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QUARTER ●



lavabile guanti sintomi medico corona
tessuto mask covid-19 virus protezione salute protettiva
monouso covid **mascherine** igienizzante
casi ffp2 covid19 sanificazione positivi
ffp3 sicurezza **mascherina** emergenza
trattamento contagio **coronavirus**
ministero chirurgiche

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HEAD OF REGISTRO .IT

Marco Conti

The first 2020 issue of Quarter .it comes out under the sign of Coronavirus

Francesca Nicolini

Suspended activities, cancelled events and stand-by projects: in times of pandemic, the world has stopped, or rather, we have all had to adapt to the new isolation and mobility rules, even within Registro .it. This is how the many online initiatives, YouTube and Facebook lives and distance learning activities came into being. In addition, even .it names have adapted to the most widely used virus-related terms

Some events are able to transform everyday life and the way we work: the COVID-19 pandemic has revolutionised the whole world, and as a result, all work activities have adapted to the current situation without ever stopping. This is what we have done at Registro .it as well, conducting our usual activities from remote, inevitably sacrificing some of them (such as communication events or events closely related to Registrars) but inventing new ones, where possible, considering the fact that moments of difficulty often become opportunities for new creative and organisational drives.

The usual domain registration and modification activities, with systems activity and DNS management, as well as our legal, operational and administrative procedures went smoothly, with the exception of a temporary suspension of reassignment procedures and checks on the objective requirements of domains (both of which will have reprised at the time of release of this issue).

In this period of forced confinement, the Ludoteca has played an important role through distance learning, continuing to disseminate Internet culture and spark reflections and discussions on the digital world, with its risks and opportunities, addressing issues of keen interest especially for younger users, but also for teachers and parents.

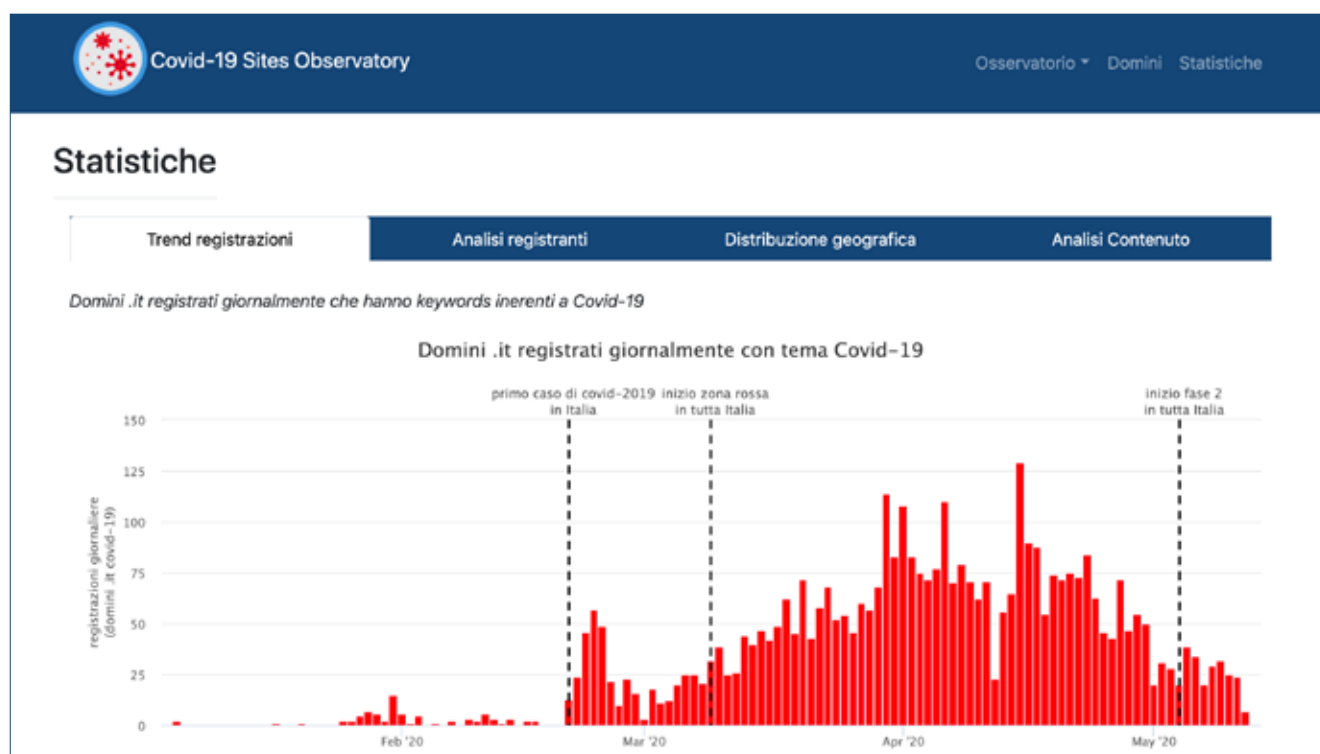
Several online activities have been carried out, including video tutorials for ad-hoc lessons on cybersecurity, the Web App Internetopoli and live streams by CNR-IIT experts and external professionals on the social media channels (Facebook and YouTube) of the Ludoteca, focusing on various current issues, from cyberbullying to hyperconnection on the Web. The collaboration

between the Ludoteca and CNR Communication Unit has been fundamental for various initiatives, in relation to both the publication, on an ad-hoc channel, of cartoons produced in-house by the External Relations, Media, Communication and Marketing Unit, and debates with experts of the Ludoteca live on the CNR channels.

Last but not least, the increase in the number of new .it names, of which a good part, almost 4000, on the subject of 'Coronavirus', deserves highlighting, as it is a sign of the times and the need to transfer the fears, precautions and new rules of real life online, but also of the concern that a large part of them may have been registered for malevolent purposes. On the latter risk, Ican is planning actions to counter these types of domains, especially for gTLDs.

However, should you want more details, data and in-depth analyses, you can read this issue, the first of 2020.

Enjoy the read!



The .it is infectious: over 4,000 pandemic-themed names registered

Stefania Fabbri

The Web is also dealing with the epidemic, but in the virtual world, being infectious is not bad news. Registered names are increasing also thanks to domains containing Coronavirus-related terms

Our world has changed since February: terms like COVID-19, Coronavirus, mask and swab are the order of the day and have even become registered .it names. Said names show, once again, how actual and virtual reality are now inextricably intertwined: just as in real life, Registro .it has decided to monitor this Web 'infection' through a survey on Italian domain names. The [Observatory](#), which was conceived by the Systems and Technological Development Unit of Registro, tells us that more than 4,000 .it Coronavirus-related names have been registered.

The 'plus' sign trend does not only concern .it domains, but rather all of the 30 national Registries, which recorded the highest number of registrations in March and April.

The registration statistics of Registro, in particular, show that the .it market has been growing in times of quarantine, not only thanks to the names linked to the pandemic: in the first four months of 2020, new .it registrations grew by 9.08% (in April alone, 20,346 additional new names were registered compared to 2019), with a total growth of 1.60%. To better understand how positive this result is and how well it bodes for 2020, just think that, in 2019, overall growth was 2.30%.

