

.pl domain name market

NASK'S REPORT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2018

Q1

2018

Table of Contents

Introduction	•	3	Additional services of .pl registry	•	11
Facts and figures	•	4	IDN		
.pl domain names active in DNS	•	5	DNSSEC		
Domain names in .pl registry			Options		
Transfers			Registrars of .pl domain names	•	14
Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period			.pl Registry Partner Programme		
New domain names in .pl registry	•	8	Division of .pl domain name market		
Registrants of .pl domain names	•	9	Insight into .pl registry	•	17
Registrants in the .pl registry					
Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants					
Registrants vs .pl domain names					
Assignments					

Introduction



Wojciech Kamieniecki

NASK PIB Director

Dear Readers,

In the first quarter of 2018 over 246 000 .pl domain names were registered. At the end of March 2018 **2 570 276** active domain names were being maintained for over one million registrants. The number of registrants increased by almost 6000. 2 700 names were registered daily average. The renewal rate also grew, being the highest for last 9 years, and amounted, at the end of the quarter, to 63.29%.

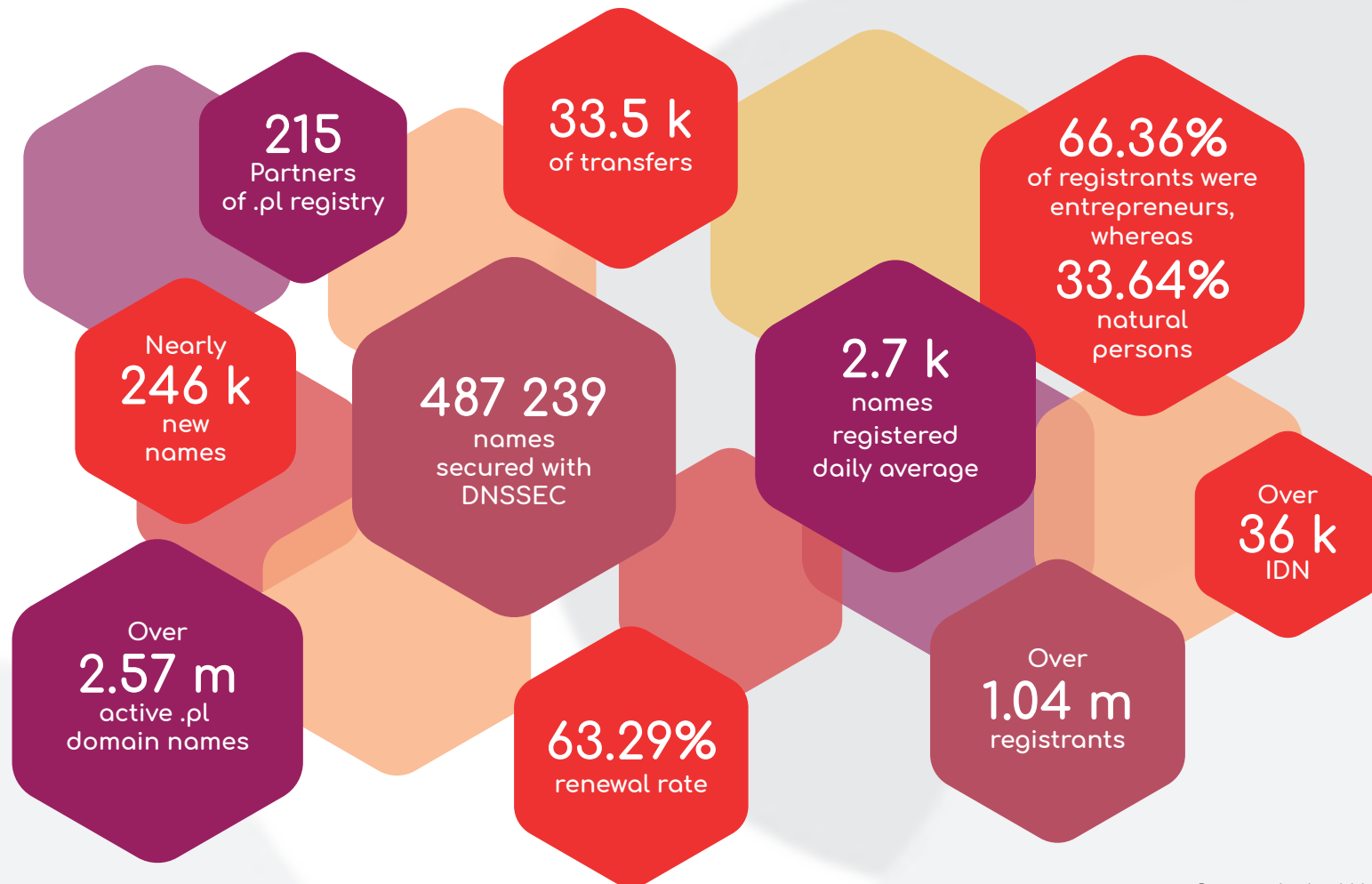
A great success of the .pl registry, in the first quarter, was the increase in the number of domain names secured with **DNSSEC**. At the end of March 2018 more than **487 000** .pl domain names were secured with the DNSSEC protocol, constituting an elevenfold higher value than at the end of the previous quarter. It was the activities of the .pl registry, DNSSEC technical workshops, consultancies and support for Partners as well as an information animation for registrants, which contributed to the growth of the security level. A stable growth in the context of such an important change, observed for a long time, may denote that the segment of domain names, secured with DNSSEC, gains in importance and is a sign of security becoming more and more essential element in the .pl domain name market.

On 15 March the .pl registry organized in NASK, in media and on the streets of Warsaw a first ever Internet Domain Day. That event was the initiation of an **education information campaign** directed to current and future .pl domain name registrants. Next year the .pl registry is going to expand the scope of activities of celebrating the Internet Domain Day.

The number of Partners, at the end of the first quarter, amounted to **215**. NASK, within the frames of the Partner Programme of the .pl registry, successively trains its Partners. Trainings and technical workshops, such as EPP workshop held in March, pertain to maintain high quality and security level of services in the .pl domain.

I invite you to get acquainted with the newest report, presenting the data from the .pl domain market for the first quarter of 2018.

Facts and figures



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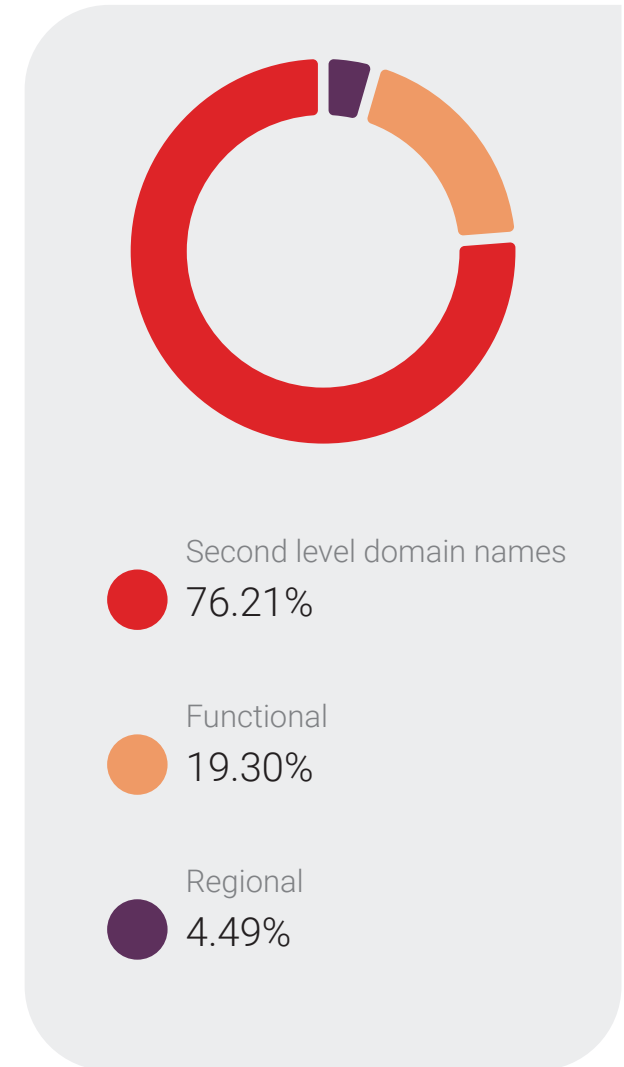
.pl domain names active in DNS

Domain names in .pl registry

In the .pl registry, at the end of the first quarter of 2018, there were **2 570 276** domain names active in DNS. As compared to the end of the fourth quarter of 2017 the volume of the registry decreased by **5 787** names. It denotes that during the period under discussion, the decrease amounted to 0.22%, being the lowest for last 5 quarters.

