IPv6 and DNSSEC in the Czech Republic

How policy support and government regulation helped the IPV6 and DNSSEC protocols make headways in the Czech Republic

For a long time, new Internet technologies such as IPv6 and DNSSEC have not only been the interest of technical professionals but also (and increasingly so) of governments and state institutions. No, don’t be afraid, I’m not referring to regimes trying to control the Internet, on the contrary, I mean those understanding the Internet’s potential for further and free development. A good example is the Czech Republic, which is paying a lot of attention to IPv6 and DNSSEC support. Among its active stakeholders is the .cz national domain administrator (CZ.NIC Association) which has been promoting these technologies and has among other things developed the DNSSEC Validator for Internet’s everyday users. Another active stakeholder in the country is the Ministry of Industry and Trade which has included IPv6 and DNSSEC into its long-term strategies in the area of electronic communication.

Of the numerous activities of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Czech Government, one action is of particular importance – it is a Government Resolution made in December 2013 which states that all public administration institutions must secure their domains via DNSSEC by 1 July 2015. In the Czech Republic, the new Internet technologies support began at a much earlier date – in 2009, when the government passed its first resolution aimed at supporting the Internet protocol IPv6. According to this document, all government offices (i.e. Ministries) were supposed to (almost immediately) incorporate a requirement of IPv6 support into all their public tenders for network infrastructure and from 1 January 2012 to make their web presentations available via both IPv4 and IPv6.

The results of an analysis carried out within the European GEN6 project show that while not all the institutions yet comply with the obligations, there is nevertheless a positive development and the public administration has a much higher IPv6 penetration than the Czech average and does better than the most important companies in the Czech Republic.

In this context it’s also worth looking at the “General rules and recommendations for the use of data traffic management in the provision of Internet access service” issued by the Czech Telecommunication Office. These rules, focused primarily on net neutrality, state that Internet access service means connection via IPv4 and IPv6 protocols only. IPv6 can be of greater importance in the near future, as suggests the legislation the European Parliament has recently adopted within the so-called Digital Single Market legislative package, according to which “net neutrality” means the principle that all internet traffic (note i.e. both via IPv4 and IPv6) is treated equally, without discrimination, restriction or interference, independent of its sender, receiver, type, content, device, service or application. It is entirely possible that after passing these regulations IPv6 will get much more support and the Czech Republic experience will be of use to other countries.

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<tr>
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<th>IPv6</th>
<th>DNSSEC May 14</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
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<td>32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average in .CZ domain</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>21%</td>
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Article from: Jiří Průša, jiri.prusa@nic.cz; CZ.NIC Association
Krzysztof Olesik (NASK): A warm welcome in a conference room - friendly and informal. That is how the visit began. No official speeches, no presentations, just a casual conversation during which NASK and Registry were presented in their true colours. Attendees learnt that NASK is not just the .PL Registry, it is a research institute which has its history in Warsaw University with activities in many areas. NASK performs research in telecommunications, data quality 'QoS' (Quality of Service) security of IT systems with focus on biometric identification methods as well as being a data networks operator. Under NASK’s auspicious operates CERT Poland and NIFC (National Initiative for Children) - a hotline dealing with illegal contents on Internet under Polish law.

As for the Registry, attendees learnt about unique services such as domain name tasting, reservation of names and the waiting list service and heard about actions taken against malicious domain names.

After the welcoming, visitors took a closer look at registry operations with presentations from the Domain Department. Each team was presented and their roles and tasks were discussed. The last stop was the techies’ room with tools supporting everyday operations and project management. NASK’s guests also had the chance to meet all the key people behind the scene and talk to them directly on operational and technical issues.

A visit to other registry premises is an exciting and beneficial experience for all parties. It seems to be excellent addition to regular CENTR meetings.

Registrar Market shares: Who’s selling the ccTLD?

The number of registrars a ccTLD Registry has ranges anywhere from 1 to into the thousands. Factors determining these numbers are most likely related to historic reasons such as the nature and definition of what a registrar is, the requirements to become a registrar and of course the size of the ccTLD zone.

A recent CENTR survey asked what percentage of their zone (ccTLD zones) can be attributed to their 3 largest registrars (in terms of registrations volume). The Median value was found to be 50% - an increase of 2% from the previous year. This suggests that on average around half the registrations from within a ccTLD are managed by around 3 Registrars.

The same survey found that on average around 11% of a ccTLD’s Registrars are ICANN accredited. In terms of total registrations, 45%* (median) of a ccTLD’s registrations are registered via ICANN accredited Registrars.

* CENTR Survey: Domain Name Status (May 2014)
No matter what the competitive landscape is, CENTR shall continue in being useful to members by providing valuable knowledge – statistics, surveys, reports and a network to its members. I think CENTR has a huge possibility to be of the utmost importance to its members by following, being involved in and reporting on the multiple internet governance issues/discussions that are becoming more complex and growing in numbers at the moment. These reports give the members an overview of these discussions and keep them updated and prepared.