Registro .it decided to study this phenomenon and took a snapshot of it, analysing what happened in the .it world from 23 February to 12 May of this year and trying to understand by whom, why and what for the Coronavirus-related names were registered.

The analysis shows that the most popular domain names mostly contain the term 'COVID'

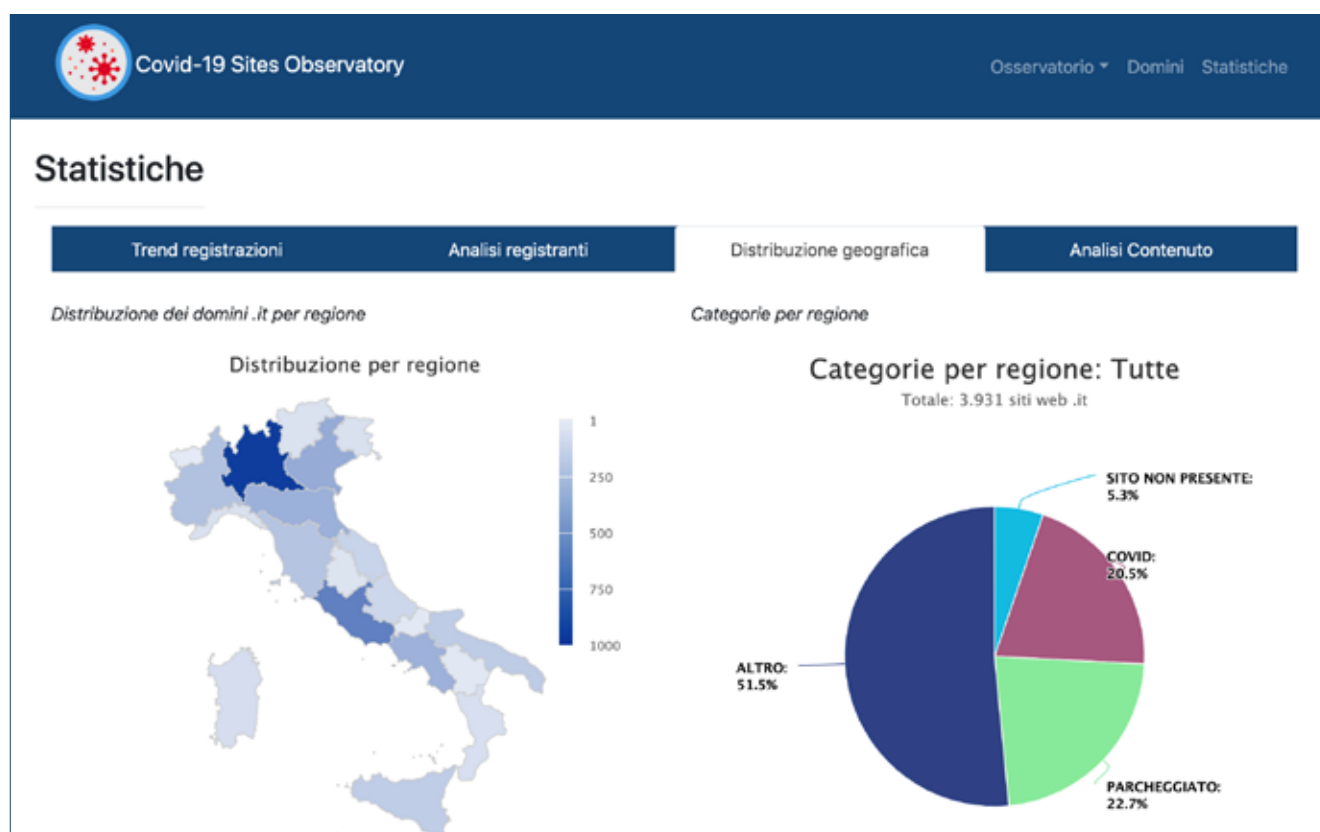


(761), while 'COVID19' (690) and 'Coronavirus' (678) rank second and third respectively. Most of these names were registered by Italians (3,931), and more specifically natural persons (2,017), individual companies/enterprises (1,700) and freelancers (247). Only a handful of domains were assigned to non-profit entities.

As to the regions with the most pandemic-themed .it names, Lombardy ranks first (941),

followed by Lazio (580), and Emilia-Romagna (320). Valle d’Aosta has only 6 registered domains. An in-depth study of this ranking shows how weak the correlation between the number of virus-related registrations and the COVID cases recorded in each region is. In fact, it should be noted that the ranking is unchanged compared to other periods: the regions that register the most names are also those that have the most COVID registrations.

When it comes to this analysis, other than ‘who’ and ‘where’, it would be interesting to



understand why these domains have been registered: the more than 4,000 registered names will give rise to websites dealing with news about the virus, health-related information or the sale of personal protection products, but many may have speculative or malicious purposes. With millions of people around the world looking for Coronavirus-related information, supplies and treatments, the names associated with Coronavirus have become a prominent feature of the domain marketplace. In this context, researchers at Unit42, the threat analysis team at the Palo Alto Networks cybersecurity firm, identified 116,357 domains with Coronavirus-related names registered worldwide between January 1 and March 31. Of these, 2,022 have

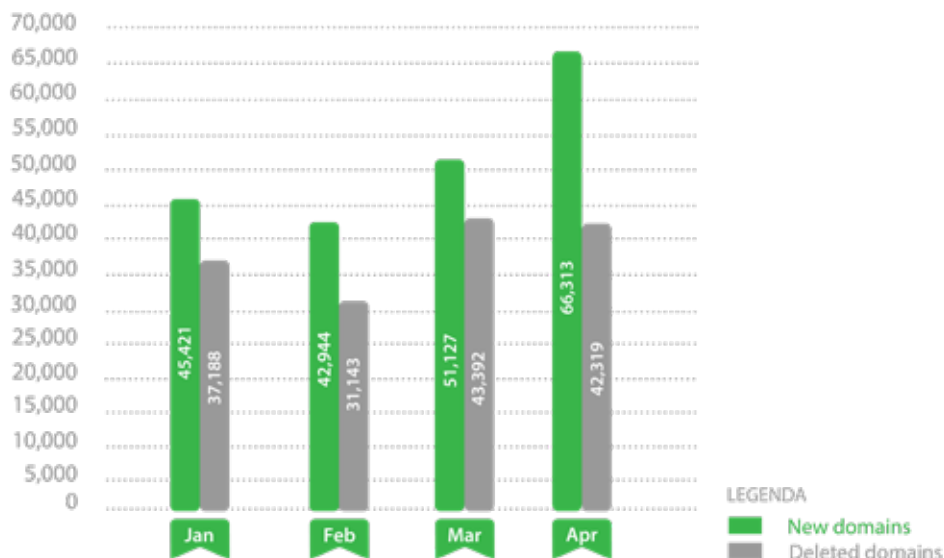
been classified as 'malicious', and over 40,000 are considered 'high risk' due to their being registered largely by spammers and cybercriminals and designed for the secondary resale market.

According to this overseas research, the subjects that have registered the greatest number of harmful domains are American (29,000), followed by Italians (2,877), Germans (2,564) and Russians (2,456). The analysis of this data revealed that these names were mainly registered with the intention of infecting third parties with malware (79.8%), while a small percentage aimed at deceiving users using phishing techniques (20%).