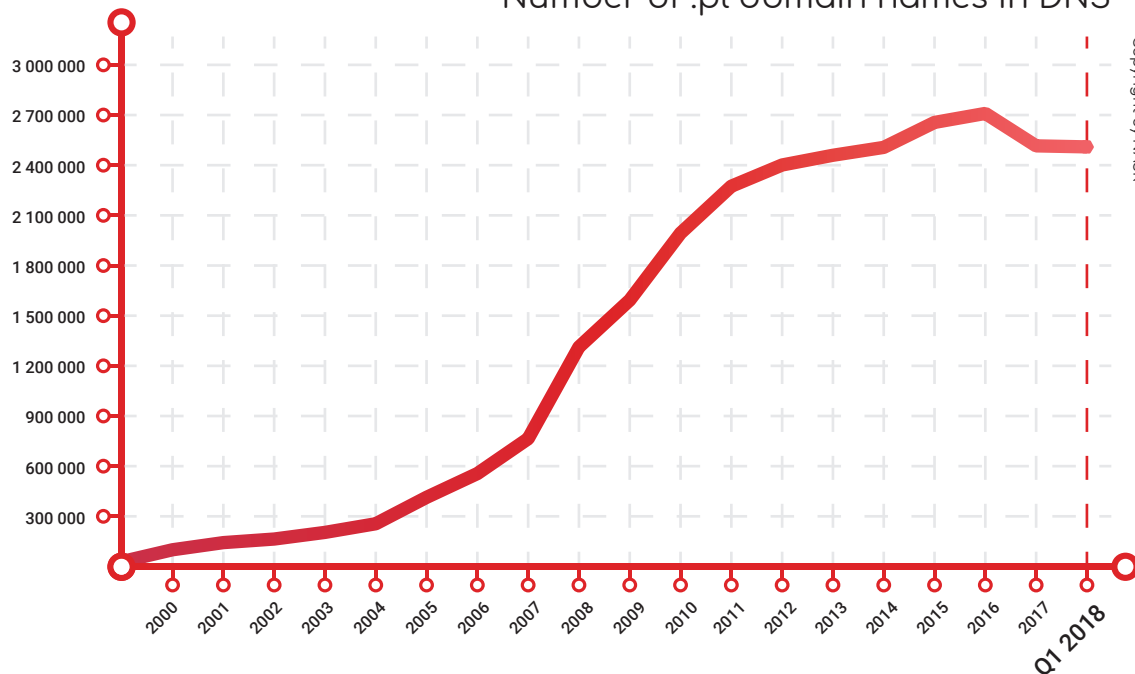
Out of all domain names, active in DNS, **76.21%** were being maintained directly in the .pl top level domain, **19.30%** in functional domains (e.g. .edu.pl, .org.pl, .net.pl), whereas **4.49%** in regional domains (e.g. .szczecin.pl, .katowice.pl).

Number of domain names active in DNS as divided into the type of zone, Q1 2018



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Number of .pl domain names in DNS

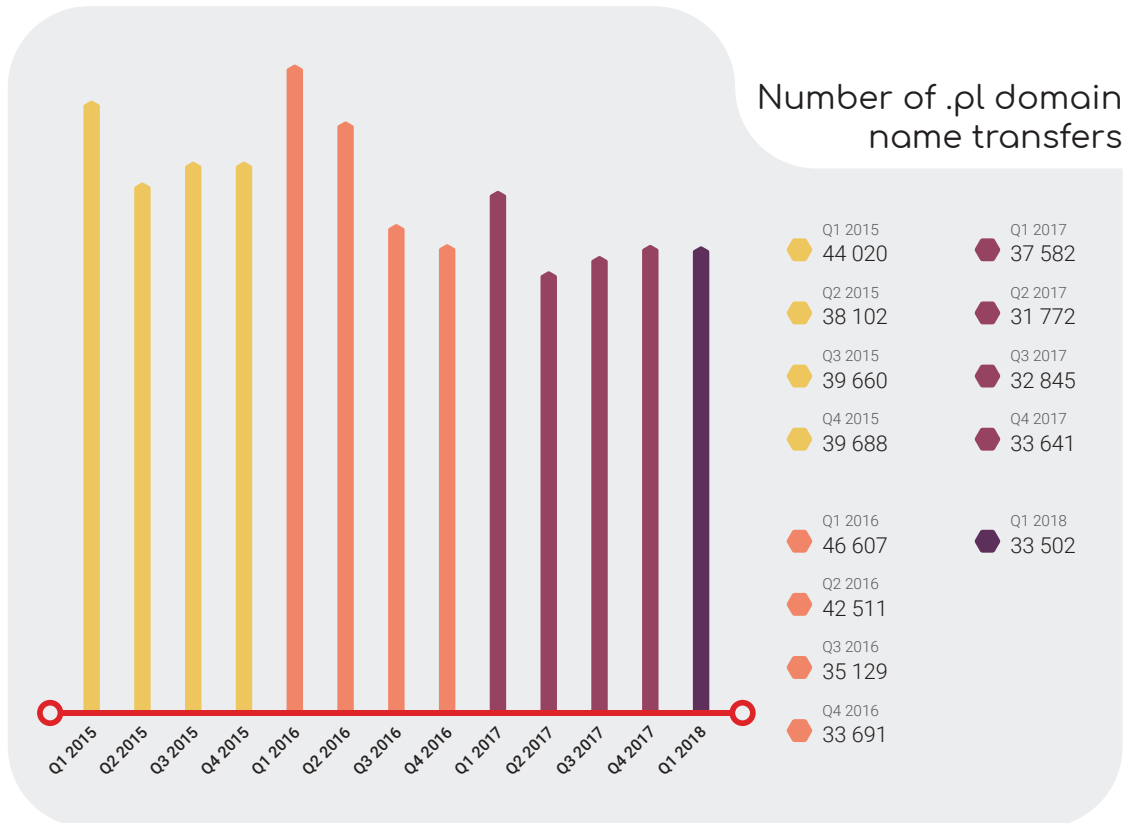


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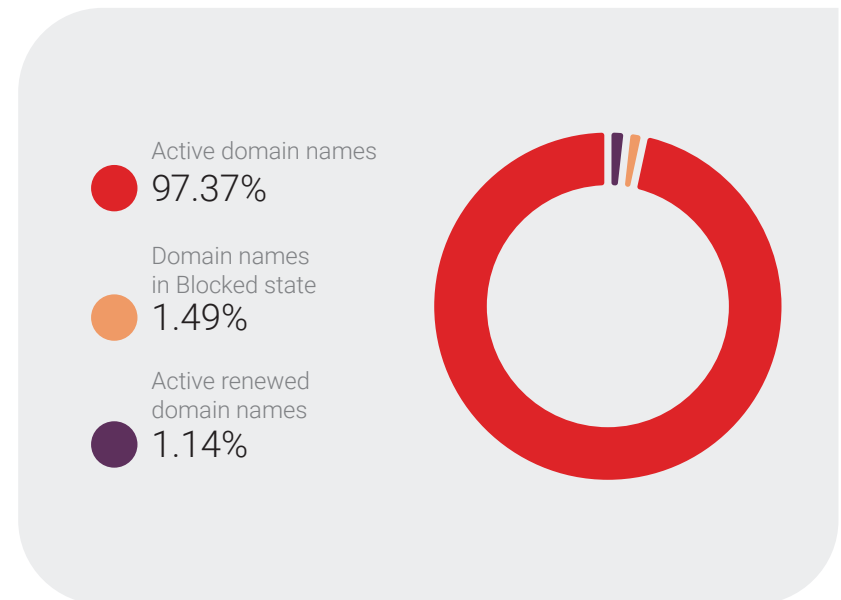
.pl domain names active in DNS

Transfers

From the beginning of January to the end of March 2018 registrants **33 502** times changed a registrar servicing their .pl domain names, which constituted 372 domain transfers daily average. The number, mentioned above, was approximate to that of the previous quarter.



