

# ***An overview of the ccTLDs***

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# ***Introducing CENTR***



# What is CENTR?

- *Council of European National Top Level Domain Registries*
- *Forum for TLD managers*
  - Primarily ccTLDs
    - Also includes gTLDs
  - Mainly European
    - Membership from 5 continents
    - Developed and emerging TLD markets, like .AF, .IR
- *Open to **all** Top Level Domain Registries in the world*



# CENTR's Membership

- 3 Members categories
  - Full Members
  - Associate Members
  - Observers
- Members vote on admission of new members



# CENTR's Membership

- AFGNIC Afghanistan (.af)
- STA Andorra (.ad)
- ISOC.AM Armenia (.am)
- NIC.AC Ascension Is. (.ac), Diego Garcia (.io), St Helena (.sh)
- NIC.AT Austria (.at)
- DNS Belgium Belgium (.be)
- Digital Systems Bulgaria (.bg)
- CIRA Canada (.ca)
- CARNet Croatia (.hr)
- UCY-DNS Cyprus (.cy)
- CZ.NIC Czech Republic (.cz)
- DENIC Germany (.de)
- Dansk Internet Forum (.dk)
- FICORA Finland (.fi)
- AFGNIC France (.fr), Mayotte (.yt), Reunion (.re), St. Pierre & Miquelon (.pm), Wallis & Futuna Is. (.wf)
- GibNet Gibraltar (.gi)
- GR-Hostmaster Greece (.gr)
- Island Networks Guernsey (.gg), Jersey (.je)
- CHIP Hungary (.hu)
- IEDR Ireland (.ie)
- IPM Iran (.ir)
- ISNIC Iceland (.is)
- ISOC-IL Israel (.il)
- IT-NIC Italy (.it)
- JPRS Japan (.jp)
- LITNET NOC Lithuania (.lt)
- **LATNET, Latvia (.lv)**
- RESTENA DNS-LU Luxembourg (.lu)
- NIC Malta Malta (.mt)
- NIC-Mexico Mexico (.mx)
- SIDN Netherlands (.nl)
- ISOCNZ New Zealand (.nz)
- NORID Norway (.no), Bouvet Is. (.bv), Svalbard & Jan Mayen Is. (.sj)
- Palestinian Registry Palestine (.ps)
- NASK Poland (.pl)
- FCCN Portugal (.pt)
- RNC Romania (.ro)
- Ros-NIROS Russia (.ru)
- RED.ES Spain (.es)
- ARNES Slovenia (.si)
- IIS Sweden (.se)
- SWITCH Switzerland (.ch), Lichtenstein (.li)
- SITA (.aero)
- **Vatican – Holy See (.va)**
- Nominet UK United Kingdom (.uk)
- NeuStar United States of America (.us)
- VeriSign (.com, .net)
- Afilias (.info)
- Public Interest Registry (.org)



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# CENTR's structure

- Executive Committee
  - 5 members, inclusive of Chairman and Treasurer
  - 2 year appointments
  - It steers the organisation in accordance with CENTR members' wishes
- Secretariat
  - General Manager
  - Communication Officer
  - Technical Officer
  - Administrative Officer



# CENTR's output

- Newsletter, “*Domain Wire*”, 2 issues a year
- Surveys
  - A-level survey, covering the registries management main aspects
  - B-survey, covering legal issues related to registries
  - Other surveys upon request of our members
- Comments and positions on several topics that may have an impact on our members
- Outreach programme, providing registries of developing countries with financial and technical support



# CENTR in the international arena

- The European Commission participates in CENTR as an observer. Government reps may also attend...
- Regular meetings with: DG INFSO & Media, including the GAC Secretariat, the Cabinet of the Commissioner Reding
- At present, co-operation with the data protection Unit of DG Justice, Freedom and Security for the WHOIS related topics
- Associate member of the European Internet Foundation
- Regular participation in all the international Internet fora and meetings



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# CENTR's long term vision

- Expanding the dialogue among registries, governments and international bodies
- Developing best practice by encouraging exchange amongst registries
- Improving the reliability and stability of Internet through improved DNS practices
- Working closely with other Internet organisations