National and international authorities and institutions fighting cybercrime are paying great attention to the sector. In this context, Registro .it is also monitoring Italian COVID-themed domains in collaboration with the competent authorities and is carrying out studies and analyses in order to verify whether the data provided by the Palo Alto Networks company is truthful.

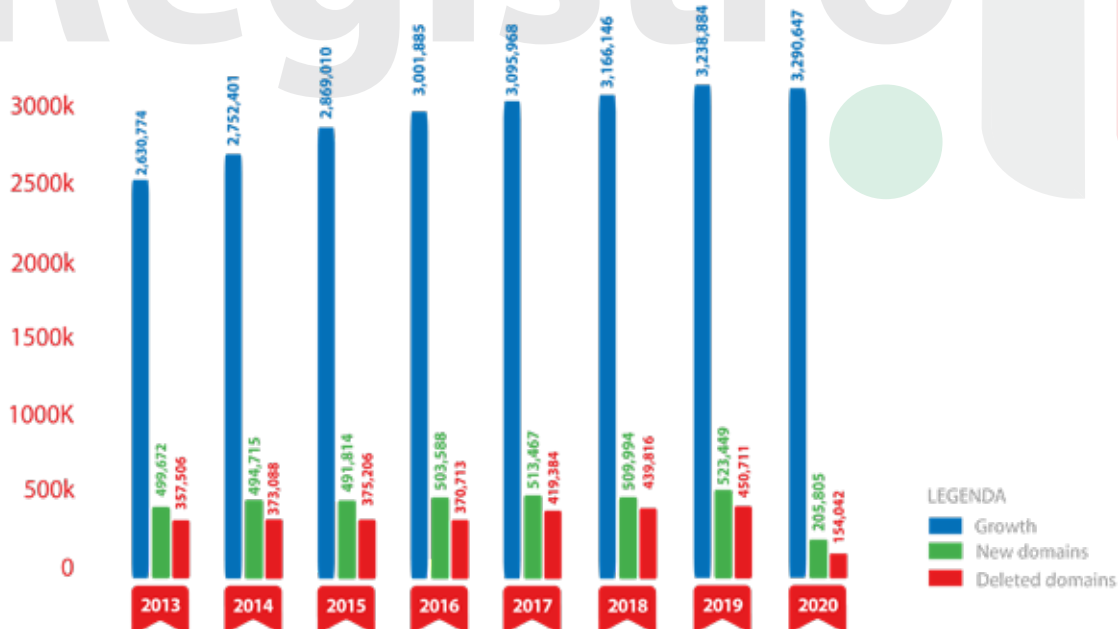
In conclusion, in light of this new registration and growth projection for the first four months of 2020, we hope that the number of registrations will continue to grow, regardless of the virus and the pandemic, thanks to the greater awareness acquired in these times of quarantine with respect to the importance of one's own digital identity: in the era of Coronavirus, the digital world has proven to be a 'safe' and irreplaceable tool for information, communication and purchase purposes. For this reason, domain names acquire a more important role for individual citizens and businesses: it is essential to establish one's own presence on the Web in an autonomous and permanent way, in order to benefit from more services (such as, for example, personalised e-mail addresses), to enhance one's brand reputation, and to improve communication and customer support.

STATISTICS



GROWTH OF NEW REGISTRATIONS

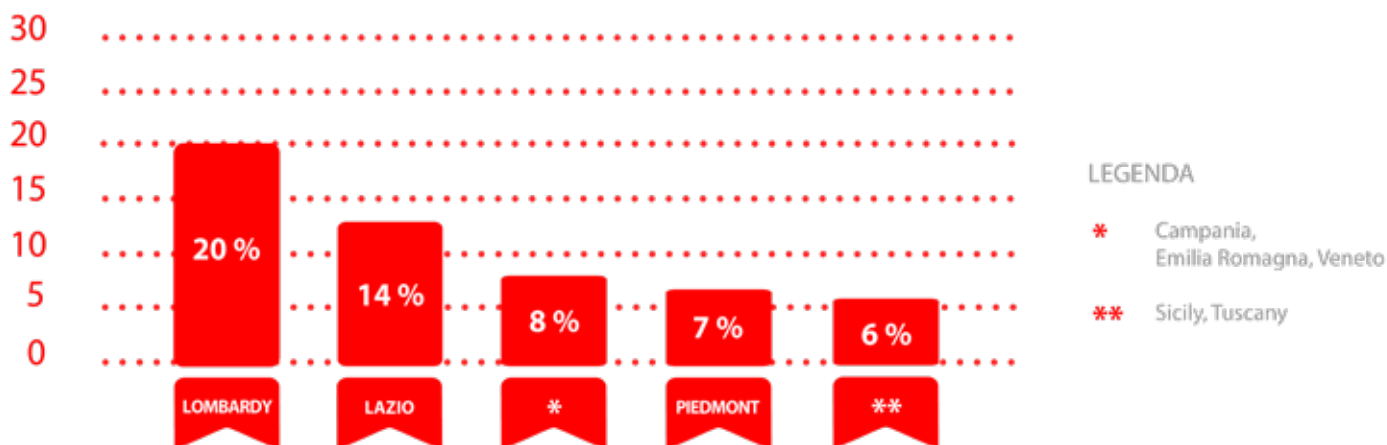
The analysis of the first four months of 2020 shows that, in general, new registrations exceeded cancellations, with significant peaks in February and April. The total difference, during the first four-month period, amounts to about 52 thousand domains, which is significantly higher than both the first and last four-month period of 2019. In April, there was an abnormal increase in new registrations: there is a considerable gap between the number of new registrations and cancellations (about 24,000 domains). However, the general trend is in line with previous years: in the first four months of each year, there is a tendency to register more domains (new registrations net of cancellations) than in the following four months



ANNUAL GROWTH

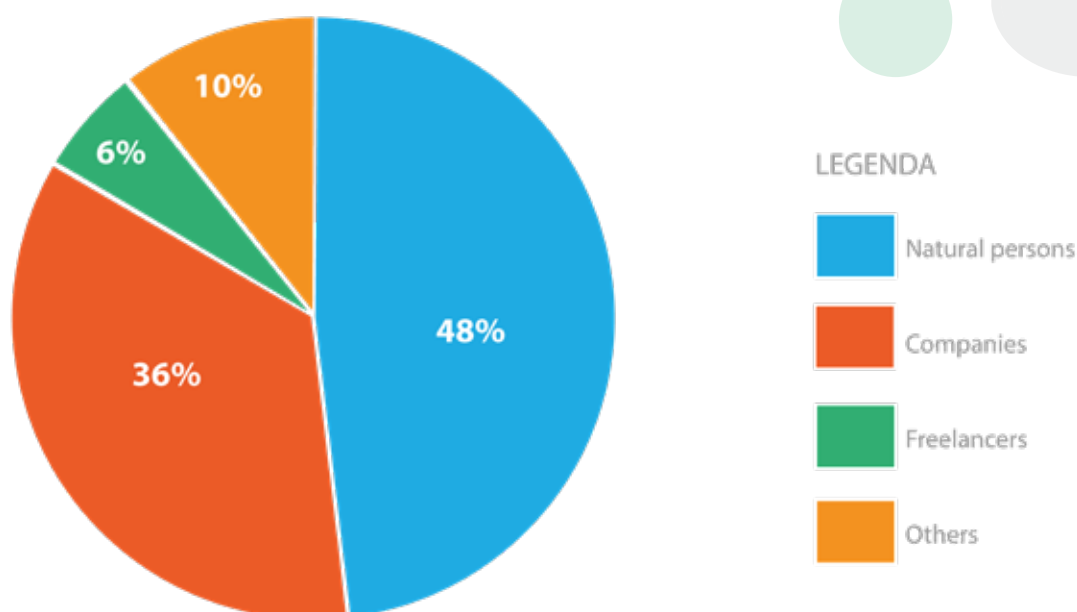
The total number of .it names registered at the end of the first four months of 2020 amounted to 3,290,647, with a positive growth of 1.6% (51,763 more domains), compared to the end of 2019. Although this trend is in line with that recorded during the first four months of last year, it shows that the growth rate in the first four months of 2020 was slightly higher