What were some of the topics you have been discussing at the recent CENTR Board off-site meeting?
We have been discussing the declining growth of the registries and the possible effects for the community, new gTLDs, internet governance and how CENTR can keep being valuable to its members.

What value does CENTR bring to your own organisation/ccTLD?
CENTR brings valuable statistics, reports from meetings like RIPE, IETF, ICANN etc., reports on issues like IANA transition, DNSSEC, and working groups on important issues. But what I find most valuable and very difficult to get elsewhere is that CENTR workshops and assemblies provide us with a very good network by giving access to the unique and very active ccTLD-community that forms CENTR.

Can you give some insight to the type of responsibilities you have as a CENTR Board member?
I am an “ordinary” member of the CENTR board, but my focus is on internet governance, new gTLDs and finances. Three very different subjects but I have the same focus areas within ICANN, where I have been a part of the finance working group and been following the governance and new gTLDs related sessions.

Why did you decide to join the CENTR Board and did you have any specific expectations?
I decided to run for CENTR Board in January 2012 because I find it important to be an active part of the TLD community. I think there is going to be changes within the CENTR community in the years to come because of the new gTLDs, and I wish to help that change the best way I can. When joining the board, I had expectations to be able to lay out guidelines for the CENTR strategy and to work seriously with whatever the GA wanted the board to focus on - and if there is any coincidence, my own focus areas. We have presented a strategy decided by the entire board to the GA every year and so far we have gotten good response from the members. I think the board members form a very good team and we have good cooperation with the secretariat, so my expectations have been fulfilled.

What are your thoughts on how CENTR is positioned in the current environment of new gTLDs and increasingly complex internet governance landscape?
I think CENTR needs to follow the market evolution of new gTLDs closely and we need to be prepared for registries of new gTLDs applying for membership. At the same time there is a new association DNA that also will serve TLDs, but I think their scope is different from the scope of CENTR, that is an organization built on community-based knowledge-sharing. DNA seems to be a more traditional industry-organization and has potential as being both a competitor and a collaborator. I hope the latter.
.BY celebrates its 20th anniversary 20 years ago the national Belarusian top level domain .BY was delegated. Today .BY has 102,000 registered domains and has been growing rapidly.

Nominet CEO Steps down Nominet announced the departure of Lesley Cowley as CEO. The Nominet Board acknowledges the contribution Lesley has made to establish Nominet as a widely respected domain name registry over the last 15 years.

Registrars announced for .vlaanderen and .brussels DNS Belgium announced they have already signed contracts with the 3 Belgian ICANN-accredited registrars.

First Cyrillic domain .РФ turns four Russia’s new ccTLD and the world’s first Cyrillic domain, .РФ, was registered in May 2010. Since then, 820,538 new .РФ domain names have been registered, of which nearly 80% are delegated domains

SIDN & Registrars’ Association cooperation agreement SIDN’s CEO Roelof Meijer and Registrars’ Association signed a new agreement paving the way for SIDN and the Registrars’ Association to continue working together.

New edition of ISO/IEC 27001-2013 Information Security Management System It is obvious that information security is high up on the agenda for many organizations these days, and TLD registries are no exception. The long attendance list at the two most recent CENTR Security working groups demonstrates this. They have mainly focused on how to implement an information security management system and the last one was even more specifically looking into the changes from ISO 27001:2005 to ISO 27001:2013. Even though the number of participants at these workshops beats the expectations, I am sure that there are still some ccTLD’s that are still in the starting blocks on this task – defining and implementing an information security management system – ISMS. Continue reading

CENTR Board comment on IANA Transition Process The CENTR Board of Directors provided input to the ICANN consultation on Principles & Mechanisms and the Process to Develop a Proposal to Transition NTIA’s Stewardship of the IANA Functions. See the submission

CENTR Board on ICANN Accountability The CENTR Board has submitted a comment on the consultation on enhancing ICANN’s accountability See the submission

Over 50% of domains in Spain are “.es” Statistics show that of 3,451,863 total domain names registered in Spain, more than half of them are .es

Stockholm Internet Forum 2014 .SE is a proud sponsor of Stockholm Internet Forum - a conference that aims to deepen the discussions on how freedom and openness on the internet can promote economic and social development worldwide.

Upcoming Events

Once a Year, CENTR combines all its themed workshops together in one week – the CENTR Jamboree. This year’s event will be held in Paris between the 2nd and 4th of June. The Jamboree has been fully booked with an estimated 200 participants expected. Click workshop titles to see more detail

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop Type</th>
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<td>2 June</td>
<td>Security workshop</td>
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<td>Legal &amp; Regulatory workshop</td>
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Source: CENTR stat database, gTLDs: Hostersstats.com
Note: ‘CENTR’ members represent more than 95% of European ccTLDs in terms of domain registrations

CENTR Total Registrations

69,017,079

CENTR Full Members

CENTR members grew in registrations 0.14% in April and 4.1% over the past 12 months.

The highest growth member for March was .re (Réunion) with 2.5% and in absolute terms was .eu (European Union) adding over 17,000 domains net.