Division of transfers, Q1 2018



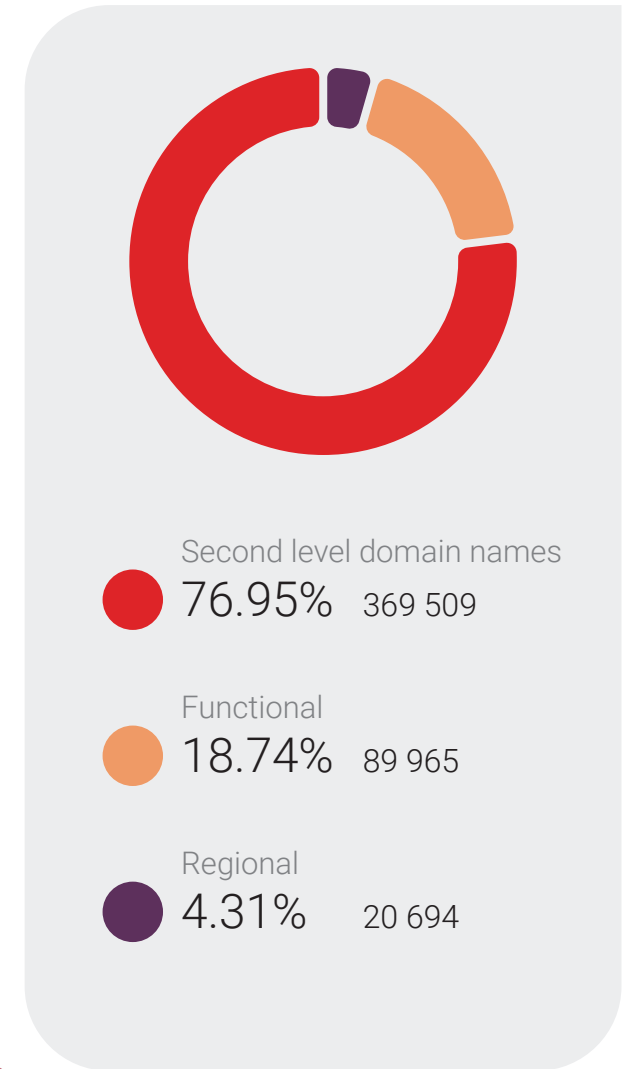
.pl domain names active in DNS

Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period

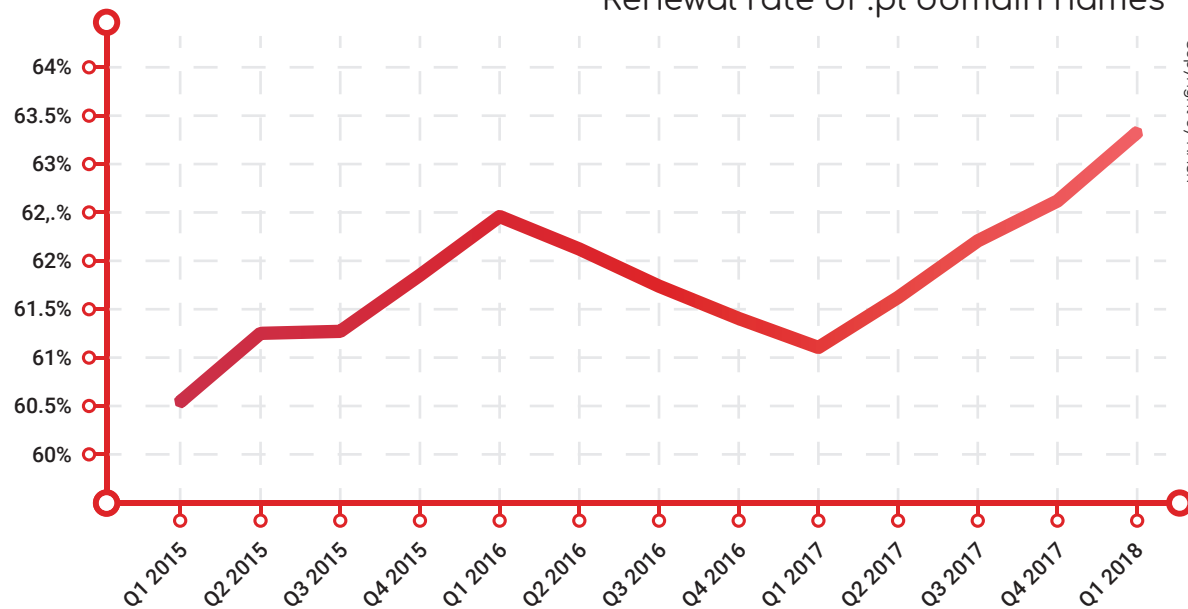
The renewal rate, at the end of March 2018, amounted to **63.29%**, being the highest rate since the first quarter of 2009 when it amounted to 66.06%. In the first quarter of 2018 over **480 thousand** names were renewed, with second level domain names constituting 76.95%, functional domain names 18.74% and regional domain names 4.31%.

84.09% of .pl domain names, renewed between 1 January and 31 March 2018, were registered before 2017, while 15.87% in 2017.

Structure of renewed .pl domain names, Q1 2018



Renewal rate of .pl domain names



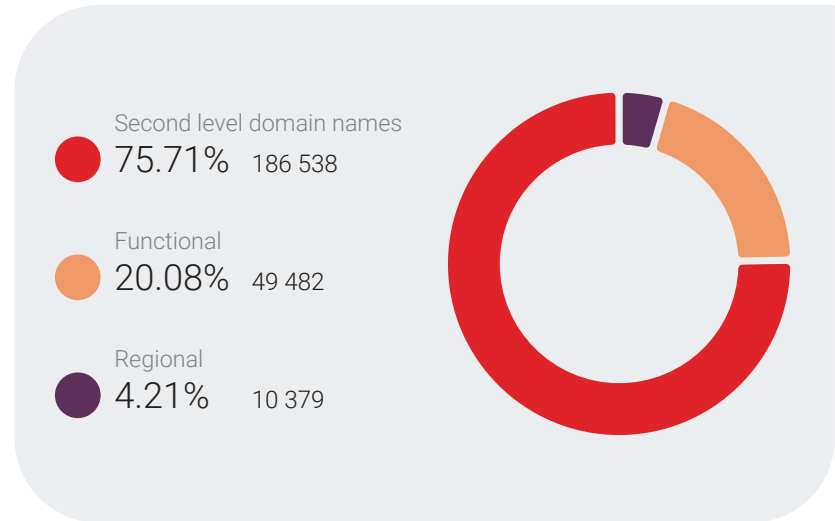
New domain names in .pl registry

During the first quarter of 2018 nearly **246.4 thousand** .pl domain names were registered. The highest number of registrations was in January when the number of new registrations amounted to over **87.4 thousand**. In February 75.2 thousand names were registered, whereas in March the number of registered names amounted to **83.7 thousand**.

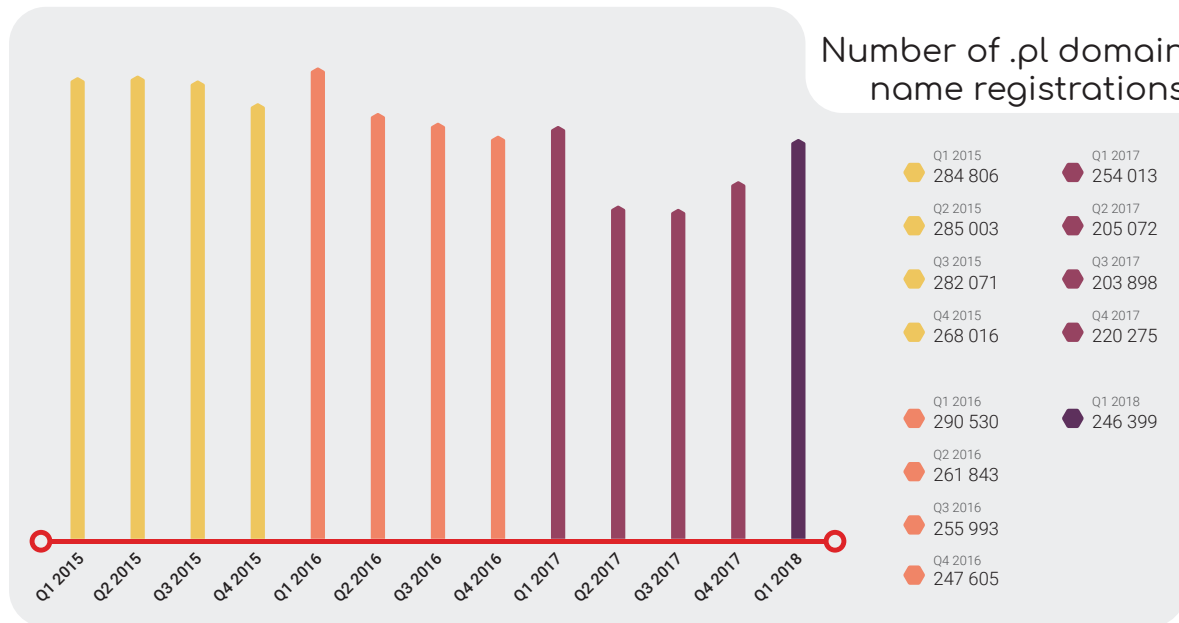
A daily average number of registered .pl domain names, during the quarter under discussion, amounted to 2 738. In particular months the amount of daily registrations equalled on average 2 821 in January, 2 686 in February and 2 701 in March.