STATISTICS



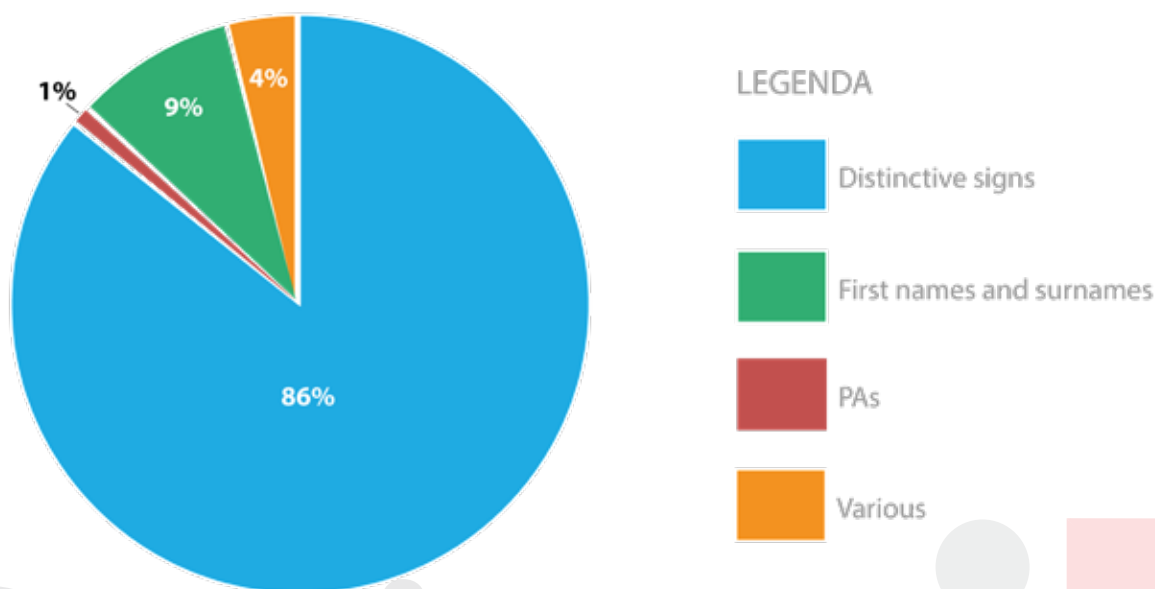
TOP REGIONS

In the first four months of 2020, the Lombardy region, despite losing two points compared to the percentage of the last tranche of 2019, continued to hold the leadership in the registration of new domains. Lazio ranked second, with a one percentage point increase compared to the previous four-month period. As in the last four months of 2019, the Campania, Emilia Romagna and Veneto regions ranked third, with an 8% percentage, while the Piedmont region ranked fourth with 7% and Tuscany and Sicily followed with 6%



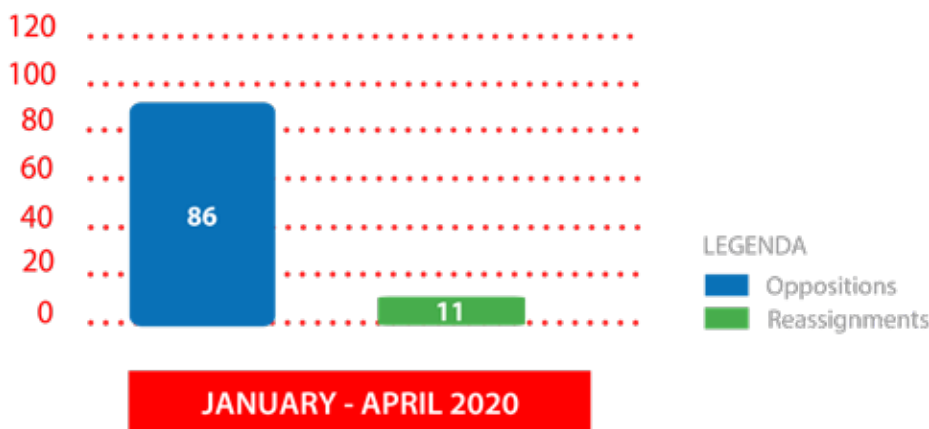
ENTITY TYPES

Despite the fact that natural persons continue to register more new domains than the other categories, their percentage compared to last four months remains unchanged at 48%. On the contrary, the percentage of companies and freelancers increased by one percentage point, with 36% and 6% respectively



REASONS FOR OPPOSITIONS

Infringement of the company's trademarks is represented by 86% of the claims made by the opponent in support of the opposition proceedings. First names and last names account for 8% and 3% of the rights infringed respectively; the remaining 1% relate to claims made by the public authorities



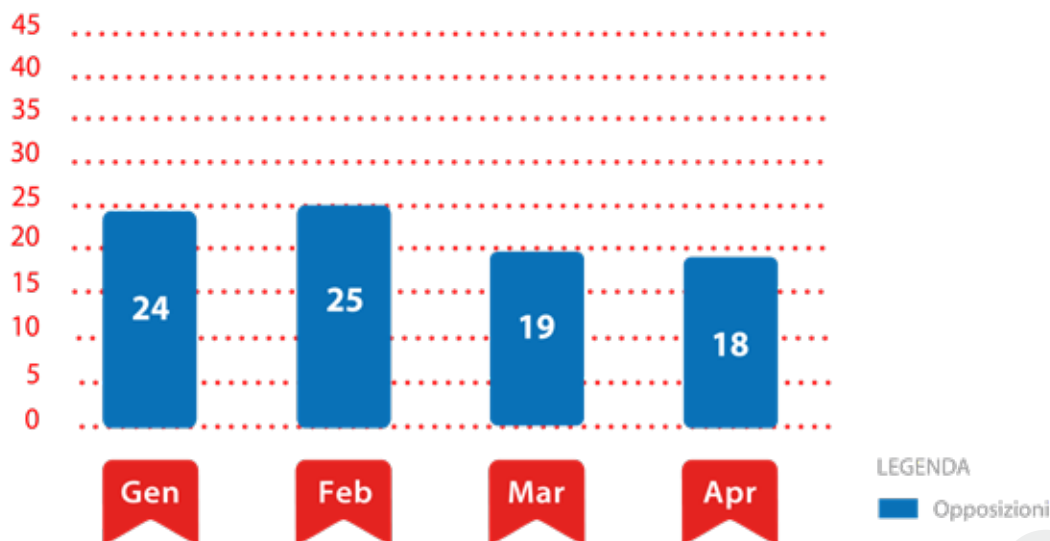
OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT RATIO

In the first quarter of 2020, opposition procedures amounted to 86. In contrast, reassignment procedures, due to the COVID-19 emergency, have been suspended since 27 March. As a result, the number of reassignments made during this period amounted to 7, while 4 were suspended. In 2 of the 7 reassignment procedures the assignee/opponent involved were both foreign.