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# CENTR and the ccNSO

- On April 2005, CENTR inputs to the ccNSO process
- The CENTR Community showed its support for the creation of a body that convenes the ccTLDs community at international level
- The highlights of the comment refer to:
  - The scope of the ccNSO
  - Subsidiarity
  - Policy recommendation procedures



# CENTR and the ccNSO

- The CENTR Community believes that ccNSO members should decide:
  - Fee structures
  - Operational procedures
  - ccNSO policies
- It should be clear that “*global policies agreed by the ccNSO cannot bind non-members of the ccNSO*” (CENTR comment, April 2005)



# CENTR and the WSIS-WGIG process

- Accredited business entity in the WGIG-WSIS process since 2003
- Participation in the four WGIG open consultations
- Liaison with the WGIG Secretariat through information exchanges and participation in events (CENTR Open Day)
- Participation in the ccTLD workshop organised by the WGIG Secretariat in Geneva, July 2005, and in the ccNSO workshop held in September
- CENTR comments:
  - First CENTR comment to the WGIG process, April 2005
  - CENTR Comment to the WGIG final report, August 2005



# CENTR and the WSIS-WGIG process

- It is fundamental to distinguish between:
  - Those issues that may require restructuring of the present arrangements
  - Those that can be (and are expected to be) resolved within the existing frameworks
- Keep in mind that most issues are local and regional and as such are best solved at the national level
- The “free spirit” of the Internet as a milestone and the key of any future development

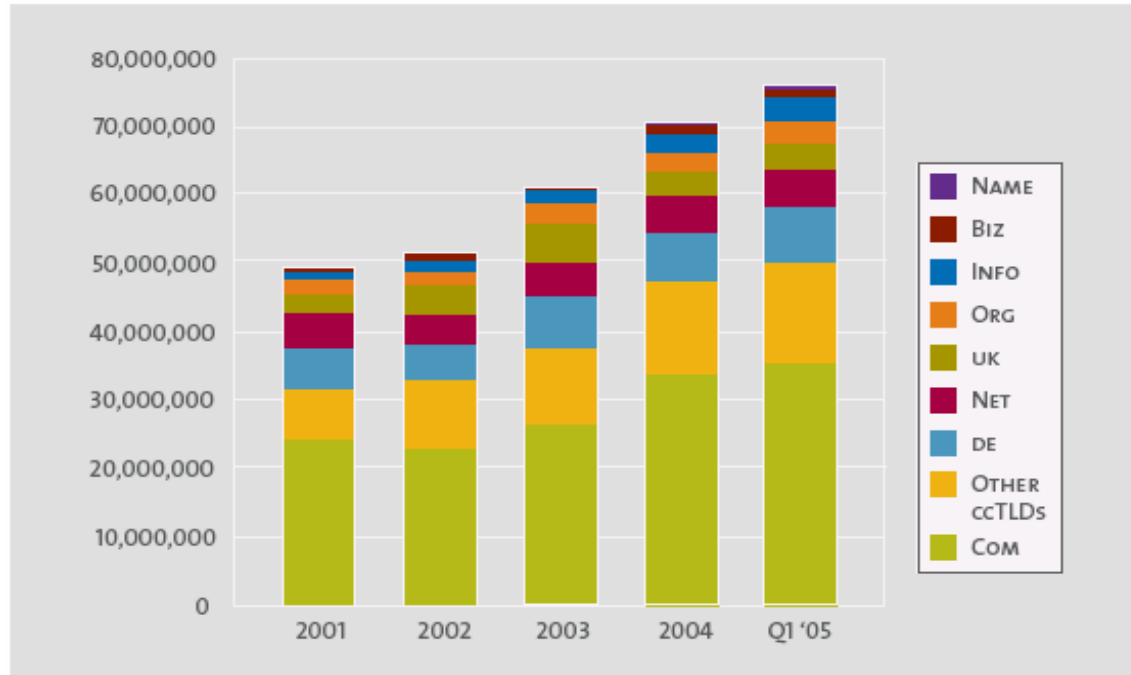


# ***Some statistics of the TLDs scenario***



# Domain name base growth 2001 – Q2 2005\*

TOTAL DOMAIN NAME REGISTRATION



At the end of the second quarter 2005, there were 82,9 million domain names registered worldwide. This represents a nearly 8% growth over the first quarter of 2005 and a 28% increase over last year.

