



**Overview of Estonian ICT policy coordination:  
how to keep costs under control and still  
achieve the results?**

**Aet Rahe**

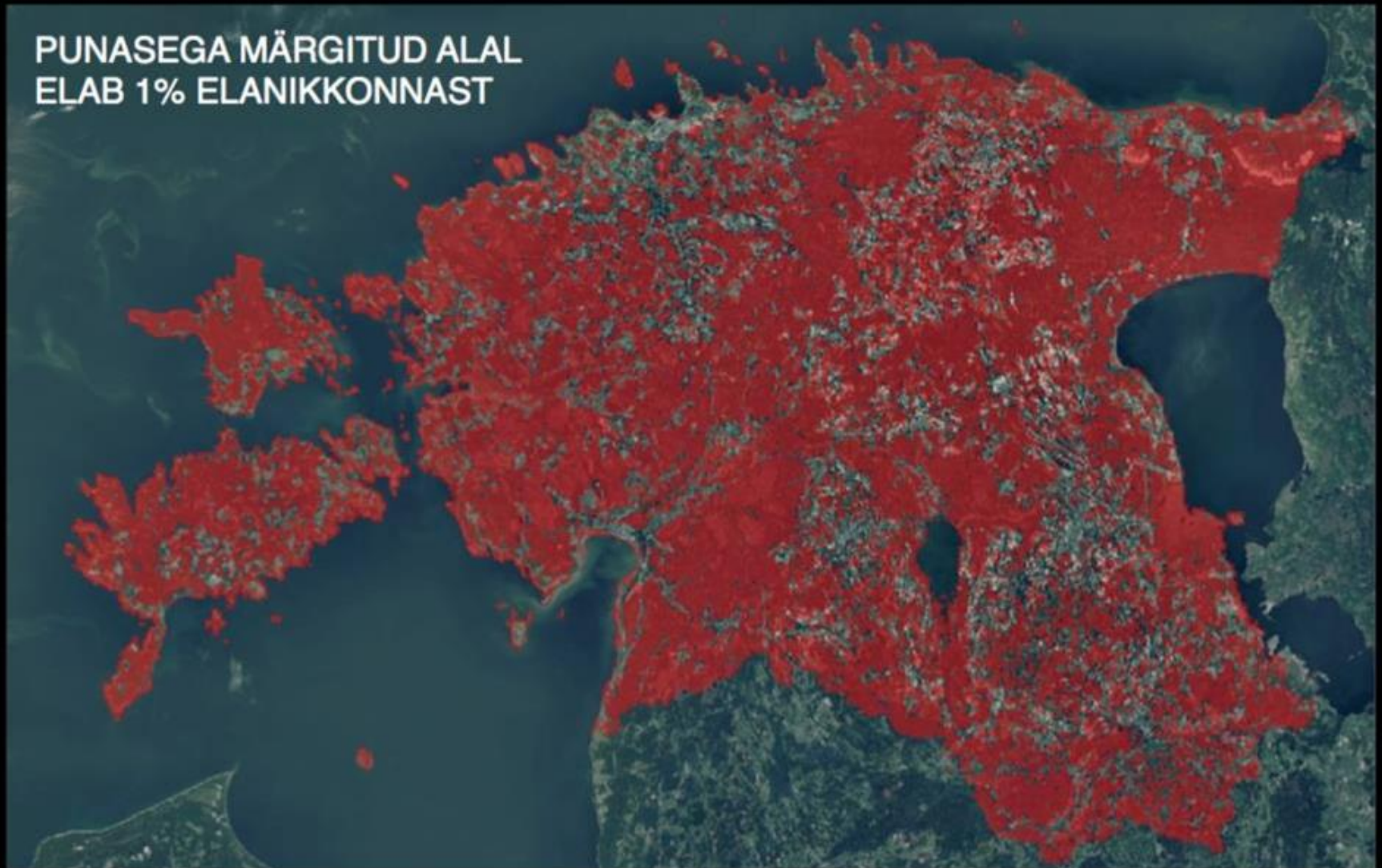
# My background

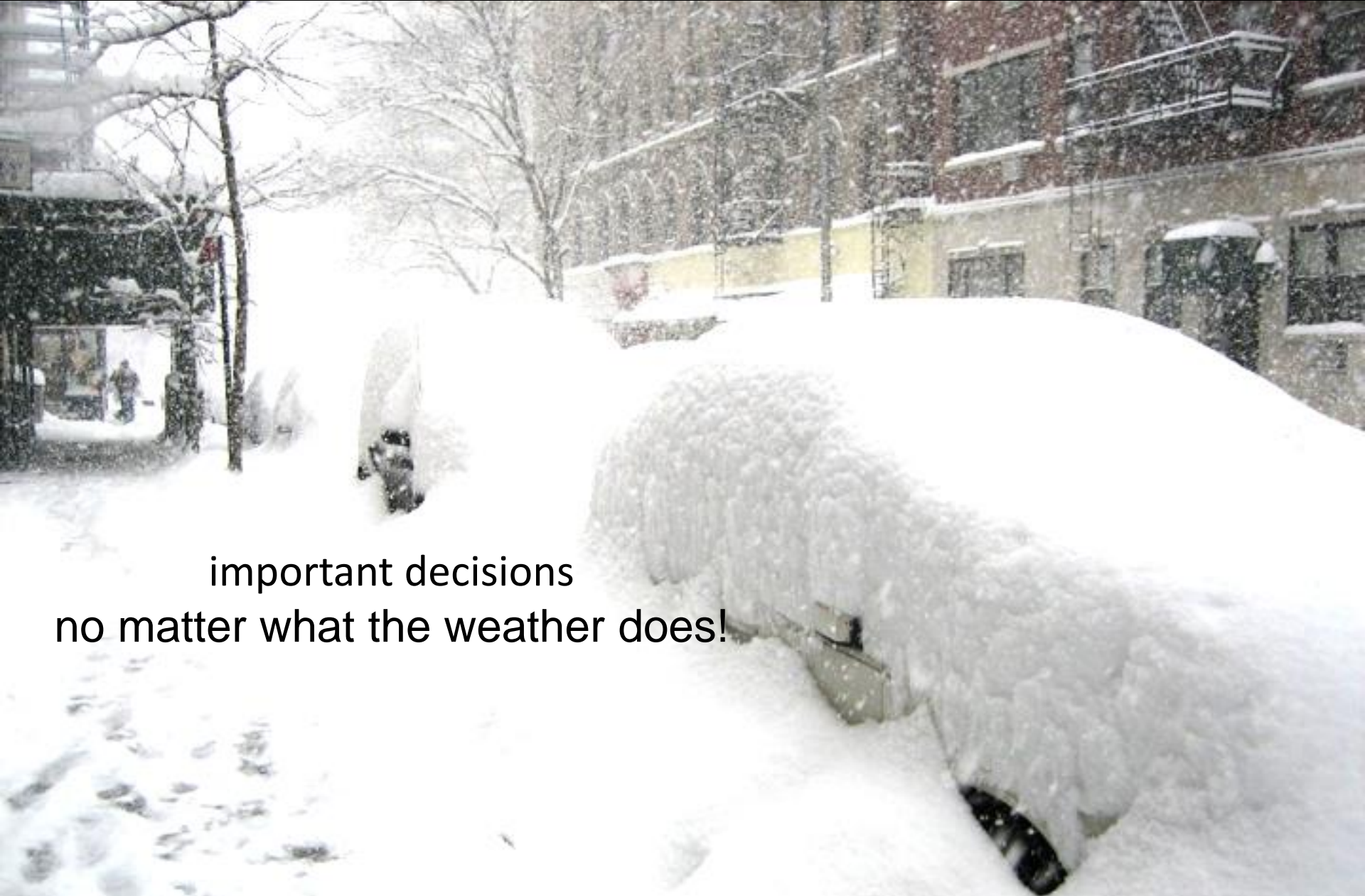
- Currently
  - head State Information Systems department @ Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications
- Responsibilities
  - IT policy making (Digital Agenda 2020; Cyber Security Strategy 2017)
  - IT investment management
- Previously
  - Business Unit manager at the biggest software development house in Estonia - Nortal

# Agenda

- Background of e-Estonia
  - Basic principles
  - Infrastructure cornerstones
- IT coordination mechanisms
  - implementing rules and guidelines
  - Keeping costs under control
- Licencing policy – avoiding vendor lock-in
- What the future holds?
  - No Legacy Policy
  - E-residency

# Going digital was not a choice





important decisions  
no matter what the weather does!

# Digital Agenda for Estonia: General Objective

To create in Estonia the best **environment**  
for the uptake and creation  
of smart ICT solutions...

