last year.



## ANNUAL GROWTH

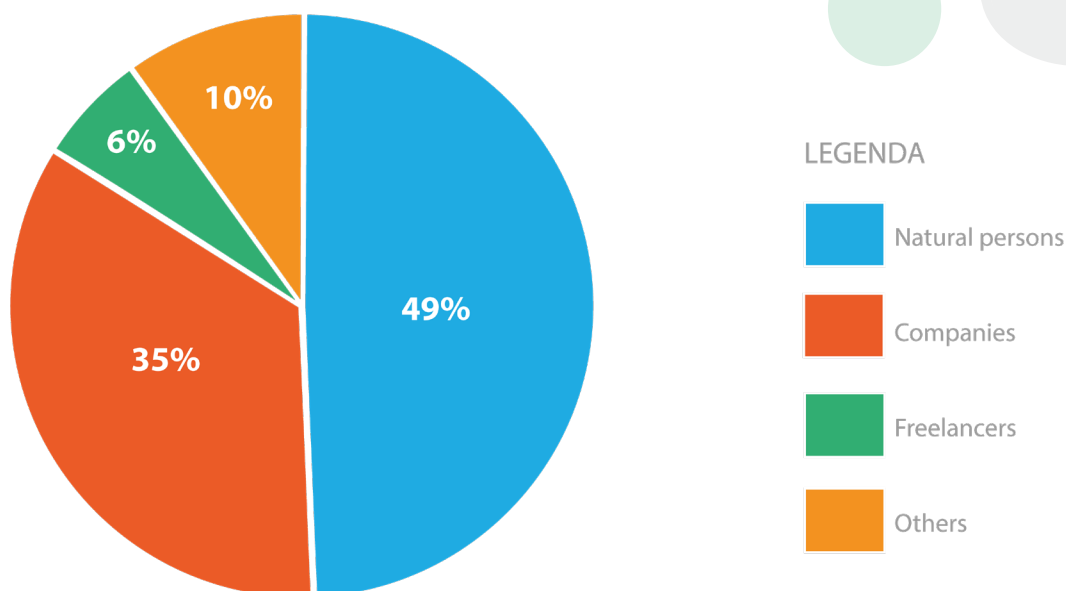
The total number of .it domain names registered at the end of the second quarter 2020 amounted to 3,315,200, with an increased growth by 2.36% (76,316 more domains) compared to the end of 2019. This trend shows a slightly higher growth rate compared to previous years.

## STATISTICS



### TOP REGIONS

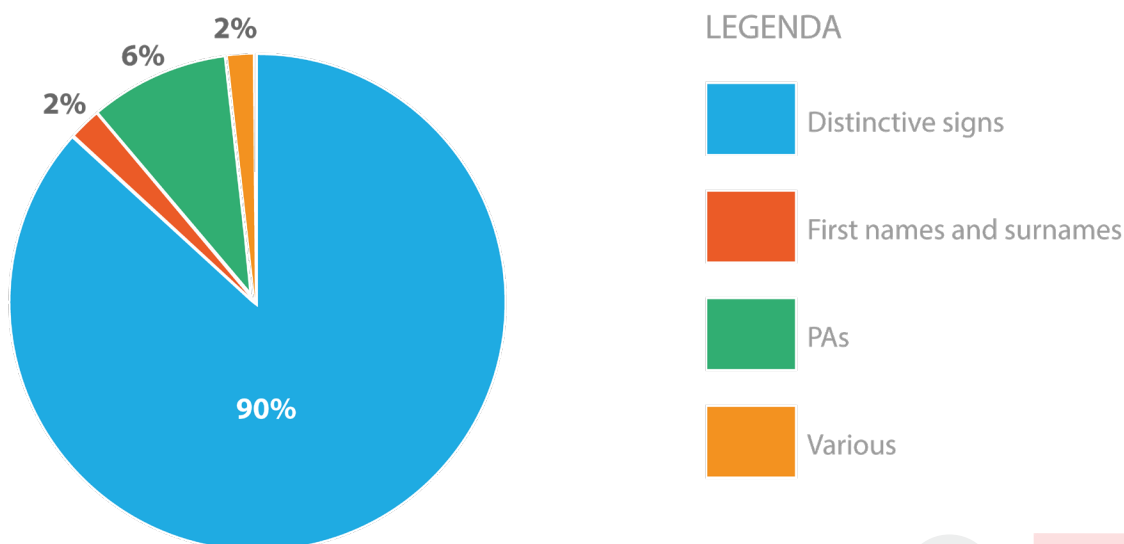
In the second quarter, Lombardy, despite losing one percentage point compared to the previous quarter, continued to hold the record for the registration of new domains. Lazio continued to take second place, with a percentage of 14%. The percentage of Campania, on the other hand, despite being in third position as in the previous quarter, increased by two points, thus moving away from Veneto, which holds an unaltered percentage equal to 8%. Emilia Romagna lost one percentage point and one position compared to the first quarter of the year.



