



EMBASSY OF ESTONIA
IN PRAGUE

Estonian e-residency: a transnational digital identity for entrepreneurs

April 12, 2016

Sten Schwede
Ambassador of Estonia

EUROPE



Estonia

- Area: 45,333 square km
- Population: 1,3 million
- Language: Estonian (related to Finnish)
- Estonians 70%, Russians 25%, others 5%
- GDP per capita 15,186 EUR (2014)
- Average monthly salary 1064 EUR (2015)
- Living standard very similar to the Czech Republic, but there are a few things we do differently...

ŠKODA





Digital society

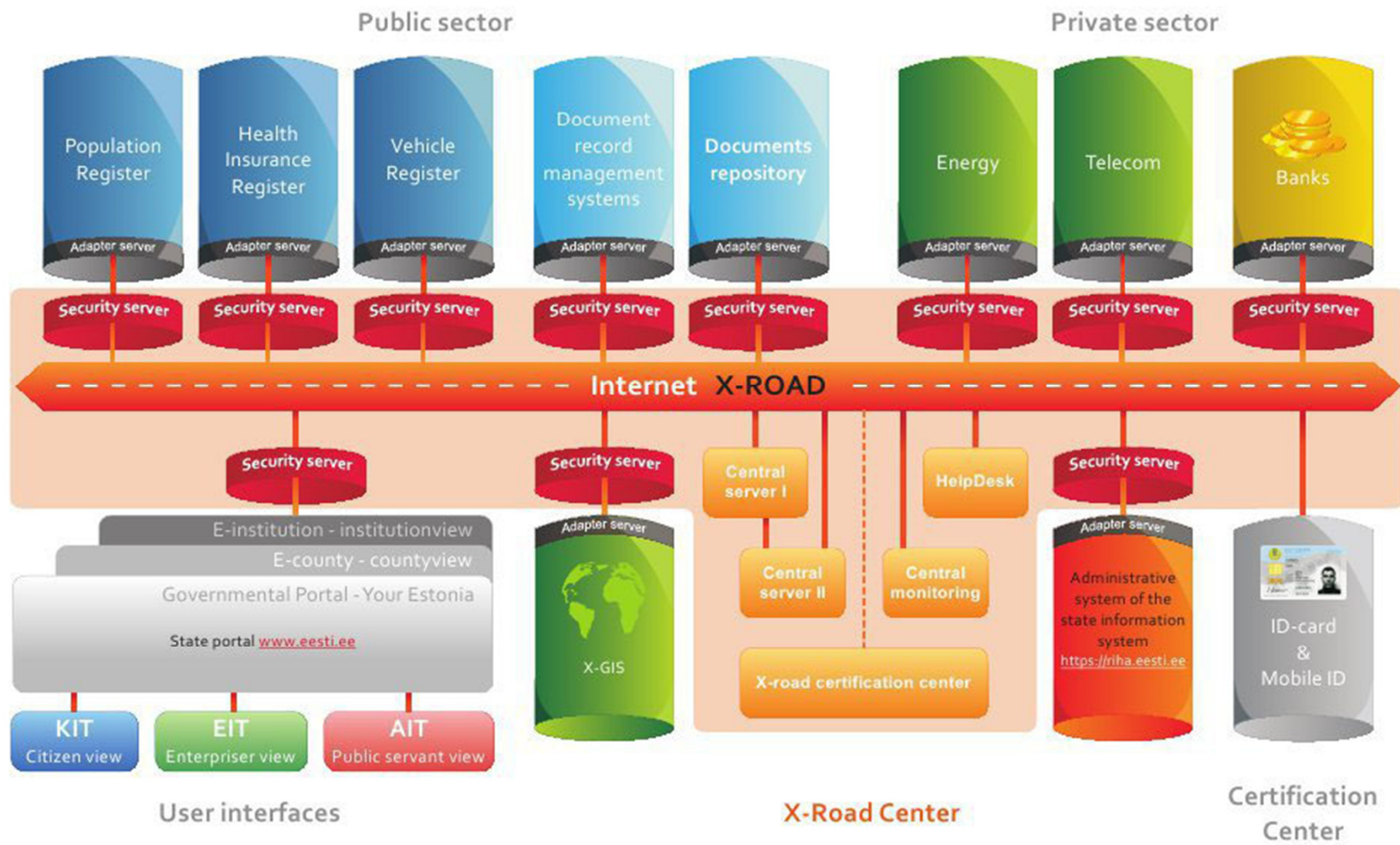
- E-voting
- E-tax returns
- E-prescription
- E-school
- E-health record
- E-business
- E-ticket
- and many more.