... in order to contribute to the **economic growth** and  
**welfare** of people

# Preface: Basic Principles

*„Who has been sleeping in my bed?“*





**BIG BROTHER ~~IS~~  
ESTONIAN WAY**



# Human-readable log of medical data

Kuupäev	Andmed	Isiku nimi	Asutus	Põhjendus
<b>27</b> veebruar 2015 12:11	ac69ebc6-dcd3-490d-9e13-5a2e31633b69 (Dokumendi registreerimine)	Sirje Multram üldõendus N02011	Tallinna Koolitervishoid SA	
<b>12</b> jaanuar 2015 15:01	612 (Dokumendi registreerimine)	LEENA ANNUS taastusravi ja füsiaatria D03394	SPORDIMEDITSIINI SIHTASUTUS	
<b>30</b> detsember 2014 00:32	(Päringud)	AET RAHE	Eesti E-Tervise SA	

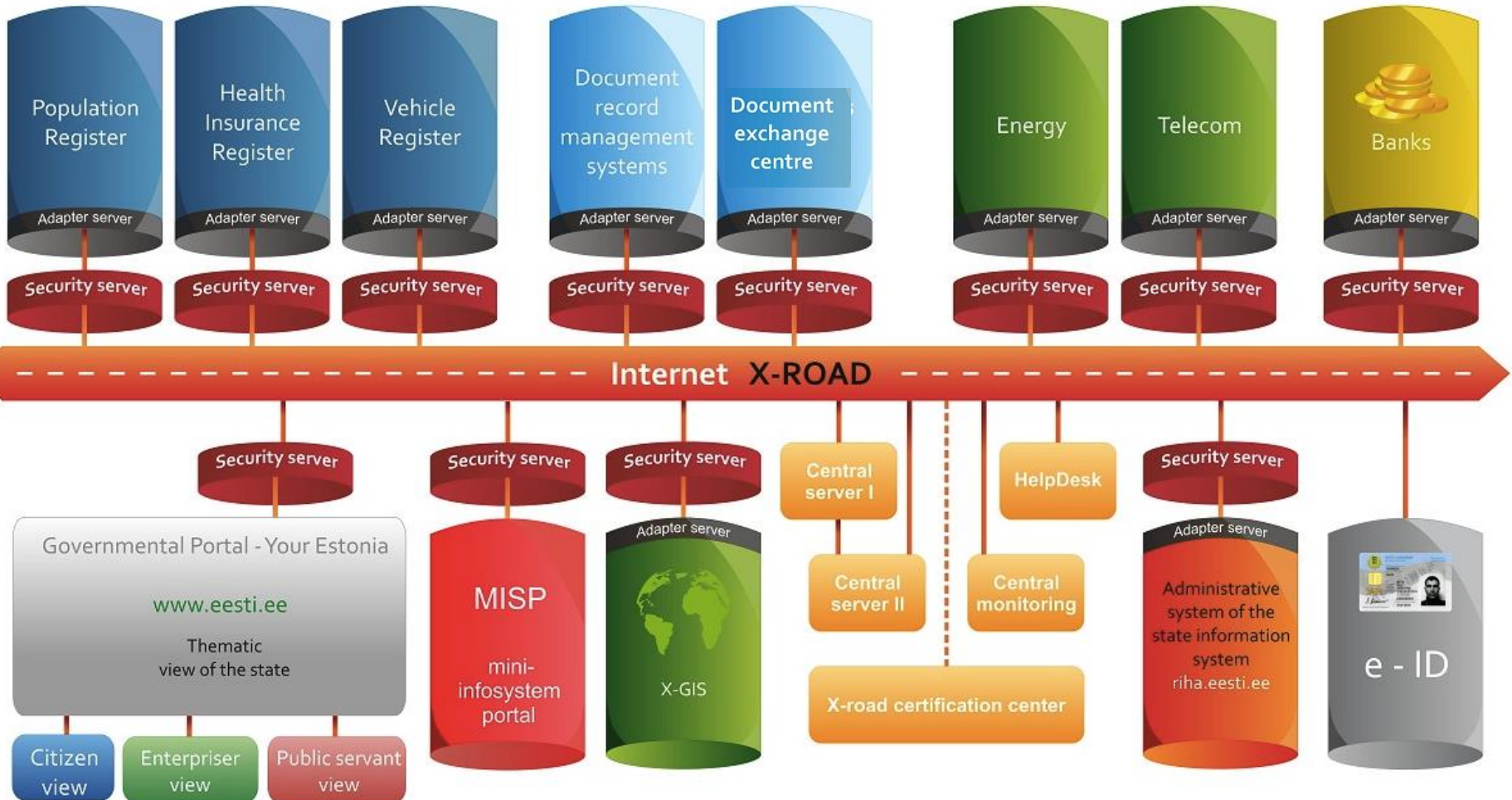
# Coordination model

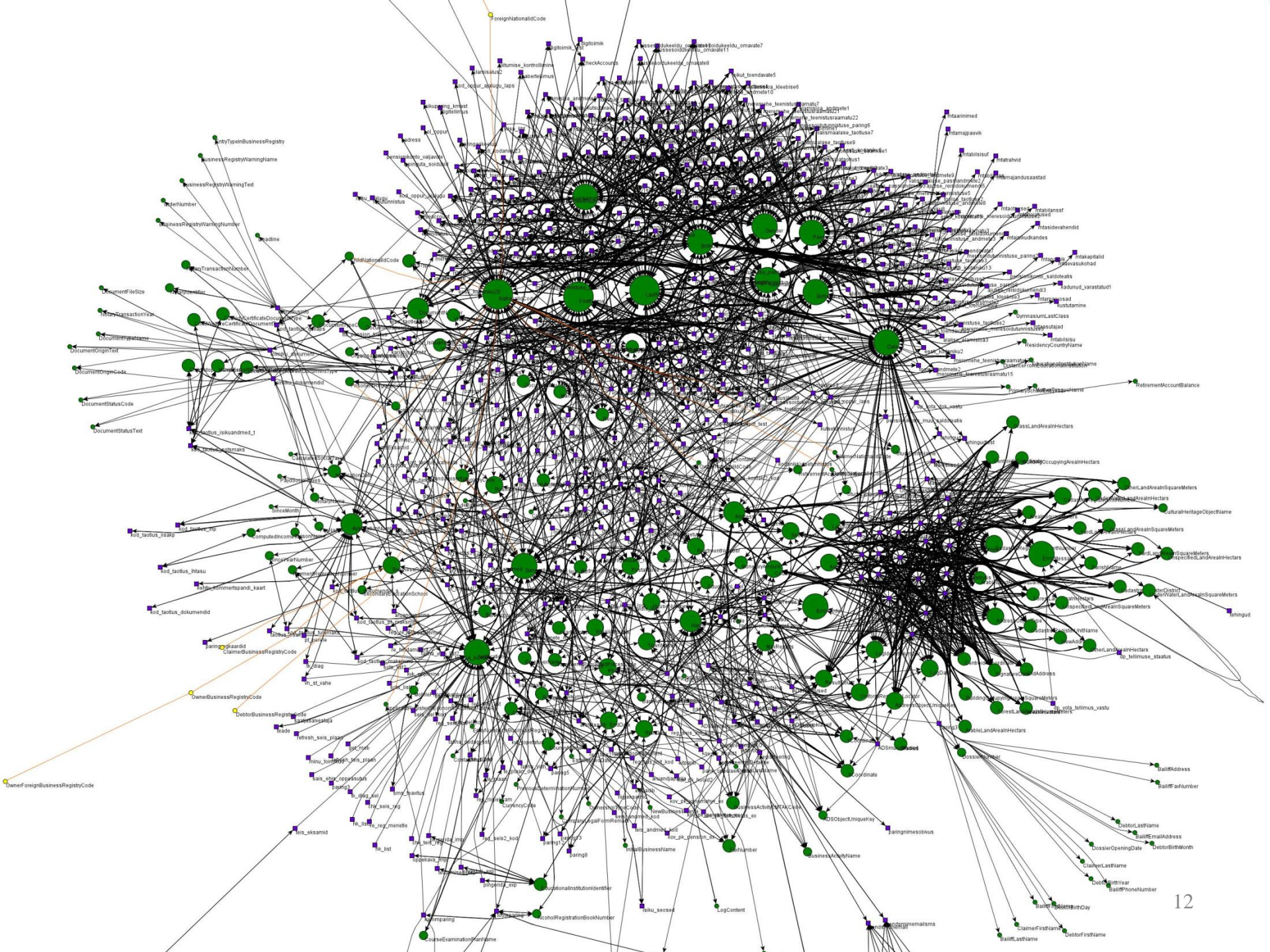
- Distributed architecture = every silo responsible for their own projects
- Central coordination and investment management - „Carrots and sticks“
  - guidelines, rules, trainings,
  - Investments as baby-steps
  - central infrastructure
  - cyber security