From the beginning of January to the end of March 2018 ca. 76% of registrations were effected directly in the .pl domain (second level domain names), 20% in functional domains, whereas remaining 4% in regional domains.

.pl domain name registrations as divided into a type of zone, Q1 2018

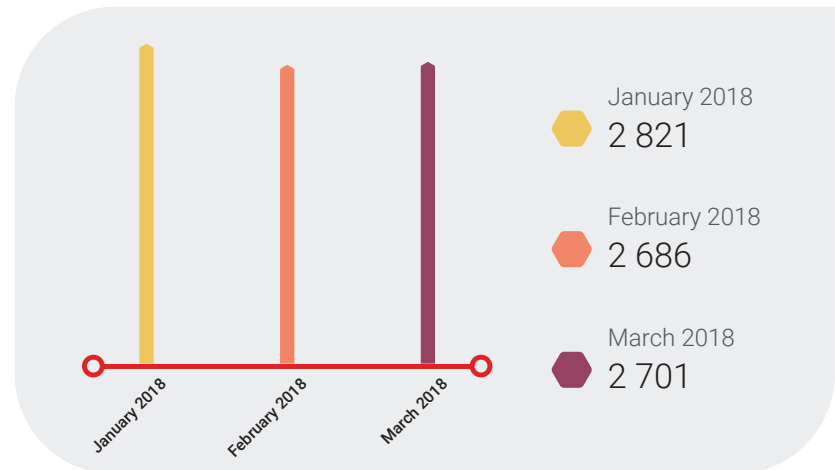


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Number of .pl domain name registrations, daily average, Q1 2018



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Registrants of .pl domain names

Registrants in the .pl registry

In the .pl registry, at the end of the first quarter of 2018, there were **1 047 852** unique entries of .pl domain name registrants. It is by **5 714** registrants more than in the fourth quarter of 2018. 2.45 .pl domain names fell for one registrant on average. Entrepreneurs constituted 66.36% and natural persons 33.64% of all registrants.

Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants

At the end of March 2018, from amongst all the domain names, active in DNS, **93.83%** were being maintained for the registrants domiciled in Poland, while 6.17% of names for registrants from abroad. In this group the most numerous registrants were from Germany (1.50%), Great Britain (0.68%) and United States (0.60%). Out of all new .pl domain names registrations, effected in the first quarter of 2018, **91.40%** were realized for registrants from Poland, while remaining 8.59% of names for foreign registrants, amongst whom predominant were registrants from Cyprus (4.07%), Germany (0.72%) and Great Britain (0.61%).

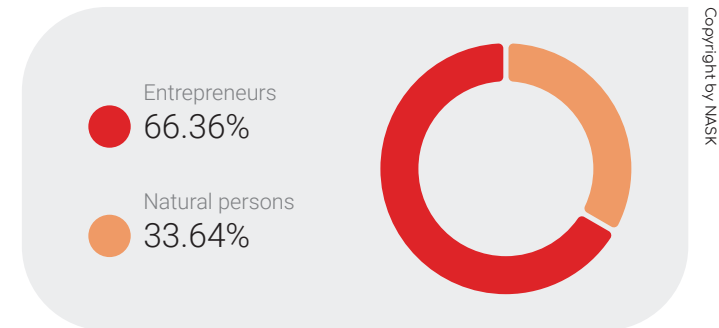
Registrants vs .pl domain names

For entrepreneurs and organizations there were being maintained in the registry 68.44% of names, active in DNS, whereas remaining 31.56% for natural persons. For entrepreneurs and organizations 63.21% of new registrations were executed, while for natural persons 36.79%. At the end of March 2018 the .pl registry was maintaining one domain name for **66.94%** of registrants, two domain names for **15.36%**, three domain names for **5.83%**, and 10 and more .pl domain names were held by **2.60%** of registrants.

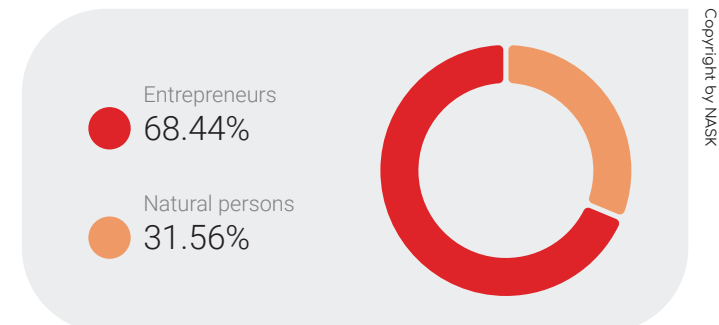
Assignments

In the first quarter of 2018 there were **33 143** changes of .pl domain names registrants. The number, mentioned above, was approximate to that of the previous quarter.

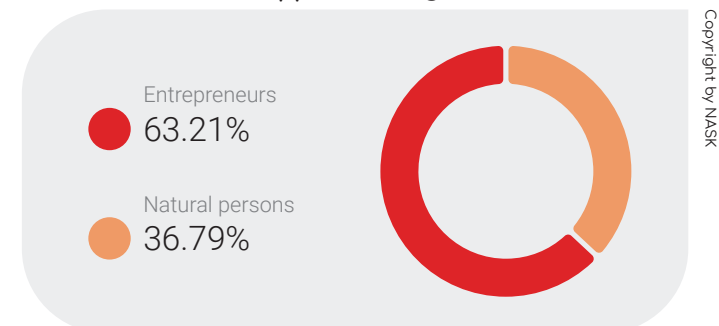
Division of registrants of .pl domain names, Q1 2018



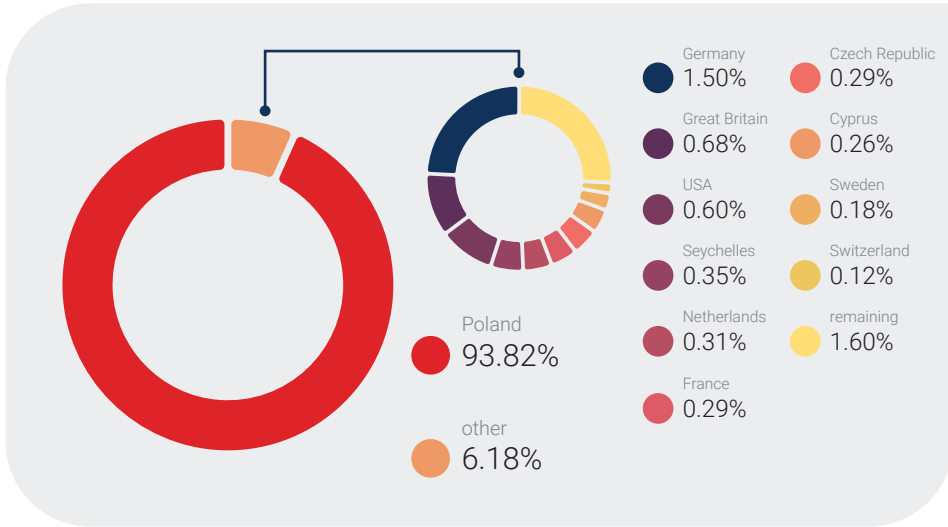
Division of active .pl domain names for registrants, Q1 2018