### ENTITY TYPES

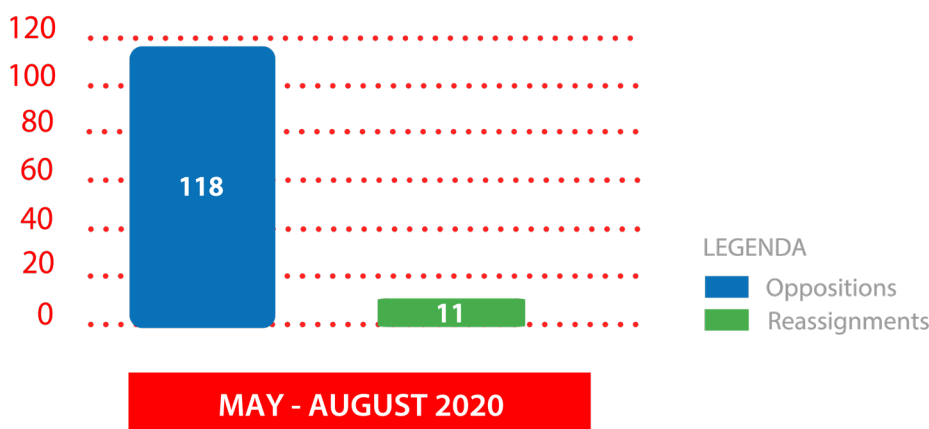
Individuals continue to register more new domains compared to the other categories; their percentage increased by one point compared to last four months, at the expenses of companies. The percentages of freelancers and other categories remained unchanged.

## STATISTICS



## REASONS FOR OPPOSITIONS

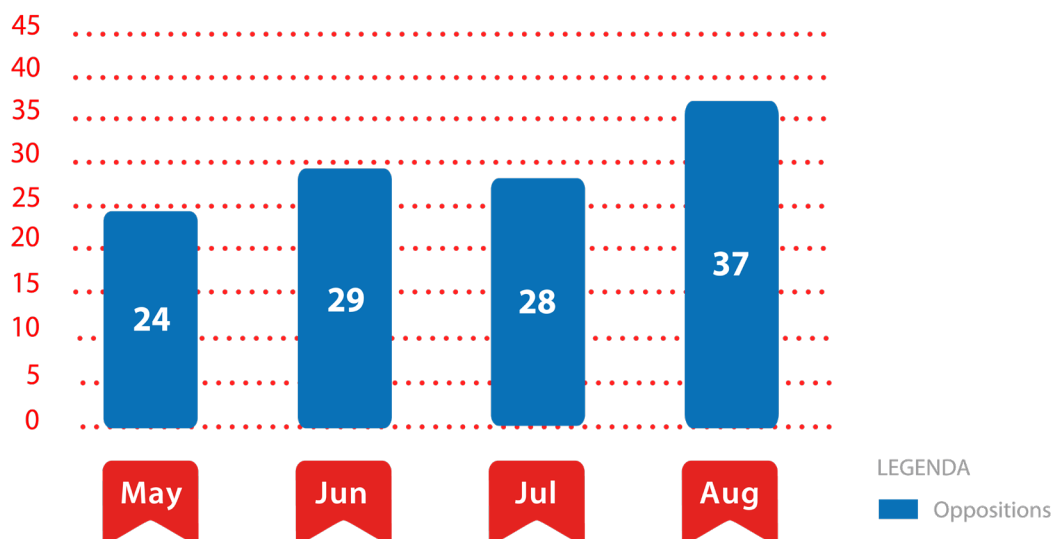
In this second four-month period, 90% of the opposition requests activated by Registro .it (+ 4% compared to the previous period) concerned the violation of the company's distinguishing marks. First names and surnames represent 6% of the opposing party's claims. The remaining 4% of activations are equally divided between Public Administrations and miscellaneous reasons



## OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT RATIO

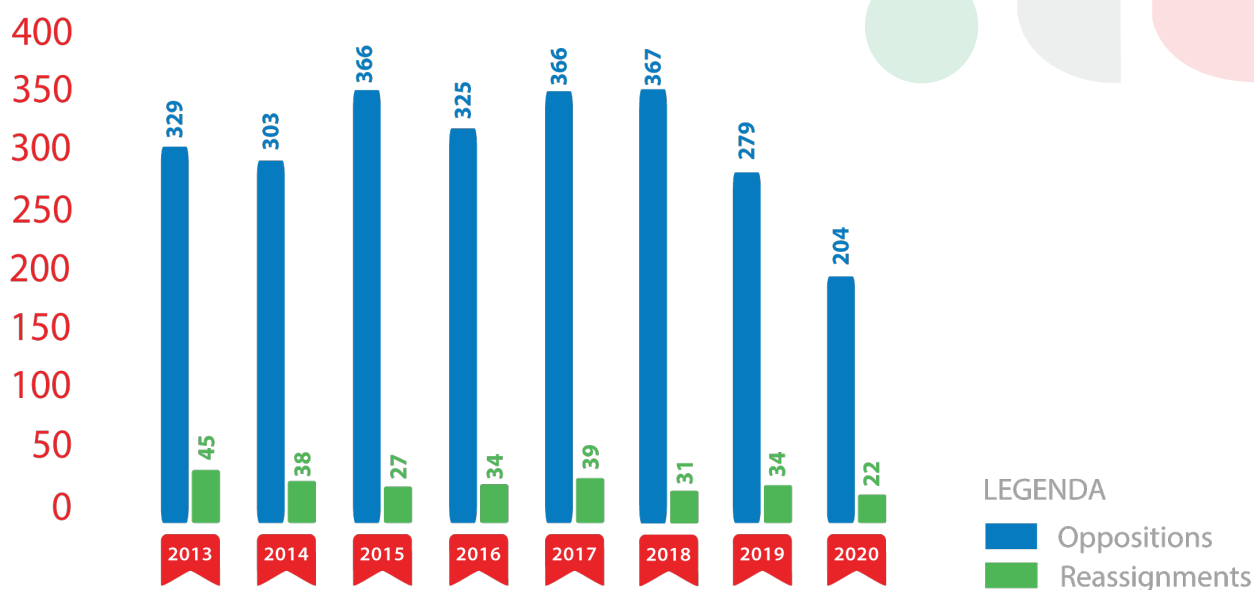
In the second four-month period, the number of oppositions amounted to 118 (+32 compared to the first period), whereas reassignment procedures amounted to 11. 6 reassignment procedures saw foreign subjects as the opposing party; 4, on the other hand, were the cases in which Italian subjects were the opposing party. Finally, only one case saw foreign subjects as both claimant and defendant

## STATISTICS



## TREND OF OPPOSITIONS

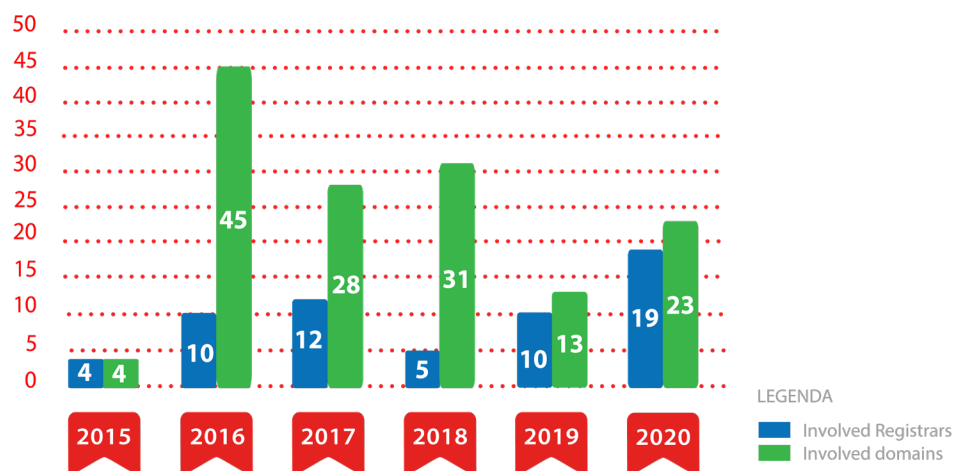
The chart shows an upward trend, albeit modest, in May/July and a peak of activations in August: 29 is the monthly average for the period. The increase in August is significant and is due to the fact that as many as 20 out of a total of 37 oppositions were filed by a single company against various assignees. In summary, 109 out of 118 activations, i.e. over 90%, concerned the violation of a company's distinguishing marks (company, trademark and sign), 4 subjects claimed infringement of their right to the name. One case each concerned a public institution, and the other did a different type of institution



## OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT TREND

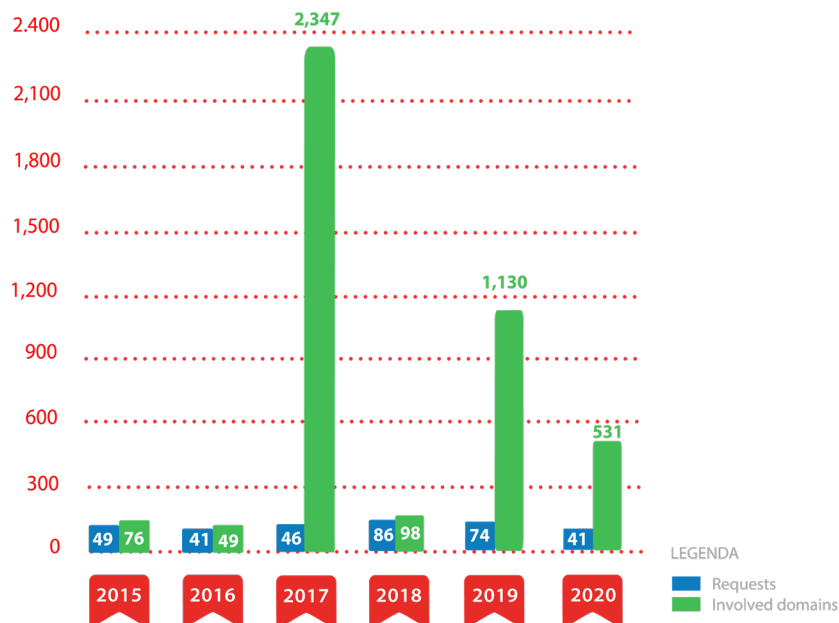
In these two thirds of 2020, 204 oppositions were activated and 22 reassignment procedures were submitted the Out-of-court Dispute Settlement Providers. Out of 22 reassignment procedures, 15 resulted in the reassignment of the domain name to the opposing party/claimant. Only one case saw the rights of the assignee/defendant upheld, with the consequent rejection of the appeal, and therefore the domain name was not reassigned to the complainant. In 2 cases, on the other hand, the procedure was declared terminated by the Board. Finally, there are 4 procedures pending a decision by the Board

## STATISTICS



## AUTHINFO APPLICATION CHART

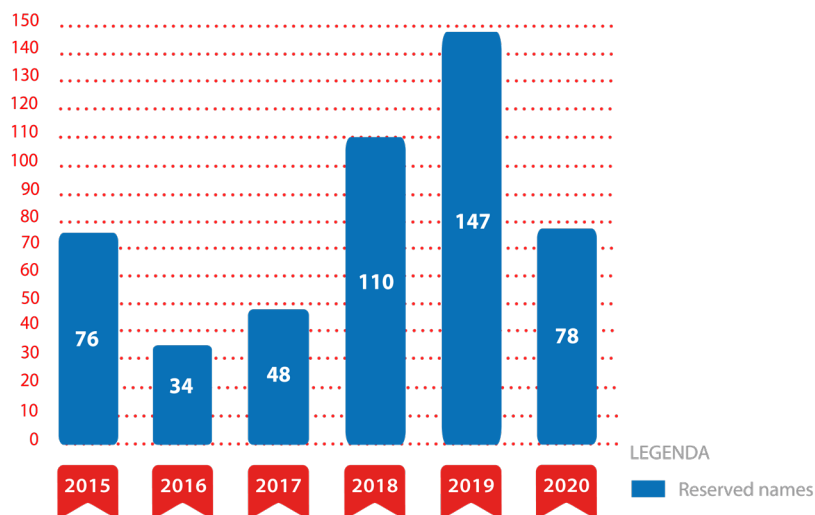
The number of Authinfo codes issued by Registro .it also increased in the second four-month period of 2020, particularly following the applications of Registrants whose domain names were no longer managed by an active Registrar accredited to operate in ccTLD .it