**.com remains the largest Top Level Domain (TLD) in terms of its total base of registrations.**

The next three spots are .de (Germany), .net and .uk (United Kingdom) rounding out the top four.



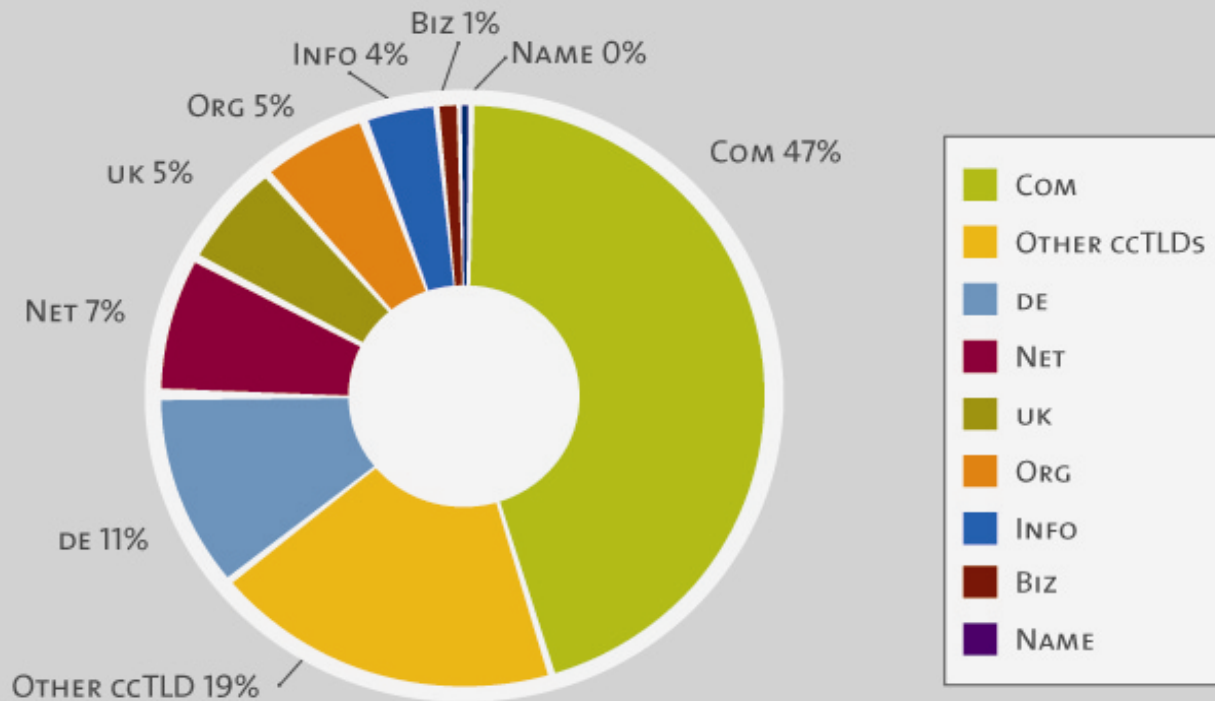
\*courtesy of VeriSign

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# Industry growth and composition\*

INDUSTRY COMPOSITION\*



Over 8 million new domain names were registered in the second quarter of 2005.

The ccTLDs as a group count for 35% followed by .net at 7%.