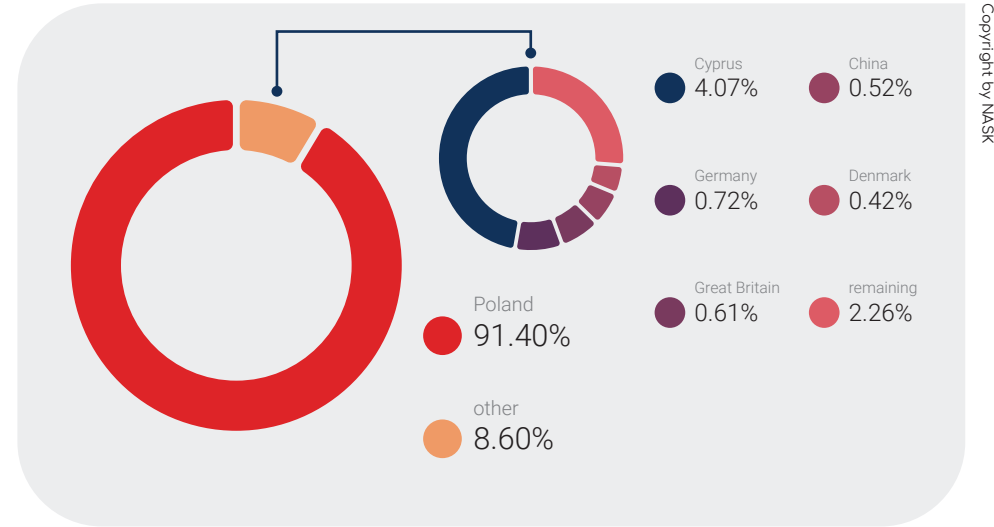
Division of .pl domain name registrations for the type of registrant, Q1 2018



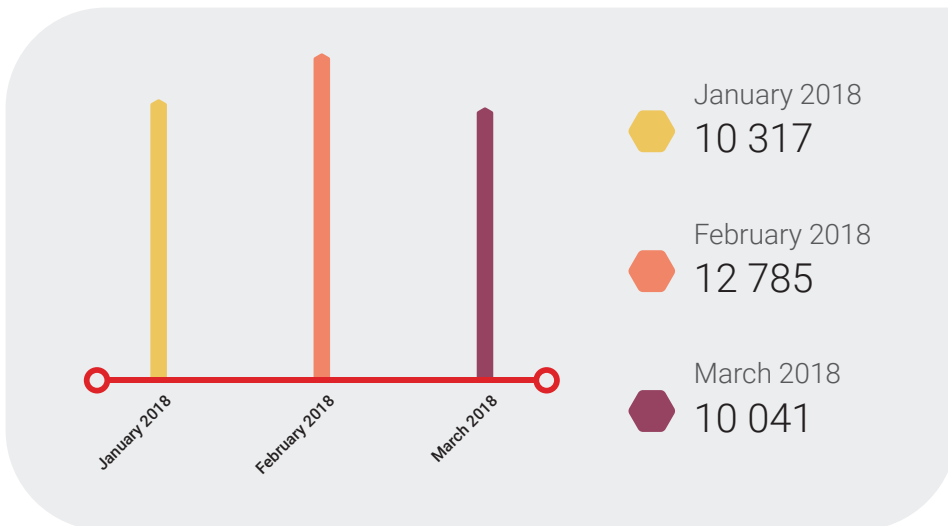
Division of .pl domain names active in DNS for registrant's country, Q1 2018



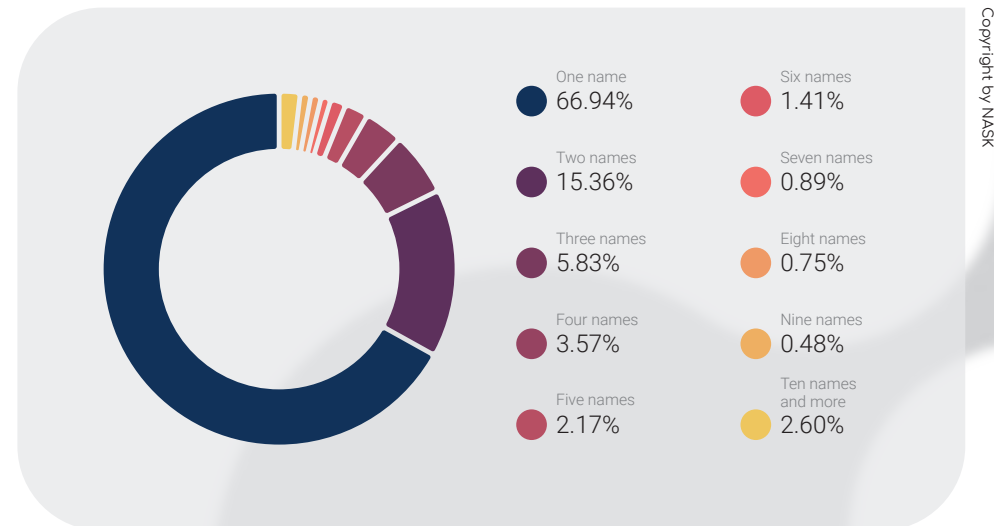
Division of .pl domain name registrations for a registrant's country, Q1 2018



Number of changes of .pl domain name registrants, Q1 2018



Division of registrants by account of the number of maintained .pl domain names, Q1 2018

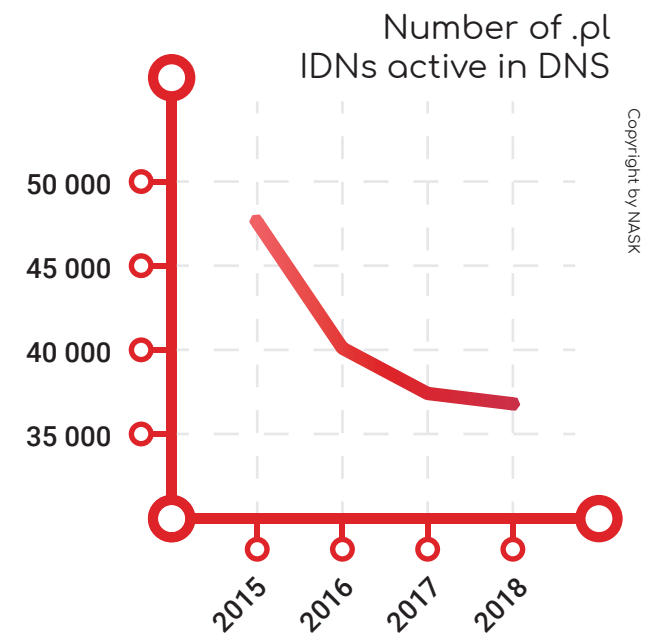
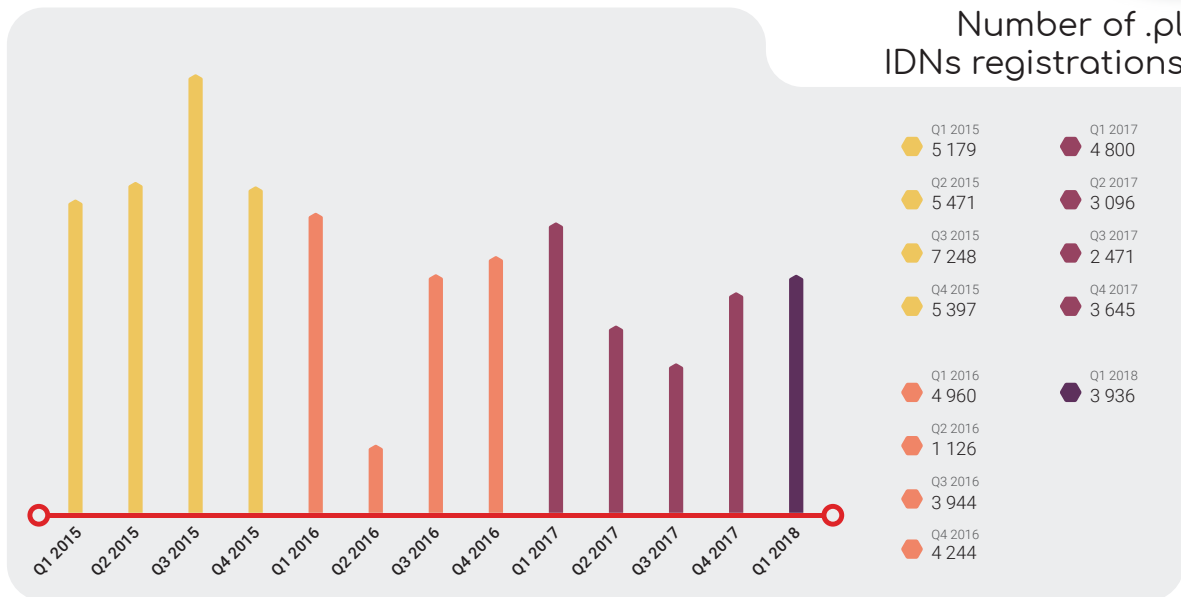
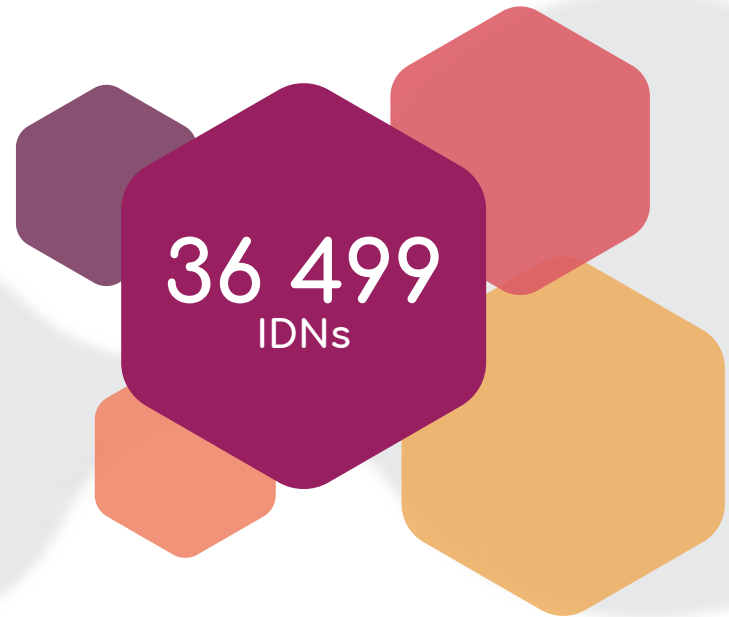