There are 2 other cases, which mirror each other: in the first case, 2 foreign companies filed a complaint with a PSRD against Italian subjects; in the other case, 2 foreign assignees were involved in a reassignment procedure by Italian companies.

Finally, there was only one case in which a national assignee and opponent opposed each other

STATISTICS



TREND OF OPPOSITIONS

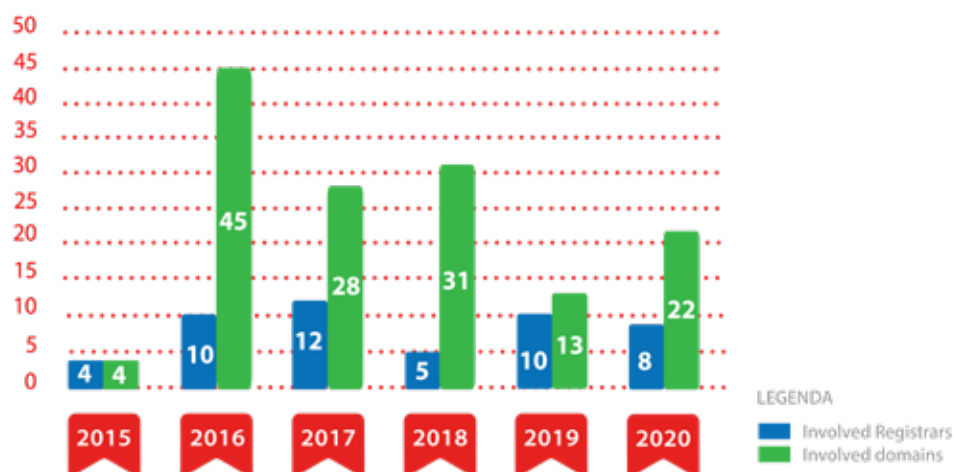
The trend in January-February was basically constant: 24 and 25 procedures were activated respectively. In the following months, there was a downward trend, with 19 and 18 oppositions. Of the 86 oppositions lodged, 74 were based on the company's distinctive trademark rights. A further 8 concerned the infringement of the right to the first and/or last name. Of the remaining 4 oppositions, one was filed by a public institution. The remaining 3 are of various types



OPPOSITION-REASSIGNMENT TREND

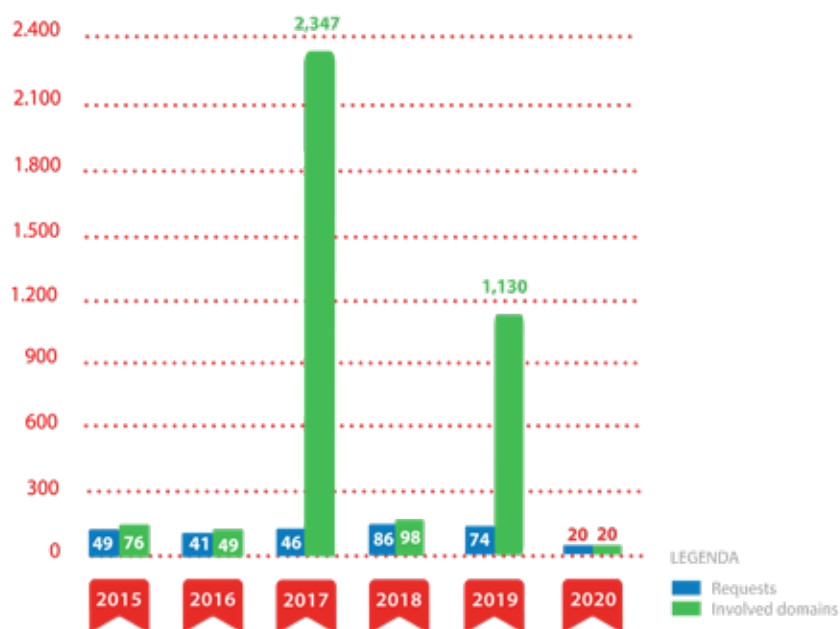
General graph showing the trend of oppositions/reassignments over the years. This first part of the year saw the activation of 86 oppositions and the start of the reassignment procedure, at the PSRDs, in 11 cases, 4 of which were suspended due to the COVID-19 emergency. This measure was necessary in order to ensure that the parties could be heard and thus enable them to exercise their rights of defence. Consequently, the figure is influenced by it. In 4 cases, the opponent/claimant, at the end of the procedure, saw their rights prevail with the consequent acceptance of the appeal and the subsequent provision for reassignment of the name. In 2 other cases, the Board expressed its opinion declaring the termination of the procedure. One case is still being considered by the PSRD

STATISTICS



AUTHINFO REQUESTS

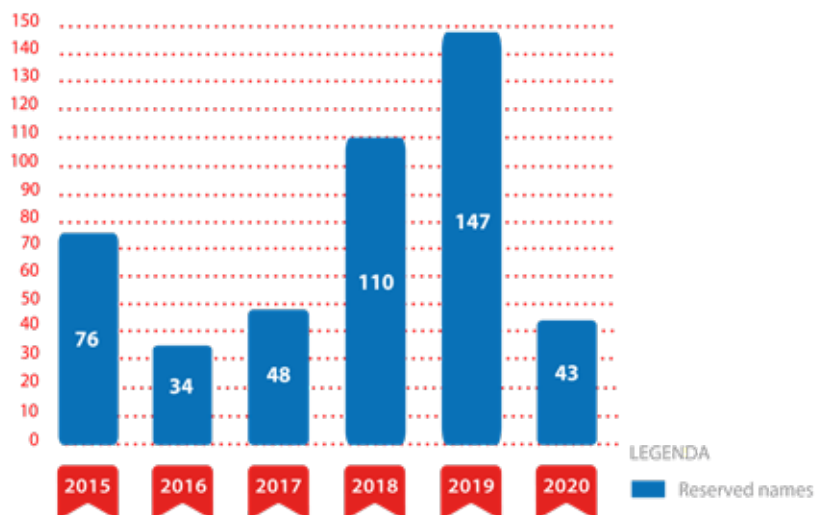
The number of Authinfo codes issued by Registro .it increased in the first quarter of 2020, compared to 2019. This may be associated with the need to provide support to domain Registrants, who had not directly received the code from Registrars, due to the closure of their position of Internet service provider for their names .it.