- **1994**
 - Information Policy passed
- **1996**
 - Tiger Leap project created
- **1999**
 - Data Protection Department created
- **2000**
 - Digital Signatures Act
 - e-Tax filing begins
 - e-Cabinet introduced
 - Population Registry Law passed
- **2001**
 - Introduction of X-Road
 - Population Registry opens

- **2002**
 - ID Card introduced
 - Law on e-Election passed
- **2003**
 - Launch of ID bus ticket
- **2005**
 - First e-Elections
 - e-Police system comes on line
- **2007**
 - First Mobile-ID system comes on line
- **2008**
 - Launch of e-Health system
- **2010**
 - e-Prescription introduced
- **2011**
 - Smart Grid introduced in Energy Sector



Estonian information system



X-Road - the backbone of e-Estonia

- Infrastructure of secure data exchange; allows the nation's various e-services' databases, both public and private, to link up and operate.
- **All of the Estonian e-solutions that use multiple databases use X-Road. All outgoing data from the X-road is digitally signed and encrypted. All incoming data is authenticated and logged.**
- X-Road was designed with growth in mind, so new e-services, with their various platforms can join it.

Estonian e-Residency?

- **e-Residency offers every world citizen a government-issued digital identity and the opportunity to run a company online.**
- It's a transnational digital identity available to anyone in the world interested in administering a location-independent business online.
- e-Residency additionally enables secure and convenient digital services that facilitate credibility and trust online.

What does it really mean?

- e-Residents receive a smart ID card which provides:
- digital identification and authentication to secure services
- digital signing of documents
- digital verification of document authenticity
- document encryption

EESTI VABARIIK
REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

DIGITAALNE ISIKUTUNNISTUS
DIGITAL IDENTITY CARD



**LUCAS
EDWARD**

KEHTIV KUNI / DATE OF EXPIRY

30.11.2017

DOKUMENDI NUMBER / DOCUMENT NUMBER

N0100001

ISIKUKOOD / PERSONAL CODE

36205030034

AINULT ELEKTROONILISEKS KASUTAMISEKS
ELECTRONIC USE ONLY

So the e-Residents can:

- **Digitally sign documents and contracts**
- **Verify the authenticity of signed documents**
- **Encrypt and transmit documents securely**

How can a Czech businessman benefit from this?

- **Establish a company online.** A physical address in Estonia is required to establish an Estonian company.
- **Administer the company from anywhere in the world.**
- **Conduct e-banking and remote money transfers.**
- **Access online payment service providers**
- **Declare Estonian taxes online.** e-Residency does not automatically establish tax residency.

How to apply?