Additional services of .pl registry

IDNs

At the end of the first quarter of 2018, the .pl registry contained 36 499 names, active in DNS, with national diacritic signs (IDNs), constituting 1.42% of all active .pl domain names.

From the beginning of January to the end of March 2018 3 936 IDNs were registered, i.e. 1.60% of all .pl domain names registered during that period.



Additional services of .pl registry

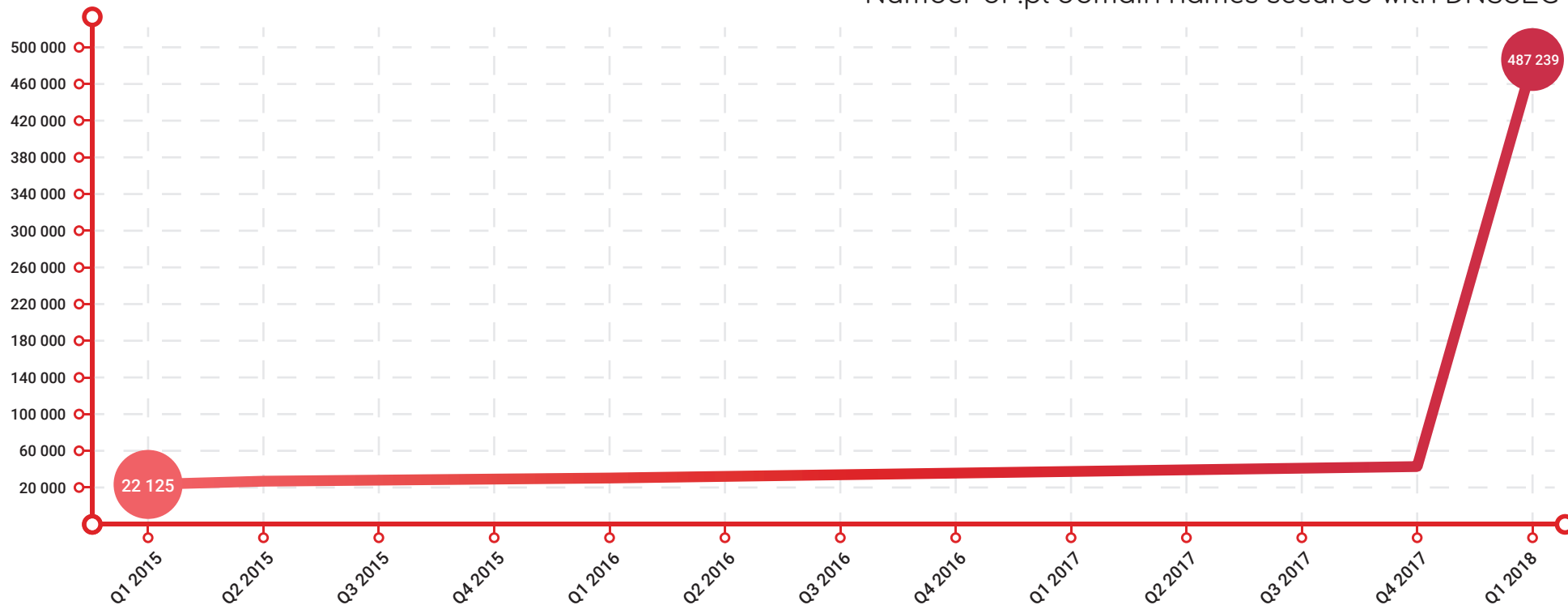
DNSSEC

In the .pl registry, at the end of the first quarter of 2018 there were **487 239** names secured with DNSSEC protocol. From the beginning of January to the end of March the number of secured .pl domain names increased by **446 560**. Almost 11-fold increase in the segment of names secured with DNSSEC was a result of actions taken by a current leader in that category among Partners of the .pl registry, nazwa.pl sp. z o.o. Increase in the security level of the .pl domain, caused by activities of the .pl registry performed in the field of DNSSEC, constitutes a unique value for Internet users in Poland.

70.38% of secured names were registered directly in the .pl domain, **26.87%** in the functional domains, whereas 2.75% in the regional domains.



Number of .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC



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Additional services of .pl registry

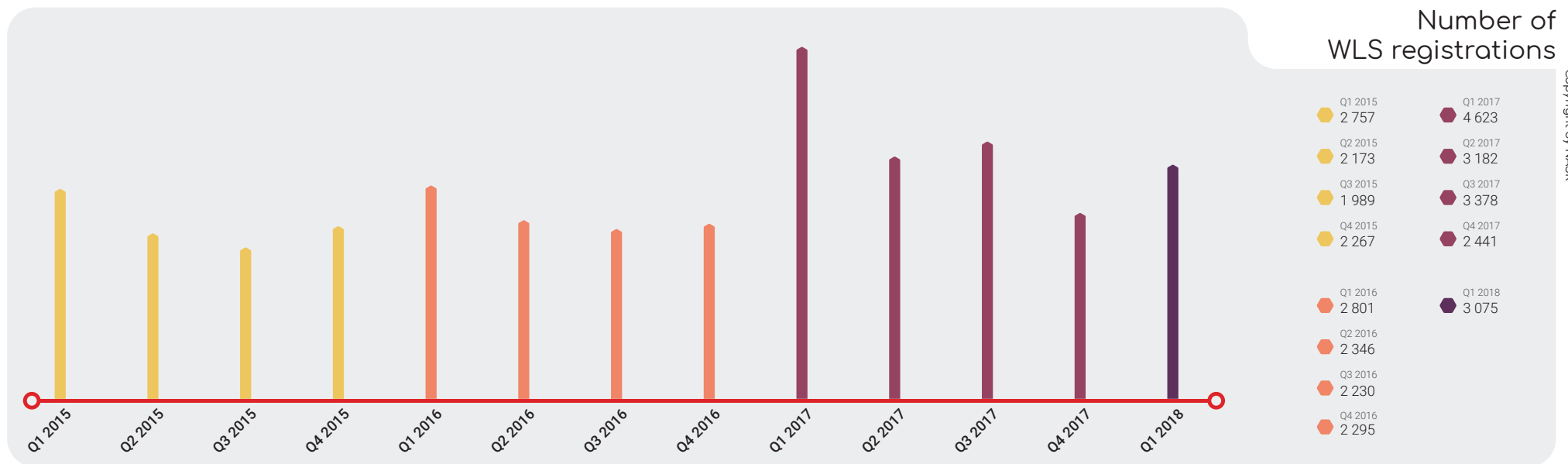


Options

During the first quarter of 2018 3 075 agreements on options for the registration of .pl domain names were concluded.

