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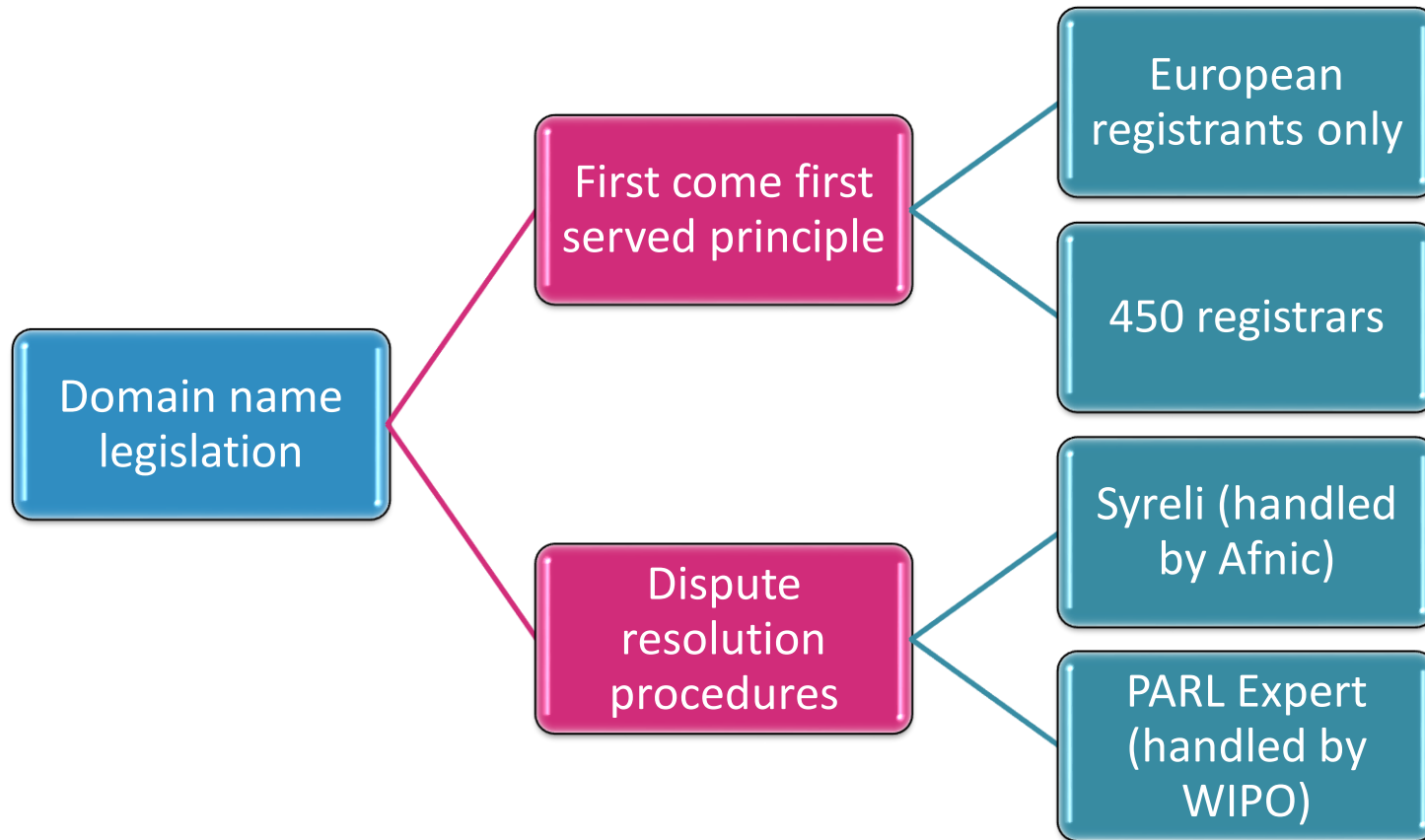
*Geographical indications and
domain names – a ccTLD
perspective*

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Afnic overview

- ✓ *Not for profit, multistakeholder association ;*
- ✓ *80 employees located close to Paris ;*
- ✓ *ccTLD manager of .fr and 5 other French territories;*
- ✓ *Registry service provider for top-level domains such as .paris, .alsace or .snCF ;*
- ✓ *Our Mission is to support the development of an Internet that is*
 - ✓ *secure and stable,*
 - ✓ *open to innovation*
 - ✓ *and in which the French Internet community plays a key role.*

Closeup on the .fr legal framework



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par afnic

PARL
- afnic -

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IP rights and Geographical indications

- ✓ Dispute resolutions ground under .fr :
 - ✓ *Potential harm to public order or prejudice to rights established by Law or Constitution*
 - ✓ *Potential harm to Intellectual Property rights, unless registrant has a legitimate interest and acts in good faith*
 - ✓ *Domaine name is identical or similar to local authority or institution or public service, unless registrant has a legitimate interest and acts in good faith*
- ✓ Local authorities well recognized, same rights as trademarks :
 - ✓ *Recent cases include city of Vacqueyras (which is also an PGI)*
- ✓ IP rights are not restricted to trademarks :
 - ✓ *include geographical indications*

Our experience since 2007 indicates...

SIMPLE

- Setting up dispute resolution procedures that include grounds based on Geographical Indications is simple

FAIR

- It does not create prejudice to other types of IP rights (same rights – no more, no less)

Ongoing ICANN working groups

Competition and Consumer Trust Review

- New gTLD impact on consumer Trust
- Efficiency of safeguards against confusion
- Conclusions expected in december 2016

Review of Rights Protection Mechanisms

- Efficiency of several mechanisms including UDRP, TMCH, ...
- Group is ongoing and focusing first on TMCH

New gTLD subsequent procedures

- Preparing future new gTLDs rules and policies (such as .cheese or .champagne)

Thank you!

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