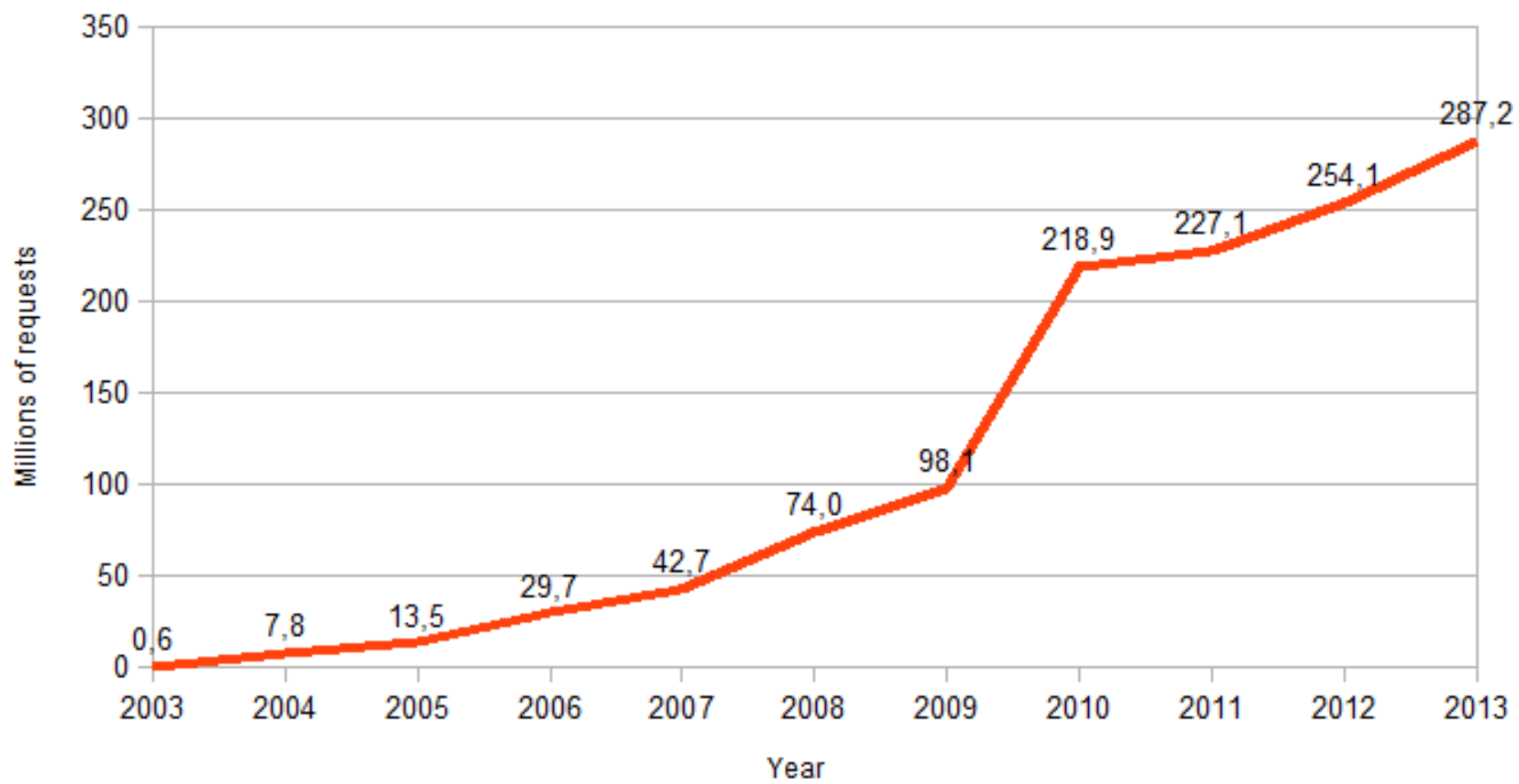
# X-road

## Public sector

## Private sector







# Open data vs x-road



## Open Data

**You are annoying!**



## X-Road



# Infrastructure: key points

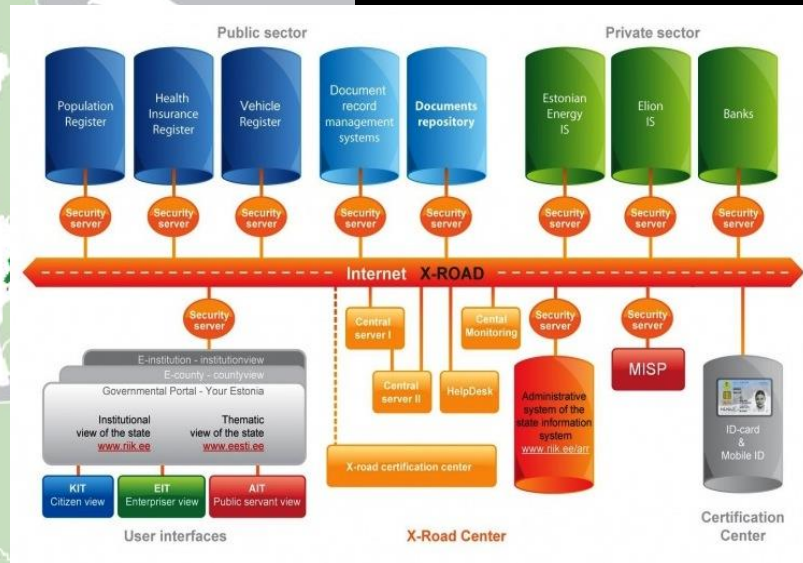