1 305 agreements on options ended with providing a domain name for registration, whereas in 102 cases the registration procedure was not completed due to reasons attributable to an option holder, which resulted in the domain names being released to the group of names available for registration.

Since launching the service of option for registration of a domain name in June 2004, the .pl registry has concluded more than 210 thousand agreements, with 44.66% thereof providing .pl domain names for registration.



Registrars of .pl domain names

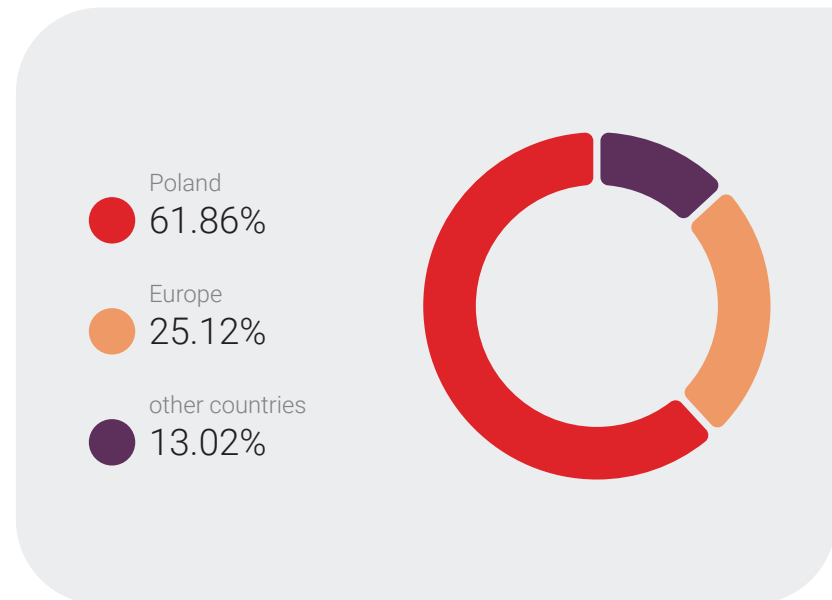
.pl Registry Partner Programme

The .pl registry, in the first quarter of 2018, concluded agreements with 5 new Partners and, at the end of the quarter, was cooperating with **215** registrars from 23 countries.

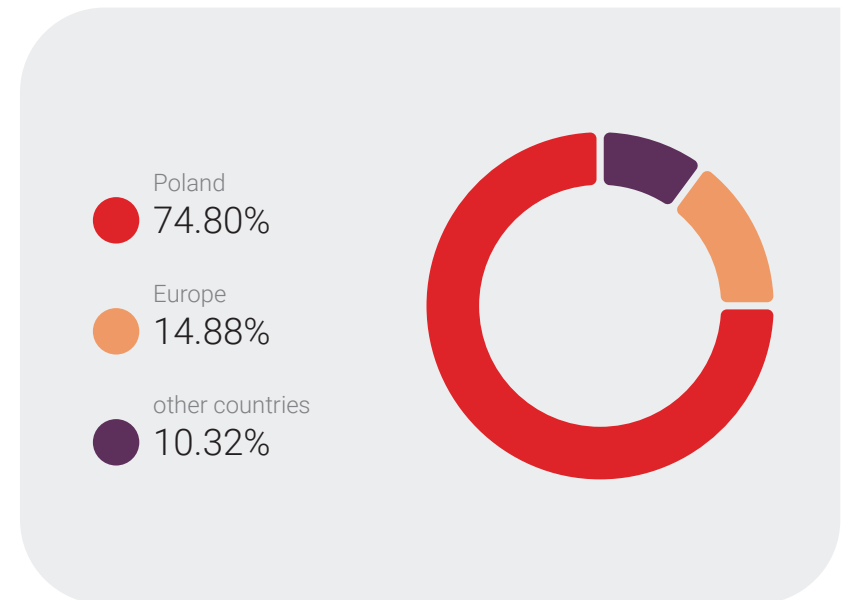
133 registrars had their registered offices in Poland and were servicing in total 74.80% of .pl domain names, 54 registrars, seated in other European countries, were servicing 14.88% of .pl domain names, while 28 registrars, domiciled beyond Europe, were servicing 10.32% of .pl domain names.



Division of Partners for their place of residence, Q1 2018



Division of .pl domain names for Partner's registered office, Q1 2018



Registrars of .pl domain names

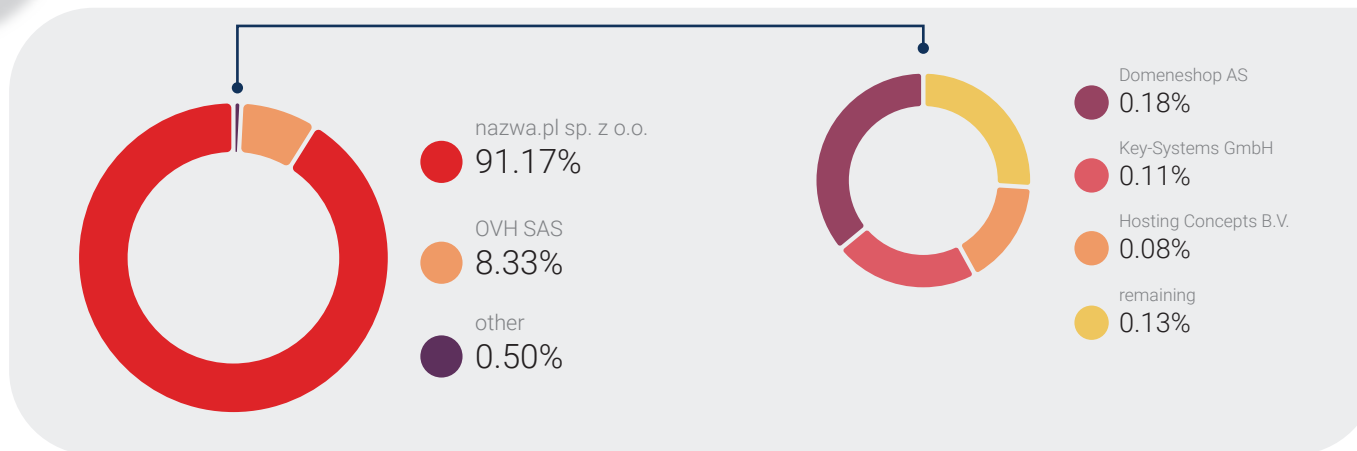
Division of .pl domain name market

In the first quarter of 2018, nazwa.pl sp. z o.o. remained on a leader position in the .pl domain name market in respect of the share of domain names serviced by particular Partners (22.34%) and the number of new registrations (34.19%). Nazwa.pl services also the highest number of .pl domain name registrants (23.04%).

During the discussed period most numerous options for registration of .pl domain names were being serviced by Michau Enterprises Ltd. 41.69%).

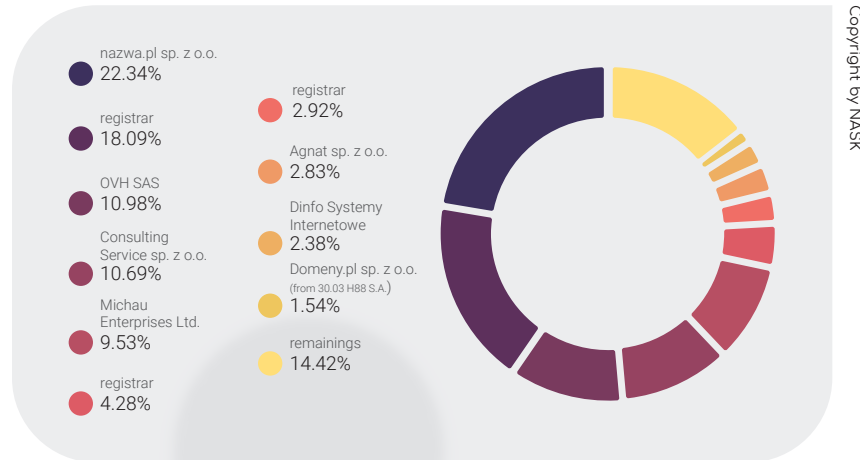
In the first quarter of 2018 the highest number of domain names, secured with the DNSSEC protocol, was being serviced by nazwa.pl sSp. z o.o., 91.17% of secured names. The second place was taken by OVH SAS with share of 8.33%. In the forefront there were also Domeneshop AS, Key-Systems GmbH and Hosting Concepts B.V.