\*DUE TO NUMERICAL ROUNDING, PERCENTAGES MAY NOT EQUAL 100%



\*courtesy of VeriSign

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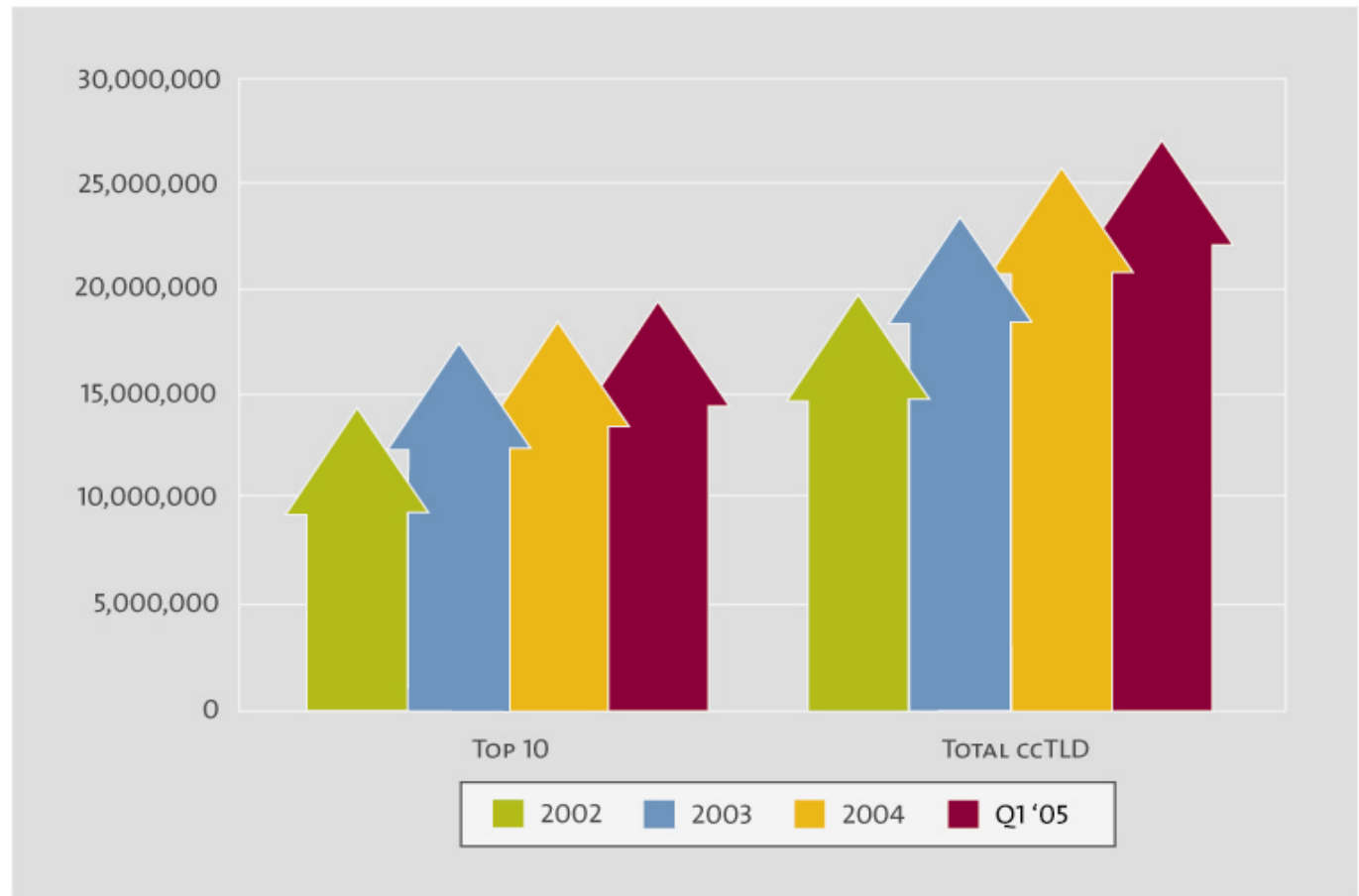


# ccTLD breakdown 2002 – Q1 2005\*

ccTLD BREAKDOWN

Out of the more than 240 ccTLDs, the top ten account for 71% of all ccTLD registrations.

The remaining ccTLDs carry the balance – so most registries are very small – and subject to competition from gTLDs and other providers.