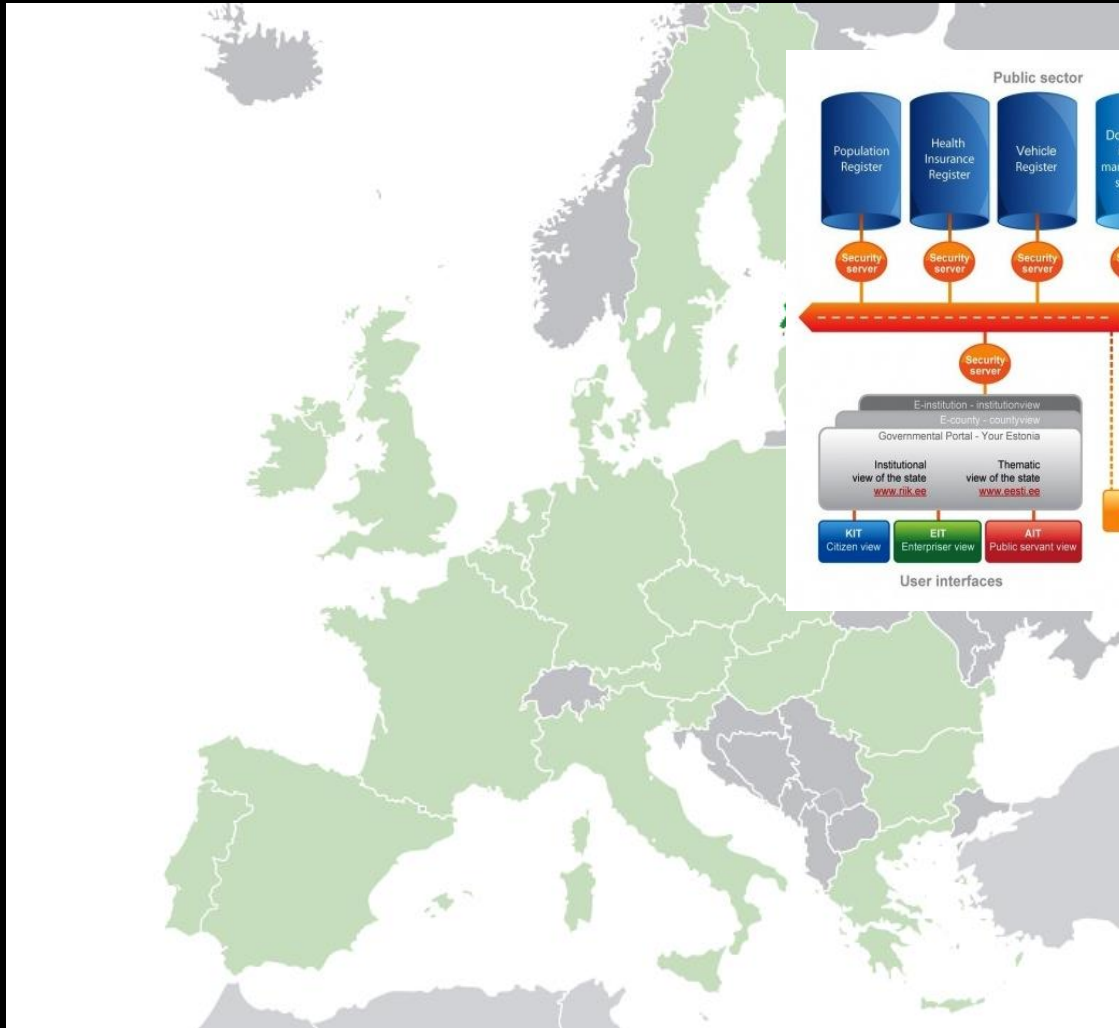
- **Shared** in public and private sector
  - eID and digital signature, x-road
- Strong cooperation with private sector in implementation and awareness raising