## COMPETENT AUTHORITIES' REQUESTS CHART

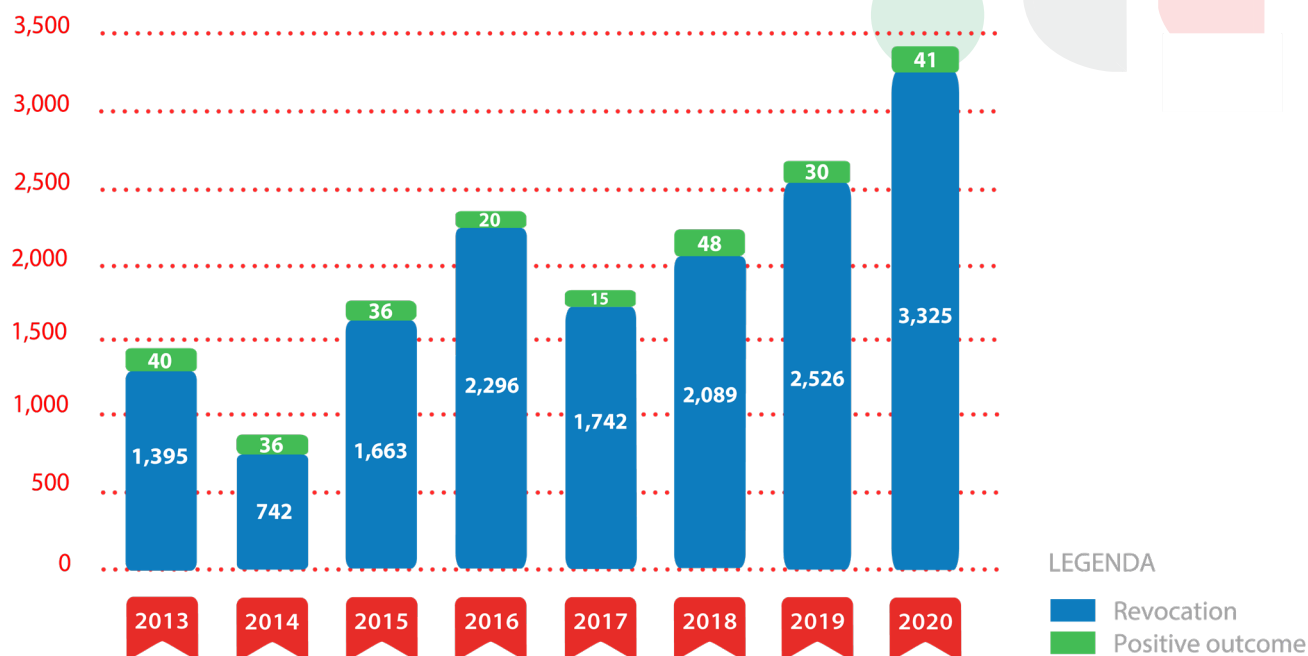
In the first 8 months of 2020, the number of requests for information from competent authorities decreased slightly compared to 2019. Each request referred almost exclusively to a single domain, with the exception of one case involving a large number of names, which had previously attracted the attention of the same authority

## STATISTICS



## RESERVED NAMES CHART

The number of applications for domain name registrations reserved for municipalities, provinces and regions is slightly down compared to last year. The new registrations concerned exclusively reserved names assigned to municipalities



## INDIVIDUAL REQUIREMENTS VERIFICATION CHART

The number of names involved in subjective requirements verifications in the first 8 months of 2020 increased significantly, following actions taken to counteract clear inaccuracies in some Registrants' data. For many of these domain names, it was not possible to trace the accuracy of the Registrants' data, not even with the collaboration of the Registrars managing them





EDIZIONE NUMERO 10

**#Reset**

LIVE | PISA 8 - 11 OTTOBRE  
ONLINE | OTTOBRE - DICEMBRE

## Ten years of IF: Keyword "reset" (on the Internet)

by **Chiara Spinelli**

The Internet Festival 2020 is special: it has been ten years since its first edition, an anniversary that coincides with a very complex year for events planning, due to Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, IF is focusing on a special edition between digital and on-site events, with a programme that took place live in Pisa, from 8 to 11 October, and that will continue online until December. The keyword of the ten-year event is #reset: unset, reset, restart, find new stimuli and new ways to share the world around us, between real and virtual.