Partner's market share in the service of .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC, Q1 2018

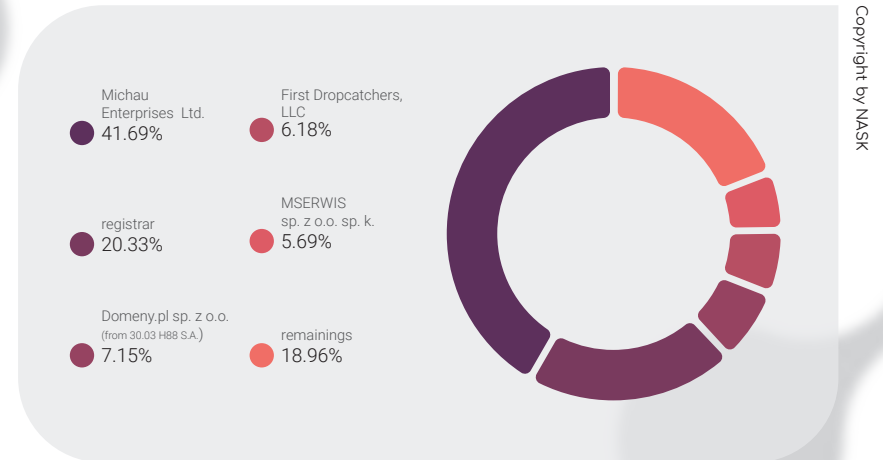


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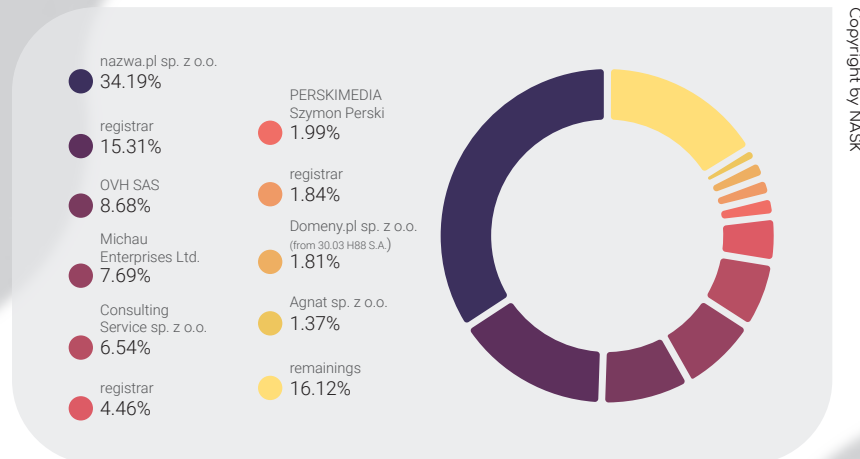
Partner's market share in the service of .pl domain names, Q1 2018*



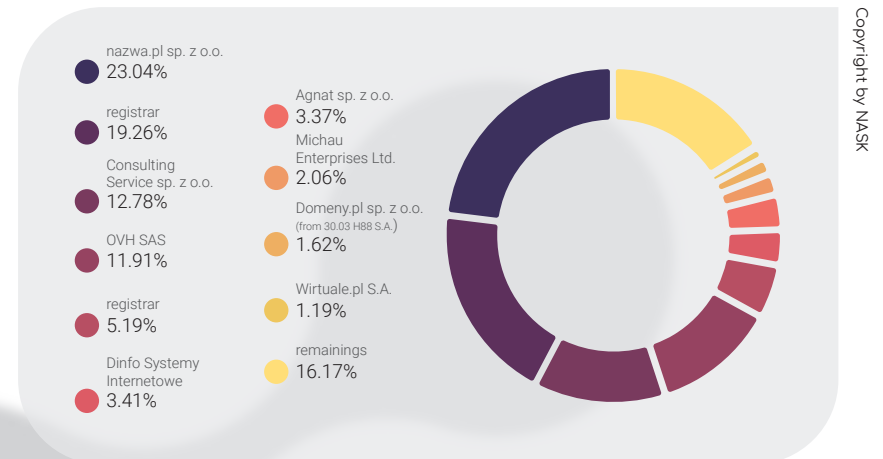
Partner's share in the WLS market, Q1 2018*



Partner's market share in registration of new .pl domain names, Q1 2018*



Partner's market share in the service of registrants of .pl domain names Market, Q1 2018*



Insight into .pl registry

Got it. Overview of GDPR implemented in the .pl Registry

During the first edition of event **Open Day of the .pl registry** in September 2017 we were discussing with NASK PIB's Partners the changes related to the enforcement of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27th April 2016, which became enforceable on 25 May 2018.

At that time, in fall of 2017, preceded by discussions with Partners, a period of intensive preparations to implement GDPR in the .pl registry began. However, it is worthwhile to note that the issue of protecting natural persons' data was raised during Partner meetings also earlier, e.g. an overview of that subject matter in regard to a new EU Regulation was presented to NASK's Partners at the meeting in September 2016.

One year later, during an open discussion panel, organized specially for the purpose of GDPR, lawyers cooperating with Partners and NASK PIB's lawyers, including data protection officers, discussed together, among others, the issues regarding the adaptation of the Whois database user regulations, privacy policy as well as adaptation of formal-legal provisions in order to meet the requirements of the regulation.

At the final stage of GDPR implementation, in the spring of 2018, most important information on the Partners' cooperation with NASK was laid down. In that information NASK drew attention to the fact that since GDPR constitutes a regulation dynamically seeking balance between protection of personal data and free flow of information,

taking into account the meaning of transparency in the Internet, supported by Whois databases for many years, a necessity to properly adapt current conditions to challenges, brought by implemented regulations, has come to the fore. As a result of that course of action regarding Whois database, from 25 May 2018 the .pl registry ceased to publish data of registrants defined in the database as natural persons. Among other changes implemented together with GDPR and pertaining to the cooperation with the Partners of the .pl registry worthy of note is the fact that NASK, ensuring conformity with principles, specified in GDPR provisions, including the principle of data minimization, verified and constrained appropriately the scope of personal data processed by the .pl registry and the Partners cooperating with NASK.

While completing the implementation of GDPR, queried by Partners of the .pl registry, NASK considered it important to inform the Registrants on their rights and obligations resulting first and for most out of the provisions of law. There was an information campaign, directed straight to the Registrants of the .pl registry at the turn of April and May of 2018, aiming to draw their attention to the correctness of data disclosed in Whois.

Insight into .pl registry

In NASK PIB we welcomed the 25 May 2018 being prepared* to new provisions, therefore in this point it is worthy to quote the preamble of the Privacy Policy of the .pl Registry:

Respecting the right to privacy is of paramount importance for the .pl domain Registry and helps us maintain the trust in both the services provided by the .pl domain Registry and by Naukowa i Akademicka Sieć Komputerowa - Państwowy Instytut Badawczy in Warsaw (NASK).

The .pl domain Registry follows transparent rules regarding its privacy policy; this includes informing you why and how your personal data are processed, how long they are stored and who is it made available to.

To protect your personal data in the best possible way, the .pl domain Registry follows the following rules:

The .pl Registry processes personal data solely to achieve legitimate objectives, for which the data are collected, or in such manner as is defined in compulsorily applicable laws.

The .pl Registry processes only such categories of personal data as are required to achieve the objectives of the processing.

The .pl Registry does not process any personal data in a manner that would be inconsistent with the objective of the processing of such data.

The .pl Registry processes personal data with high security standards to protect personal data against loss or improper use.

The .pl Registry processes personal data for a period not longer than is necessary for the purposes, for which such data are processed.

Full wording of the Privacy Policy of the .pl Registry has been published at the website of the .pl registry
https://www.dns.pl/english/privacy_policy.html

*Having regard to a current execution phase of implementation schedule as well as evolution of statements of appropriate bodies and considering the dynamics of the final phase of implementing RODO/GDPR country regulations (Polish), NASK reserves the right to an immediate response within an appropriate scope including the issues pertaining to the ongoing operation of the DNS Partner Programme. Notwithstanding the above, pursuant to RODO/GDPR conditions we will ensure continual monitoring with an active approach to optimize current solutions and those subject to changes.

Text prepared in cooperation with GDPR project implementation team in NASK PIB's Domain Department.



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Compilation of data gathered from the .pl domain name registry system:
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