\*courtesy of VeriSign

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# Top ccTLD registries by domain name base, Q2 2005

1. .de (Germany)
2. .uk (United Kingdom)
3. .ar (Argentina)
4. .nl (Netherlands)
5. .it (Italy)
6. .us (United States)
7. .br (Brazil)
8. .ch (Switzerland)
9. .cn (China)
10. .jp (Japan)



# ***Registries: policies and figures***



# Registry status\*

- Registry set up depends on various reasons, even though almost every registry was historically part of an academic network – today TLDs are highly competitive and there is a very dynamic market.
- The legal status can be classified as:
  - Private company
  - Part of academic network
  - Foundation
  - Association
  - Government agency
  - Telecom operator
  - Miscellaneous

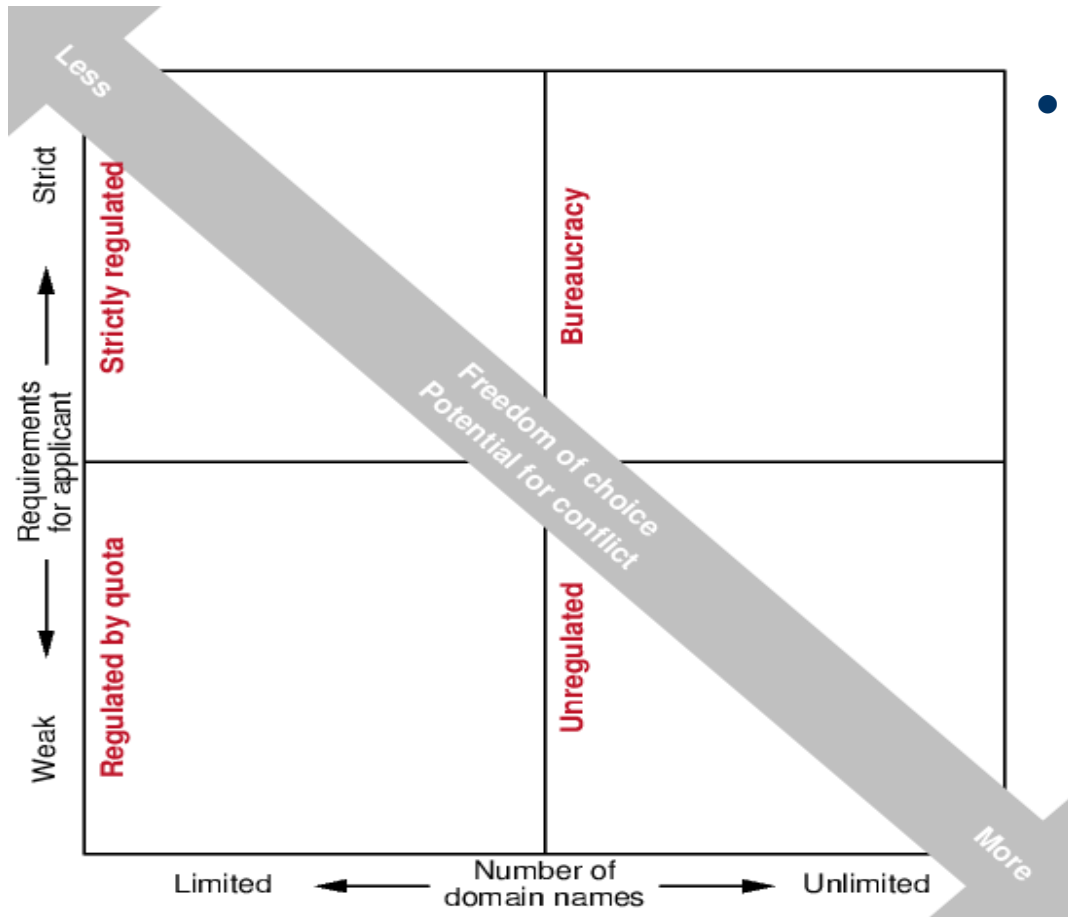


\*CENTR Survey data (2004)

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# Categorising the policies of the ccTLDs\*