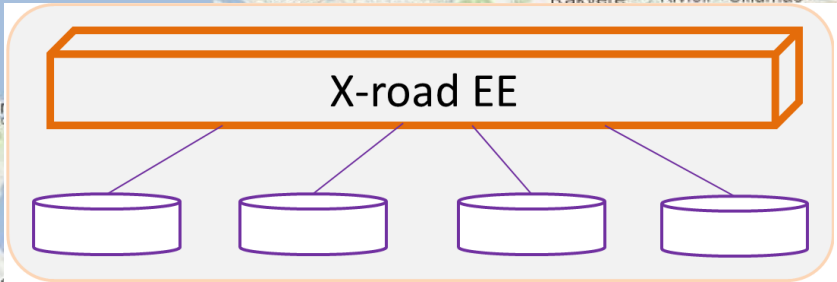
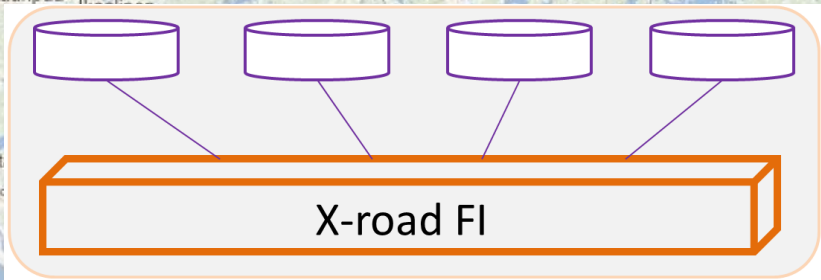
# IP principles