REQUESTS FROM COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

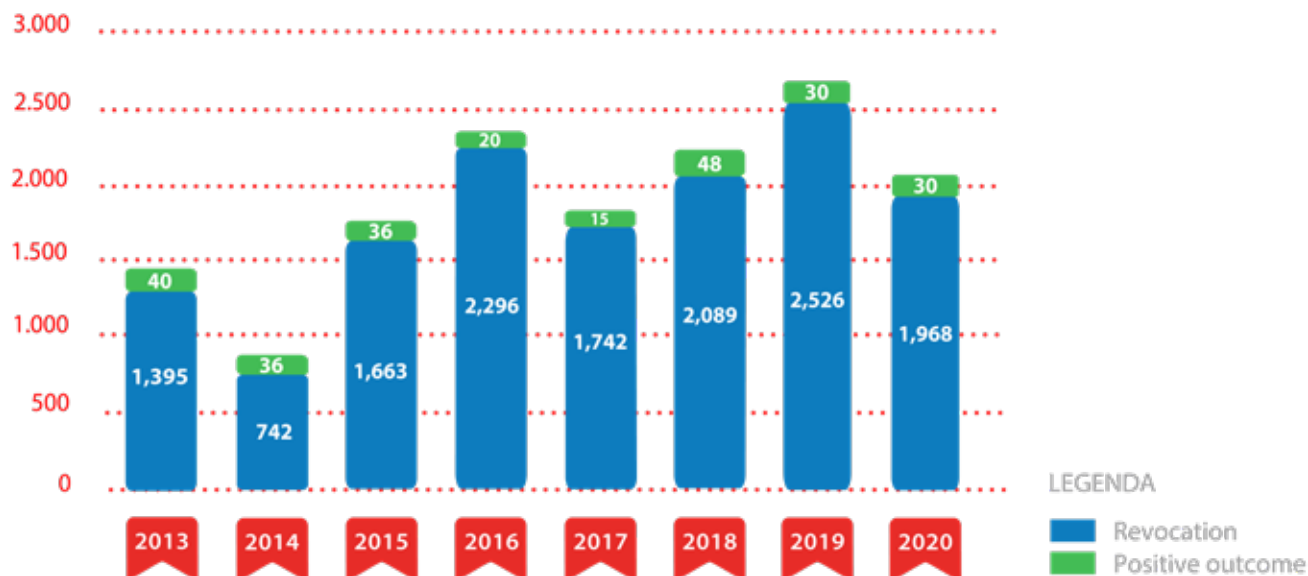
In the first months of 2020, the number of requests for information from competent authorities is in line with the one registered in recent years. Each instance contained requests for information about one single domain and only a few of them concerned names related to Covid-19 emergency

STATISTICS



RESERVED NAMES

The number of applications for domain name registrations reserved for municipalities, provinces and regions is in line with last year and has been limited to the registration of domain names by municipalities only



VERIFICATION OF DOMAINS BY THE REGISTRO

The number of names involved in verifications of subjective requirements grew exponentially in the first months of 2020, following some actions to counter the apparent inaccuracy of some Registrants' data. For these domain names, it was not possible to trace the data accuracy, not even with the collaboration of the Registrars who managed them



Italian Registry's first (technological) home

Francesca Nicolini

The Registry of Italian Internet names has now its first official seat: it took over thirty years, but it is finally here. It was built in the Area of the Pisa CNR with innovative and hi-tech solutions.

The new seat of Registro .it was inaugurated on 3 February in the presence of CNR President Massimo Inguscio, the Department Directors of the CNR, the directors and heads of the CNR Institutes in the Pisa research area and other local authorities.

The building, which will house about 70 researchers and collaborators of Registro .it, is equipped with cutting-edge home automation technologies, which enable, for instance, the switching on of room lights immediately upon entry and their switching off after the room

is left empty, or the switching off of air conditioning or heating systems with open windows. The structure was built using certified European spruce, a type of wood that, together with the construction techniques used, ensures durability, safety against earthquakes and fires, energy saving, material sustainability and good hygiene.

Thanks to the materials and techniques used, as well as to its results and purposes, Registro's new seat qualifies as a prime example of public sustainable building, thereby earning the classification of 'Almost Zero Energy Building'.

The building has won two awards: the first is the '2018 Sustainable Development Award', promoted by the Sustainable Development Foundation and Ecomondo and awarded for the very high energy performance levels; the second, which was handed directly to President Inguscio during the inauguration event in February, is the ARCA (ARchitettura Comfort Ambiente) Platinum Award, the highest level of certification for innovative and technologically-advanced wooden houses. The ARCA single quality seal also rewards building components such as windows, doors, floors, stairs, roofs, etc.





at the centre from left: Massimo Inguscio, CNR President, Marco Conti, CNR-IIT Director and Head of Registro .it, Ottavio Zirilli, technical Director of CNR Area of Pisa, Michele Conti, Mayor of Pisa



The Head of Registro and the IIT's first Facebook and YouTube live broadcast

Chiara Spinelli

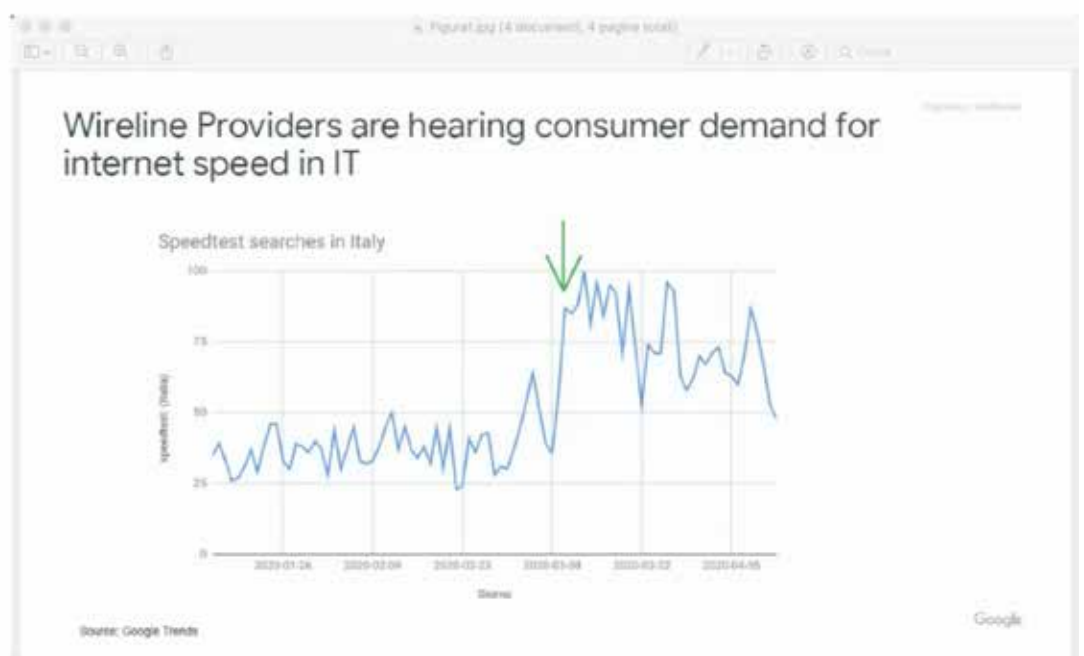
With the lockdown caused by the Coronavirus epidemic, the Institute of Informatics and Telematics (CNR-IIT) has decided to start a series of live broadcasts on its Facebook page and on YouTube channel to showcase its activities.