As usual, Registro .it and CNR-IIT will be present with their programme and the following events:

- Piccole Medie Digitali Web talk, an online webinar dedicated to companies that want to restart after the lockdown by focusing on digital, with two different appointments: on 23 September, to talk about food and catering, and on 8 October, with a focus on fashion. Both appointments were streamed live on the [Facebook page](#) and [Youtube channel of the Registro .it](#), where they are still available.
- Cybersecurity day, the annual cybersecurity event organised by the Institute for Informatics and Telematics of the CNR, which took place on 9 October. This event can be watched on [IIT's Youtube channel](#).

# The Ludoteca is in the Manifesto of Repubblica Digitale

by **Giorgia Bassi**

The Ludoteca of Registro .it has joined the Manifesto of Repubblica Digitale. The initiative, promoted by the Department for Digital Transformation of the Prime Minister's Office, aims to reduce the cultural digital divide in our Country, and aims to support maximum inclusion, as well as promote education on the technologies of the future.

By adhering to the Manifesto, the Ludoteca confirms the role of digital education actions in schools, aimed at pupils, teachers, and families.



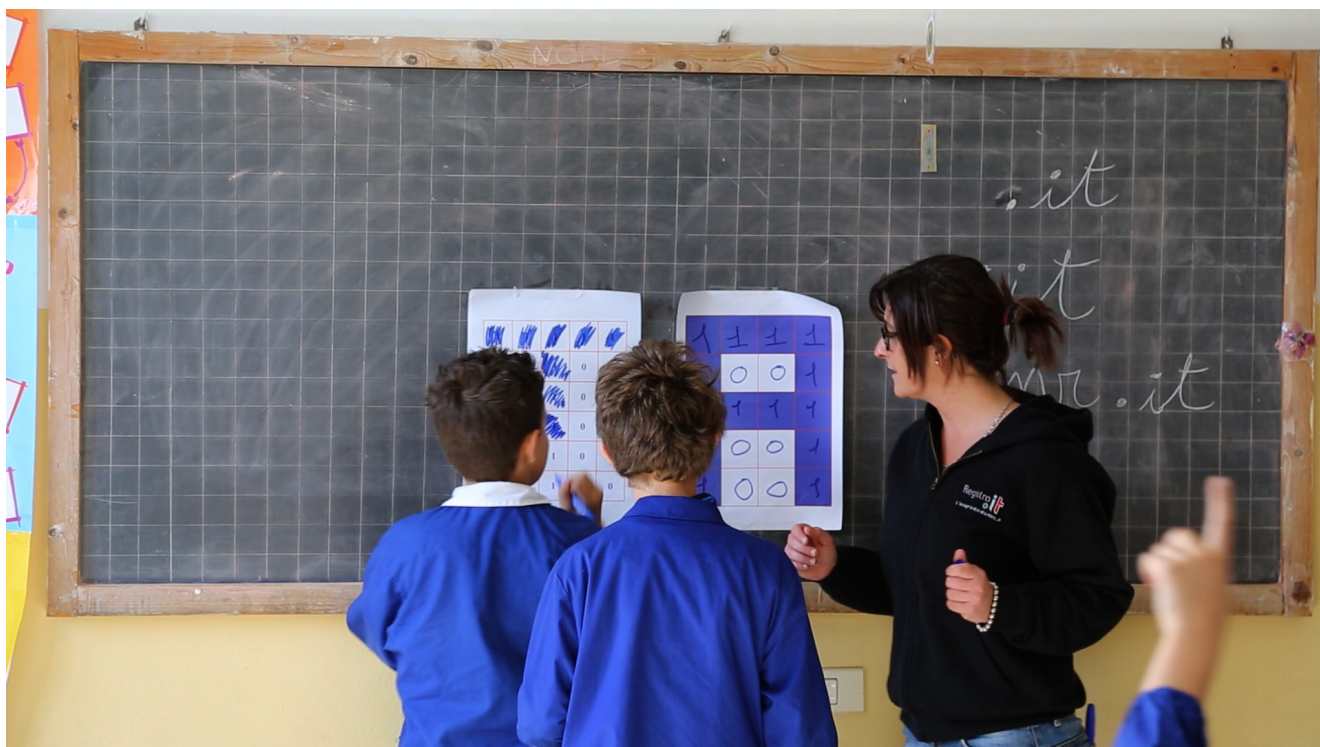
REPUBBLICA  
**DIGITALE**

# "Il linguaggio della ricerca". The Ludoteca contributes with Webinars on the Web

by **Giorgia Bassi**

The Ludoteca of Registro .it has been included among the dissemination initiatives of "Il linguaggio della Ricerca" ("The language of Research") project, started within the CNR Research Area of Bologna, in order to promote a close collaboration between the research areas of the whole national territory and schools.