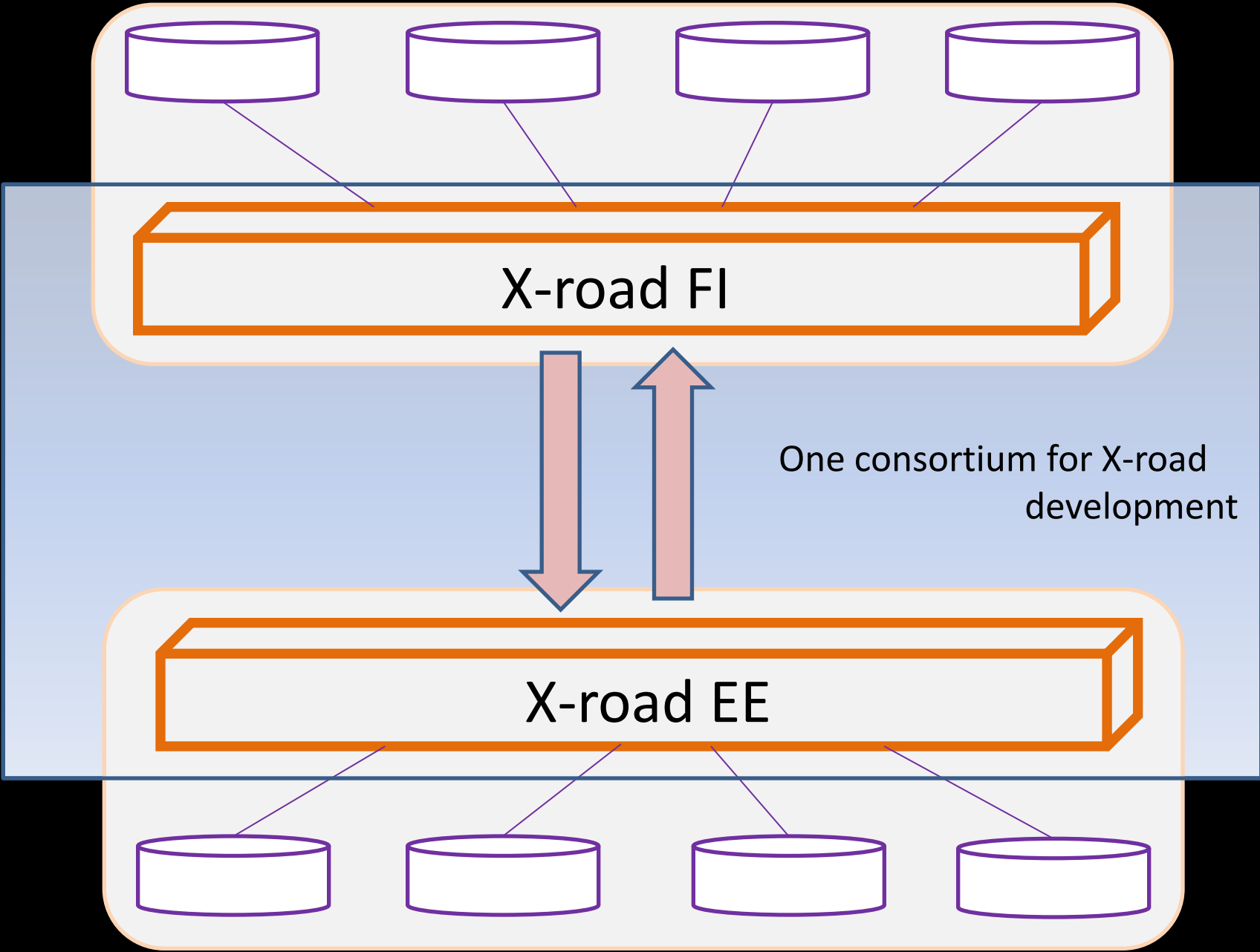
- **IP should be shared** with private sector
  - Exceptions (exclusive license allowed): national defence, Basic infrastructure (eID, x-road, RIHA, etc.)
- Don't exclude commercial software, but...
- IP should be given out to all who are interested
  - Supporting additional business opportunities
  - Avoiding vendor lock-in
- Sharing government software with other countries

# Nordic Institute



# Suomi (Finland)





What the future holds?

# No Legacy Policy

*Don't be late unless you want your IT-systems to turn into a pumpkin....*





**PAPERLESS**

10 million Estonians?



*"Kiss me and I'll  
turn you into  
an e-Estonian"*



# Digi-ID card for E-residents

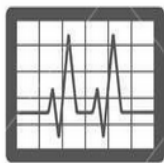


# About the interest

- Issuing started 1.12.2014
- Pre-registration:
  - 5 000 pre-registered e-residents with first 24 hours
  - 18 000 in a waiting list (from 168 different countries)
- Over 2500 applications in first 6 months
- Main interests
  - Bringing business to Estonia
  - It's cool, early adopter of new technology
- Since may 2015 – application process online
  - <https://apply.e-estonia.com/>

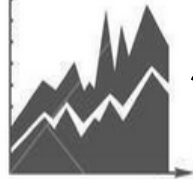
- ✓ Encrypted data exchange layer
- ✓ Distributed data embassies
- ✓ Central reinforcement

User-centric security



- ✓ Banking
- ✓ Telekom
- ✓ eID start-ups

Private sector e-Services



- ✓ Startup platform
- ✓ ERP integration
- ✓ Government as a Service

Open platform



Digital Identity by Government



- ✓ Authentication
- ✓ Digital signing
- ✓ Encrypted file-sharing

e-Residency  
BORDERLESS DIGITAL SERVICES

Built-in Transparency



- ✓ Real-time economy
- ✓ Open data governance
- ✓ Inquiry notifications

Access anywhere



Hassle-free e-Government

- ✓ Incorporation & Management
- ✓ Tax & Customs
- ✓ Healthcare & Insurance

e-Residency Community




- ✓ e-Estonian friends club
- ✓ Community of engineers
- ✓ Community of corporations

# www.e-estonia.com

Go and check e-Estonia out yourself!

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The Digital Society



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WELCOME

## Welcome to e-Estonia

"e-Estonia" is a term commonly used to describe Estonia's emergence as one of the most advanced e-societies in the world – an incredible success story that grew out of a partnership between a forward-thinking government, a proactive ICT sector and a switched-on, tech-savvy population.

[read more](#)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