'The IIT crowd', as the series is called, opened with an episode dedicated to the Web, its performance levels during these weeks of overuse, its architecture and its resilience. 'Can the Internet break?' is the question we asked our guests, namely Marco Conti, Director of the IIT and Head of Registro .it, IIT researchers Andrea Passarella and Claudio Cicconetti and prof. Luciano Lenzini of the University of Pisa.

Conti explained that the DNS distribution mechanism is one of the fundamental keys to the resilience of the Internet and illustrated the technologies put in place by Registro .it to ensure the quality and reliability of the domain name management service: 'The Institute of Informatics and Telematics of the Pisa CNR, which manages the primary nameserver

for the .it domain through Registro .it, has provided for significant redundancy when it comes to Italian nameservers: there are six of them, but two of them operate in anycast mode. One is identified by the name s.dns.it and is outsourced to a Swedish provider called NetNode, which ensures a replication of the Italian DNS on more than 50 sites worldwide. In addition to this, the CNR has developed its own network of anycast servers on 16 locations worldwide, ranging from Los Angeles and New York to Canada, Japan, Australia, Hong Kong and soon Moscow, Cape Town and Dubai. These servers guarantee a redundancy of the service. Therefore, as far as the Italian DNS is concerned, there have been a few traffic peaks, but on average there seems to have been no repercussions on the effectiveness of the service, which has continued to ensure maximum reliability and accessibility with a rate of over 99.9%.'

To watch this and other episodes of The IIT crowd, go to its [Facebook](#) page and [YouTube](#) channel.





#tuttionline

Bambini, adolescenti, genitori e insegnanti in Rete

The Ludoteca and distance learning (at the time of COVID-19)

Giorgia Bassi

In these months of emergency, the Ludoteca of Registro .it has tried to actively communicate with teachers, pupils and parents with the aim of continuing to offer insights and food for thought on issues related to the digital world (domain names, Web resources and good computer security practices), which are even more important today.

The programmes have been adapted to distance learning, a model that includes many different solutions (e.g. recorded video lectures, live webinars and sharing of paper material), also managed in blended mode, through a mix of different learning environments.

In the coming months, the Ludoteca will therefore focus on ensuring continuity in its activities for the dissemination of Internet culture, with proposals suited to digital media and the new context in which schools operate, starting with teachers.

Hence the idea of creating two cycles of screencast video tutorials dedicated to the in-depth

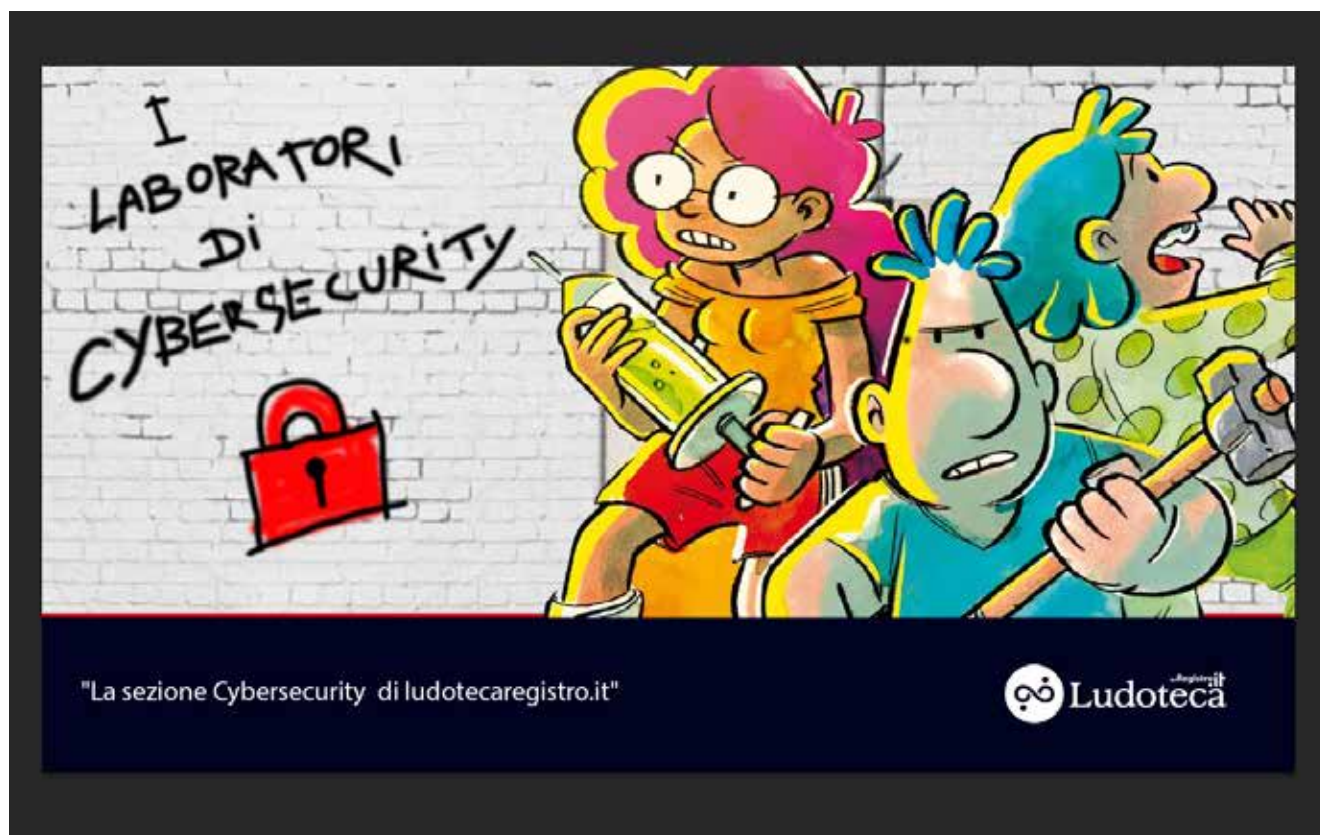
HIGHLIGHTS

study of resources already made available on online channels, with the aim of spreading practices and educational programmes useful to carry out certain activities independently, even from remote.

We started by producing eight video lessons with the [Internetopoli](#) Web App, the first one containing a general presentation, and the following ones dedicated to each level of the 'Internet city', with particular reference to the most relevant contents and navigation paths.

The other cycle of video lessons was designed to facilitate the use of some of the tools of the computer security labs by presenting the materials for the games, already published in the 'Cybersecurity' section of the website www.ludotecaregistro.it.

These video tutorials have also found space on the [Indire](#) national platform which, during



this period, has been collecting contributions for schools from all the main national research bodies.

Moreover, thanks to the collaboration with the CNR Communication Unit, the cartoons of the series 'Navighiamo sicuri con il Prof. Itti' (produced entirely in-house by the Ludoteca) have been published on the Facebook page Comunicazione.Cnr and the Indire website and

HIGHLIGHTS

broadcast on RaiGulp.