Namely, for the initiative launched by the CNR Research Area of Bologna, the digital education project edited by the Registro .it has proposed a set of webinars on the Internet (computer security, Internet history, domain names) for high schools, available on the Moodle page dedicated to the 'Hub' of Pisa.



# Since September, the Registro has been operational again at CNR headquarters

by **Francesca Nicolini**

The pandemic has rediscovered the potential of smart working and, like many other businesses, the Registro has remotely continued its activities, during and after the lockdown: from March to mid-September the structure ensured all activities related to the registration and maintenance of domain names, also managing online events, modulating ongoing projects to new needs and reinventing new online paths, such as tutorials and educational workshops of the Ludoteca of Registro .it for children. Since mid-September, activities have been carried out again at the CNR headquarters, in the CNR Research Area of Pisa, ensuring compliance with anti-Covid regulations and social distancing.





# Support for Registrars in pandemic times

by **Francesca Nicolini**

During the lockdown, following the Government's actions to counter Covid-19, the Italian economy suffered a severe backlash due to the stop of all activities. In this context, which has imposed slowdowns, new roadmaps and incentives for companies and freelancers, the Registro has also decided to meet the needs of Internet service operators who register the .it. Two actions have been implemented. First, from mid-March to the end of June, Registro .it suspended the costs to renew registrations, offering important economic savings to Registrars and leaving them more cash during lockdown. Secondly, the fees for the registration of new .it names were reduced, 3 euro instead of 4, pursuant to the contract between Registro and Registrar. This measure was the result of a collective decision by the Board of Directors of the CNR, to which the Institute of Informatics and Telematics, which manages the Registro, belongs. The new tariffs will remain in force until December 2020, in order to continue to give tangible support to business and commercial activities that want to build and invest on the Web. In turn, these realities will contribute to relaunching the Italian economy by focusing on digital, also considering that, during the lockdown, there was a 2.5% growth in the total number of .it names, compared to the same period in 2019.

# Awarded the 2020/2022 competition for the new communication and marketing campaign of the Registro

by **Stefania Fabbri**

Spencer & Lewis and Competence s.r.l. (in temporary consortium) won the tender for the realisation of a marketing campaign for the Registro .it, whose aim is to project the effects of what has been done so far over time, enhancing the importance of the 'proprietary' online presence. In this context, special attention will once again be paid to small and medium enterprises, which represent the backbone of the Italian economic system and which can benefit from a valid use of the Internet (in which the construction of their own identity on the web is crucial).

# A study conducted by the EC on phenomenon of "DNS Abuse"

by **Gino Silvatici**

The European Commission is about to carry out a 7-month study to analyse scope, impact, and extent of DNS Abuse and to provide input for possible policy measures in the field of DNS fraudulent use. The study will investigate the relationship between DNS misuse and cyber security threats, as well as the distribution of malicious or illegal content.

To mark the occasion, the Commission will soon launch a call for tenders for a service contract worth up to EUR 100,000.

# CENTR and the Digital Services Act (DSA)

by **Gino Silvatici**

CENTR contributed to the public consultation carried out by the European Commission on the Digital Services Act (DSA), one of the top priorities of the Digital Agenda for Europe for the 2019-2024 legislative period, specifying the role, powers and responsibilities of the European ccTLD Registries and Registrars.

Indeed, one of the objectives of the DSA is to review the liability and security rules for Information Society services in the EU, including digital platforms, services, and products. According to the European Commission, "the sale of illegal, dangerous or counterfeit goods and the dissemination of illegal content must be tackled as effectively as possible". Therefore, the EU should review the legal framework governing the liability rules for online intermediaries, mainly enshrined in the E-Commerce Directive, not forgetting the responsibilities of Registries and Registrars operating under ccTLDs.

# ICANN and the Digital Service Act of EU

by **Adriana Lazzaroni** and **Arianna Del Soldato**

The European Commission recently launched a public consultation to define the 'Digital Services Act (DSA)', the new European regulation for digital services, with the collaboration of all stakeholders: platform operators, entrepreneurs, academics, NGOs and civil parties. The DSA is a legislative initiative launched as a response to the growing concern about roles and responsibilities of online platform operators.

On the one hand, it is intended to update some elements of the 2000 European Directive on e-commerce (2000/31/EC), with new rules applying to the single market for digital services, increasing and harmonising the responsibilities of digital service and platform operators and strengthening control over the content of those operating in the EU. On the other hand, it aims to define ex ante rules to ensure that markets characterised by large platforms acting as intermediaries ('online gatekeepers') remain fair and contestable by innovators, companies and new market entrants.