- Two central aspects shapes the domain name policy:
  - Requirements for the applicant
    - Provide documentation that he has a right to the name
    - Have a local presence in the area of the ccTLD
    - Be an organization
  - Number of domain names allowed per applicant
    - Limited/Unlimited

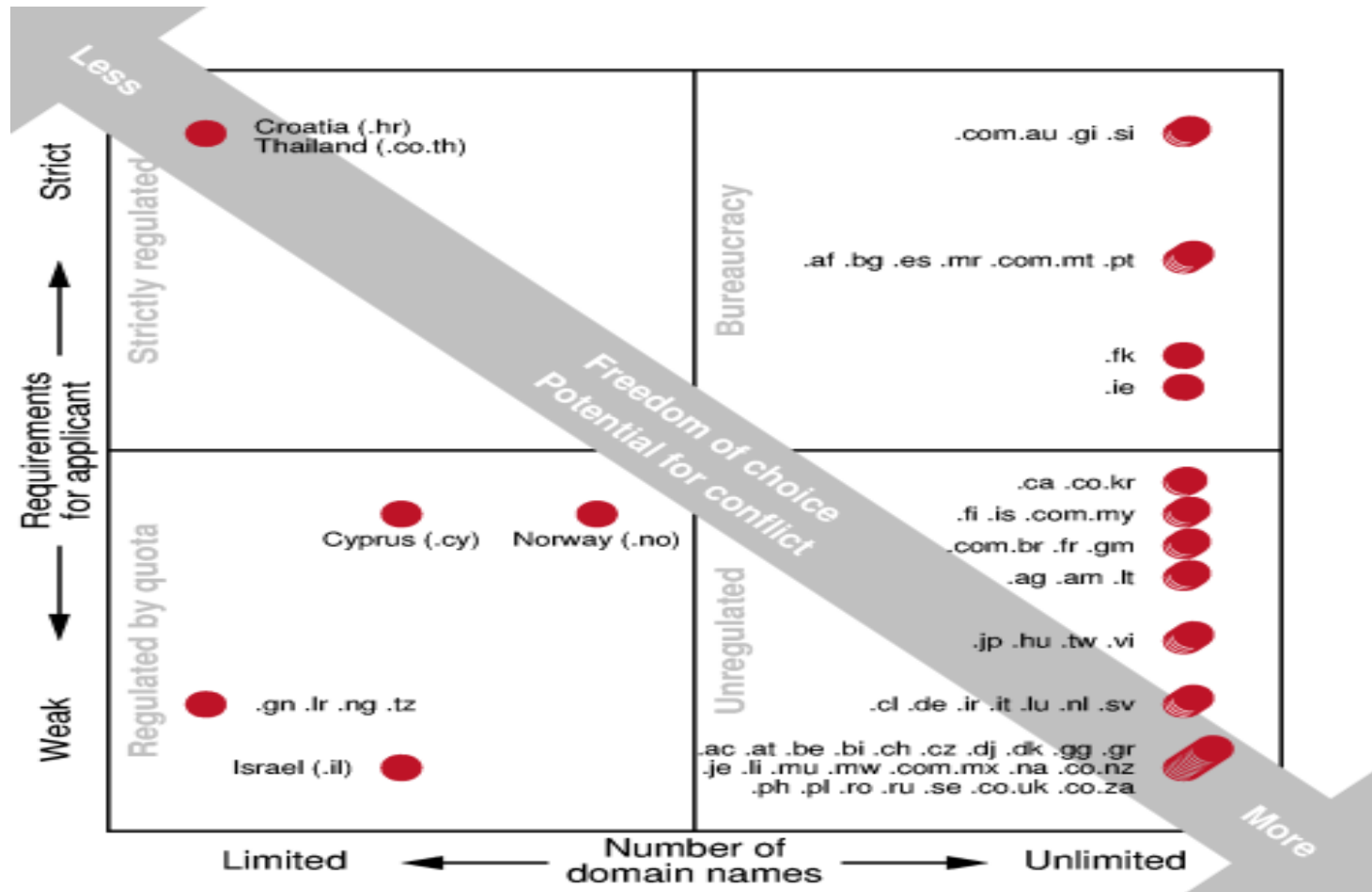


\*courtesy of UNINETT Norid

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# A mapping of the policies of some ccTLDs\*