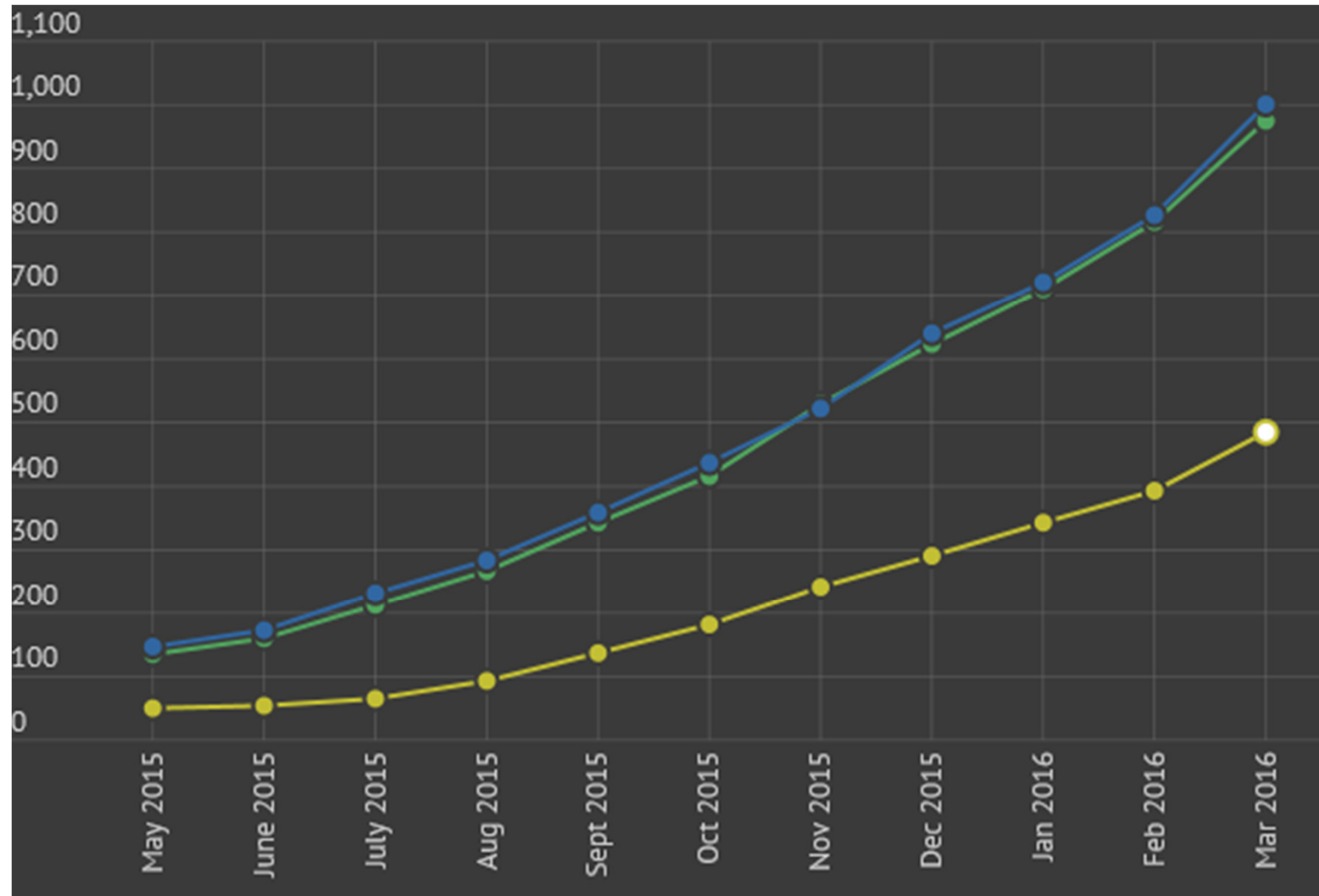
- Fill a form: <https://apply.e-estonia.com/>
- Download a photo copy of your ID and a photo of yourself.
- Pay 100 EUR
- Pick up at the closest Estonian Embassy, where you are asked to give biometric data (fingerprints)

Statistics

- Since the 1st of December 2014 Estonia has issued 9,339 e-residency cards.
- Top three countries:
 - - Finland 20%
 - - Russia 9%
 - - USA 6%

E-residents' business activity

- 975 engaged with Estonian companies
- 1001 own a business in Estonia
- 485 have established a new company



Do Czechs have interest in e-residency?

- The Estonian Embassy in Prague has delivered 101 e-residency cards.
- Mostly to businessmen, IT-people, journalists
- Most common plan we hear is to register a company in Estonia, which would operate globally while the owner lives in Prague.

Estonian digital society as testing ground

- E-residency is a good tool to use for global activities

BUT

- you could also just test your ideas, services, products (software or hard ware) in the Estonian market by using our e-solutions or our X-road before going global.

Thank you!

In case of questions please contact us
at the



EMBASSY OF ESTONIA
IN PRAGUE

tel. (420) 257 011 180

embassy.prague@estemb.cz