ICANN, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, announced that it participated in the public consultation on the DSA, which ended on 8 September 2020, by answering some of the most relevant questions in the context of ICANN's mission: to ensure the security and stability of the Internet's unique identifier system, guaranteeing the stable and secure operation of the network. As a technical body, ICANN has neither the power nor the mandate to establish the legal admissibility of the contents that can be found on the Internet; on the contrary, it can intervene in an effective and timely manner on the behaviour and malicious use of domain names and DNS (Domain Name System), as it consistently happened during the Covid-19 pandemic.

ICANN points out that it has actively participated in the various working groups set up to share valuable information on DNS threats, along with hundreds of experts from research, business, and law enforcement officials from different countries. In addition, ICANN Security, Stability, and Resiliency team has developed a system, currently being tested, that helps to



identify and track coronavirus-related malicious use of domains in the DNS.

ICANN points out that this does not represent an increase in illegal or malicious online activity, but rather a movement from known attack vectors, or a combination with COVID-19 related attack vectors. This statement fits with the speculative or malicious use of many 'pandemic names' detected by authorities.

In a nutshell, ICANN urges the ruling class not to confuse the core infrastructure and technical operations performed on the Internet with the applications that use this infrastructure. Service providers on the core infrastructure are primarily committed to maintaining stability and connections and cannot, therefore, be held accountable for the contents produced by third parties that are beyond their control.

# GNSO: guidelines for the registration of the new gTLDs

by **Adriana Lazzaroni** and **Arianna Del Soldato**

After years of work, in August, the New gTLD Subsequent Procedures Working Group (WG) of the GNSO (Generic Names Supporting Organization) of ICANN released the draft 'Final Report' containing the recommendations and guidelines to be followed in the implementation of the next registration cycle of new gTLDs (generic Top Level Domain).

The 'Final Report' is the result of years of resolutions by the WG, created in 2014, which consider both the contribution received from the Internet community during ICANN meetings and a series of "Public Comment" periods on the various reports published by the WG.

In the Report, the WG confirms the cyclical procedure of evaluation of new registration requests followed in 2012 and does not set limits to the total number of requests. The time window allocated to the application period should have a fixed term of 13 weeks.

The WG recommends different treatment according to the type of application submitted, the type of string requested or the type of applicant. This different treatment shall be applied to determine the suitability of the applicant, the processes to be followed, the contractual provisions, the order in which the request is processed, as well as the litigation

and objections to the requested string in the new programme. The requested strings will be processed on a different manner depending on whether they are geographical names or internationalised domain names (IDNs) and on their variants or strings subject to guarantees. In the Report, the WG has also included several recommendations regarding oppositions, appeals and litigations.

Finally, in support of security, stability, usability and a positive user experience, the WG recommends that the systems used throughout the process should be designed and developed well in advance of when they are to be used by applicants, so that there is sufficient time to test the system without causing undue delay.

The final version of the Report will become the basis for an Applicant Guidebook, similar to the one used in 2012 and which will be used in future registration cycles. The document will contain the procedures to be followed step by step by candidates, the documentation and information to be provided as well as the financial and legal commitments required for new gTLDs registration. The document will be available in the six languages of the United Nations and will be published at least four months before the start of the application period. The draft Report is available on the ICANN website at the following address <https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/file/field-file-attach/draft-final-report-new-gtld-subsequent-20aug20-en.pdf>

# International appointments in the world of the Web

*edited by* **Gian Mario Scanu**

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

17-22 October, 69th ICANN meeting, virtual meeting

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

14-20 November, IETF 109, virtual meeting

## **Centr** (<https://www.centr.org/>) **FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

15 October, 2nd Administrative webinar: online collaboration tools like Trello and Miro, virtual meeting

26 October, 43rd CENTR Technical workshop, virtual meeting

5 November, 20th CENTR Security workshop, virtual meeting

12 November, 33rd CENTR Marketing workshop, virtual meeting

19 November, 3rd Administrative webinar: Business Intelligence for Registrars, virtual meeting

26-27 November, 17th CENTR R&D workshop, virtual meeting

14 January 2021, 4th Administrative webinar: Tour de Joie: We finally meet again soon, virtual meeting

### Ripe (<https://www.ripe.net/>)

27– 30 October, RIPE 81, virtual meeting