\*courtesy of UNINETT Norid

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# A summary of the mapping\*

- Few of the respondents are currently in the *strictly regulated* category. This reflects the general move towards more liberalized domain name policies that has taken place
- Most respondents prefer a domain name policy with no limits on the number of names an applicant may hold
- While the majority of the respondents allows an unlimited number of domains per applicant, the degree of requirements for the applicant varies.
  - Some requires the applicant to document rights to the domain name (*bureaucracy* category)
  - Majority in the *unregulated* category – does not require any documentation of rights. Some require either a local presence, or that the applicant is an organization (or both), hence the spreading within the category.

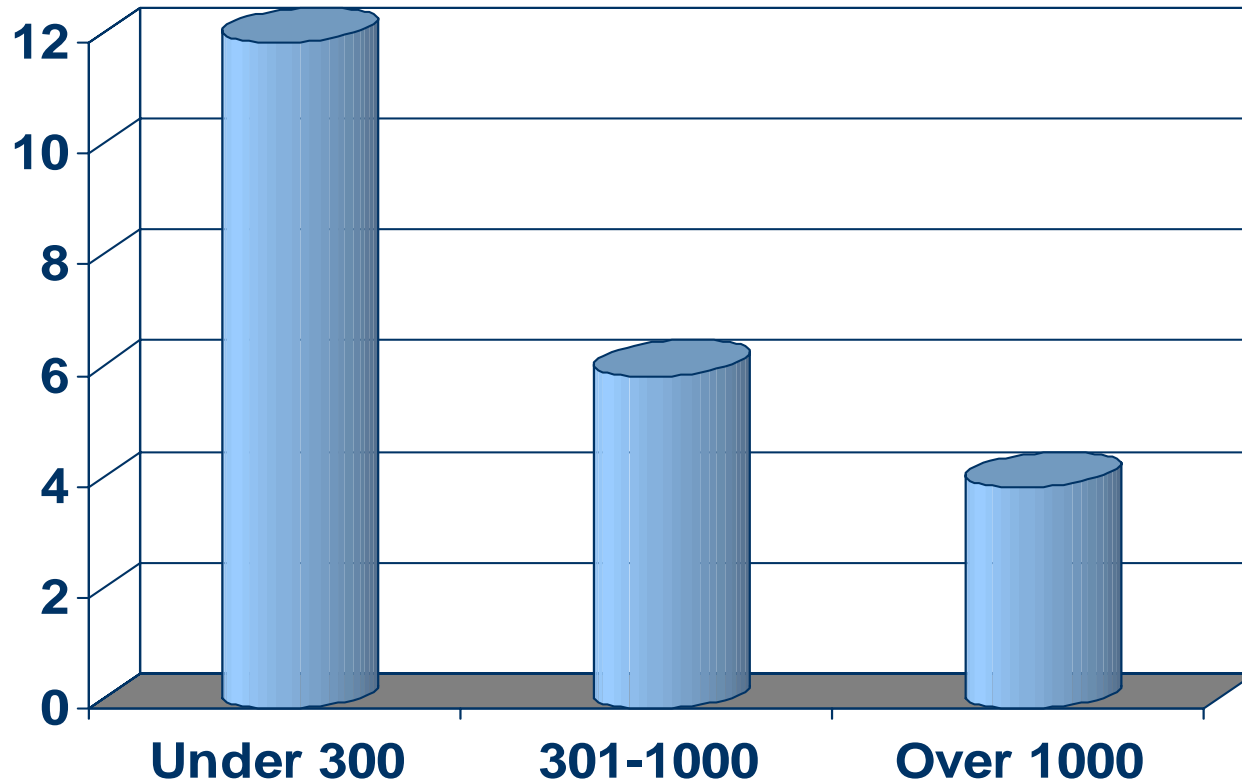


\*courtesy of UNINETT Norid

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# Number of registrars\*



\*CENTR Survey data (2004)

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# Questions?

## Thanks for your attention

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