Also, the '#tuttionline. Bambini, adolescenti, insegnanti e genitori in Rete' column, conceived as a space for dissemination, has been launched on the Facebook page and YouTube channel of the Ludoteca, with video pills by researchers from the CNR's Institute of Informatics and Telematics on technical topics (e.g.: Internet of Things, false profiles and bots, cybersecurity) and experts' focus on the online behaviour of children and adolescents, from cyberbullying to the risks of hyperconnection, which are delicate and ever-topical issues, especially for parents. Finally, with the participation in the #Tuttinrete Facebook live broadcast cycle, carried out in collaboration with the CNR Communication Unit, the Ludoteca took part in debates dedicated to digital issues, from the use and 'abuse' of the Internet in the emergency phase to the role of security on the Web, highlighting, as always, the importance of educational actions promoting a conscious and responsible attitude among young users.

Tutorial 1 : "Introduzione all'app"



Alla scoperta della web app Internetopoli



The European Commission's industrial strategy

Gino Silvatici

On 10 March, the European Commission published 'A new industrial strategy for Europe' to provide a new political direction and orientation to investors, innovators and industry. The new industrial strategy acknowledges that small and medium-sized enterprises account for over 99% of all European businesses and are the economic and social backbone of the European Union. As far as digital technologies are concerned, the strategy places a strong emphasis on strengthening the 'EU's industrial capacity in the field of critical digital infrastructures', with particular reference to the development of 5G networks.

The European Commission and the revision of the NIS Directive

Gino Silvatici

The European Commission is currently reviewing the effectiveness of the Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive by consulting the relevant stakeholders: the deadline for the periodic review is May 2021, but the Commission has decided to bring the review forward to 2020.

In particular, the Commission has already identified inconsistencies in the identification of 'essential service operators' and 'digital service providers' in all Member States, finding unjustified discrepancies in the national definitions of said entities. In addition, very profound differences were also found among Member States with regard to the issue of the 'security measures' to be taken. Therefore, the Commission plans to present a new draft legislation after carrying out a general assessment of the differences among Member States and a general revision of the Directive with regard to its impact in the various Member States.

Consumer protection

Gino Silvatici

The European Commission and EU consumer authorities are committed to taking action against the spread of counterfeit products online. On 19 March, the European Commission announced that a series of joint actions are being developed to tackle the issue of websites selling fake products online since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. On 20 March, EU consumer authorities submitted a common stance on 'stopping scams and combating unfair commercial practices on online platforms'. The aim of this action is to give concrete help to platform operators in identifying and eliminating such unlawful acts and preventing the resumption of similar practices.



ICANN prevents the sale of the .org domain to a private investment fund

Arianna Del Soldato and Adriana Lazzaroni

Last November, the Internet Society announced the sale of PIR (Public Interest Registry, established in 2002), the non-profit entity that manages the .org top-level domain (TLD), to a private equity company called Ethos Capital, an operation costing 1.1 billion dollars.

As a result, non-governmental non-profit organisations, the main users of the .org domain (from the UN to the WWF and Wikipedia), organised themselves and appealed to ICANN, which oversees the TLD, through AccessNow, an international non-profit group for the defence of open and free Internet, to prevent the sale of the .org domain.

On 20 April, the ICANN Board, after conducting a very thorough investigation, finally rejected the sale proposal made by the Internet Society, thereby confirming the non-profit management of the .org domain, with over 10.5 million domains registered worldwide.

In a note, Ican's board concluded that the sale would change 'the fundamental nature of the public interest of PIR into an entity designed to serve the interests of its stakeholders', concluding that denying consent to the transfer of PIR from the Internet Society to Ethos Capital was the only sensible decision to ensure that the domain remains 'safe, stable and reliable' in the future.

Multiple factors undoubtedly influenced the decision made by ICANN. Among the main ones, witness the resulting change in the nature of PIR and its transformation into a for-profit corporation, the opinion of the Office of the Attorney General of California and the largely contrary comments made by the Internet community, in particular the third sector, the voluntary sector and non-governmental organisations. In addition, witness the understandable perplexities about the impact of the sale of the .org domain on users and, more importantly, the fear of a potential price spike as well as further 'unacceptable uncertainties' for the NGOs that have been using the domain for their websites since 1985.

ICANN and the pandemic: useful actions against the malicious use of virus-related domains

Arianna Del Soldato and Adriana Lazzaroni

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of domain name registrations related to it has increased significantly. In this context, numerous websites have been set up to raise funds or provide assistance to those affected, either directly or indirectly. However, domains have also been registered for malicious purposes such as phishing, malware and scams in general.

In response to this problem, ICANN is taking steps to counter the spread of malicious domain names linked to COVID-19. Said steps include the analysis of the lists of all new domains in the zone files of the various gTLDs, which contain terms related to the 'virus' or 'pandemic'. These lists are skimmed based on information enabling the determination of whether the domains are being used for malicious purposes. For the latter, information on the Registrar, such as 'Contact Abuse', and information on hosting is integrated, pursuant to the guidelines contained in the document 'Guide to Registrar Abuse Reporting Practices', drawn up by the ICANN Registrar Stakeholder Group, to send an abuse report to Registrars.

From the end of March to the beginning of May 2020, out of a total of about 82,000 domain



names, the analysis found: an average of 3,250 new domain names per day corresponding to the search criteria and about 7,000 linked to malicious activities, despite not being suspended and maintaining the DNS resolution.

ICANN is drafting several reports on recent domain registrations that are believed to be using the pandemic for phishing or malware campaigns. The reports, shared with stakeholders (mainly Registrars and Registries), contain the evidence that leads the international non-profit organisation to believe that such domains are being used fraudulently, along with other basic information to help stakeholders take appropriate action.

Finally, ICANN believes that the reliability of the evidence provided on the domains should serve as a clue rather than add noise to the mass of information already circulating on the subject. For this reason, it emphasises that the evaluation process is designed to be extensible and invites the entire Internet community to collaborate in order to improve the evaluation processes.



International appointments in the world of the Web

edited by **Gian Mario Scanu**

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

22-25 June, ICANN 68, Virtual Policy Forum

17-22 October, 69th ICANN meeting, **Hamburg**, Germany

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

25-27 May, CENTR Jamboree, Virtual Meeting

25 May, 19th CENTR Security Workshop, Virtual Meeting

25 May, 32nd CENTR Marketing Workshop, Virtual Meeting

25 May, 42nd CENTR Technical Workshop, Virtual Meeting

27 May, 16th CENTR R&D Workshop, Virtual Meeting

27 May, 50th CENTR Administrative Workshop, Virtual Meeting

17-18 September, 51st CENTR Administrative Workshop, Virtual Meeting

22-23 September, 63rd CENTR Legal & Regulatory Workshop, **Bratislava**, Slovakia

6 October, CENTR Registrar Day, **Bruxelles**, Belgium

7 October, 63rd CENTR Legal & Regulatory Workshop, **Bruxelles**, Belgium

8 October, CENTR Leaders Day, **Bruxelles**, Belgium

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

25-31 July, IETF 108, **Madrid**, Spain

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

28 September-2 October, RIPE 81, **Milan**, Italy

Other events

10-12 June, EuroDIG 2020, Virtual Meeting