

Electronic certification in Albania

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The National Authority for Electronic Certification and Cyber Security (NAECCS), is the responsible body for the supervision of the Law no. 9880, of 25.2.2008 “On Electronic Signatures”, Law no 107/2015 “For Electronic Identification and Trust Services” and their implementing acts.

The Authority seeks to ensure security and reliability for users of electronic signatures, electronic identification and trusted services, as well as the oversight of international technical standards to ensure quality and safe products.

The National Authority for Electronic Certification and Cyber Security (NAECCS) has published specific regulations for the accreditation process, electronic identification and trusted services registration procedures.

All Trust Providers and Assessment Bodies operating in the Republic of Albania are required to be accredited and audited by NAECCS.

The registry containing those subjects is published in the official website of NAECCS (<http://www.cesk.gov.al>), together with relevant links to all issued certificates, revoked ones etc.

From April 2016, there are two accredited Trust Providers:

The National Agency for Information Society (NAIS), which offers services for all public employees, free of charge. Public administration civil servants can get the qualified certificates which generate identification and electronic signature directly from NAIS. There is a total of 9668 qualified certificates issued.

ALEAT, offers the service of qualified electronic certificates, for citizens, certifications that are issued inside the National ID Card’s chip, which provides the generation of electronic identification and electronic signature. The issuance is fully automated for new ID Cards produced since February 2014. Usage of these certificates is voluntary, as citizens can choose not to use them, thus it can be revoked by them on behalf of the provider immediately. All citizens that have an ID card issued prior to February 2014, can get the certificates free of charge at ALEAT Office premises. According to the reports from the company itself, there have been 784 303 electronic certificates issued in the ID cards.

NAIS develops, administers and maintains public key infrastructure and issues qualified certificates to public administration, private entities, e-prescriptions which are installed on a USB Token device.

The cryptographic key management infrastructure of NAIS aims to provide solutions (products and services) for the security of computer networks. Part of this infrastructure is Public Key Infrastructure - PKI.

Information systems and applications that support the services and activities of NAIS require the following security mechanisms:

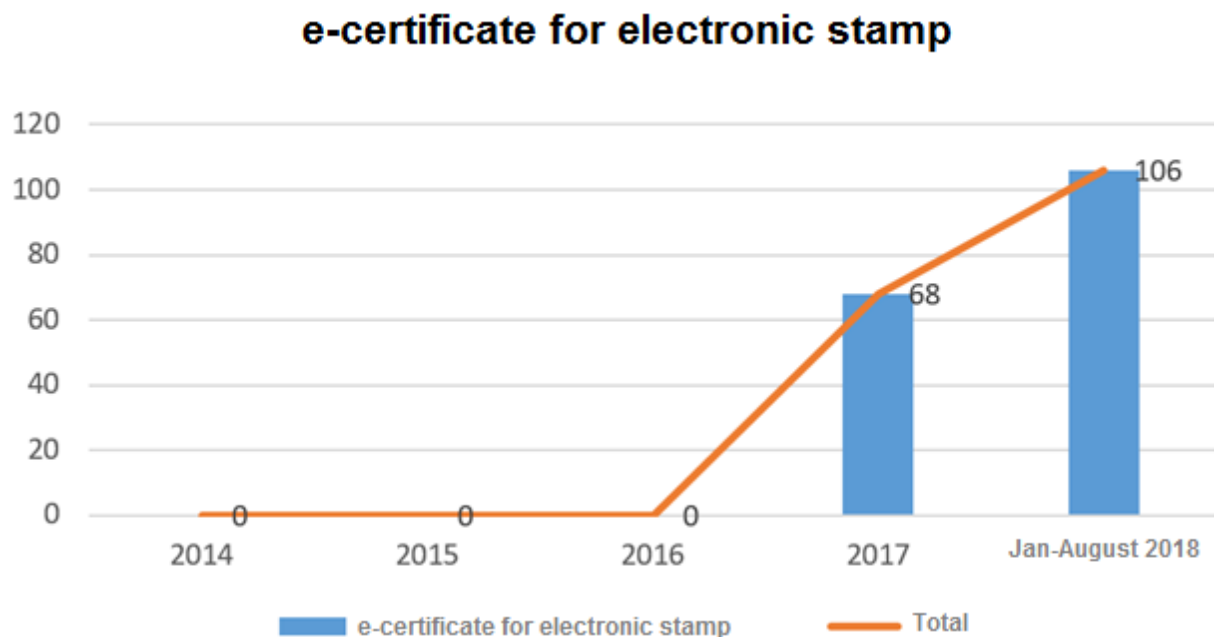
- Authentication
- Authorization
- Integrity
- Confidentiality
- Non-rejection

Certification Authority (CA) NAIS applies four security levels for issued certificates, depending on:

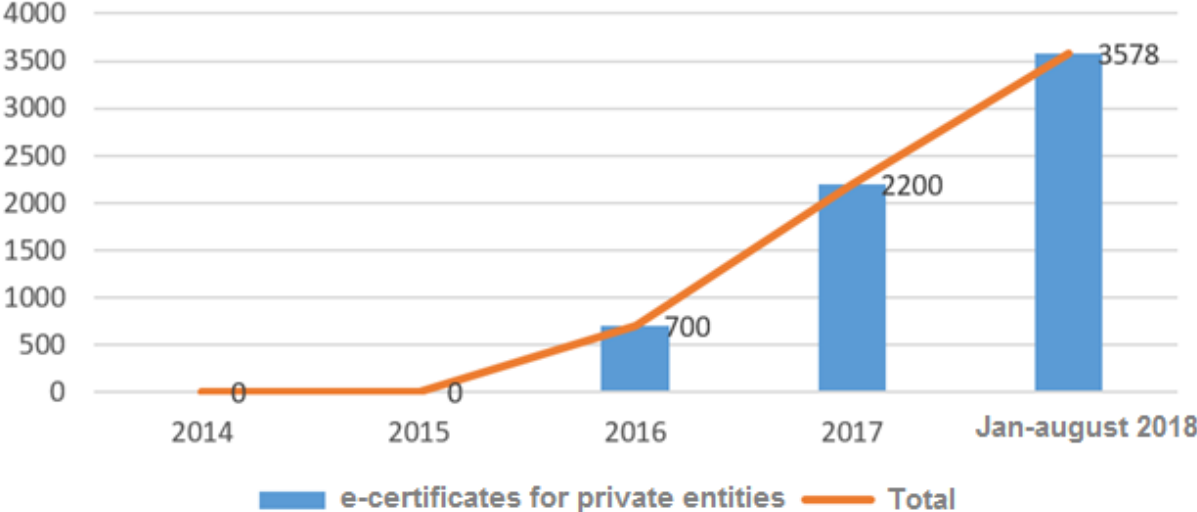
- Types of applications that can be used with these certificates.
- Type of entity for which the certificate is issued (person or device)
- Private key-holder retention method from Subscriber - device (Smart Card) or file,

as well as four certificate classes.

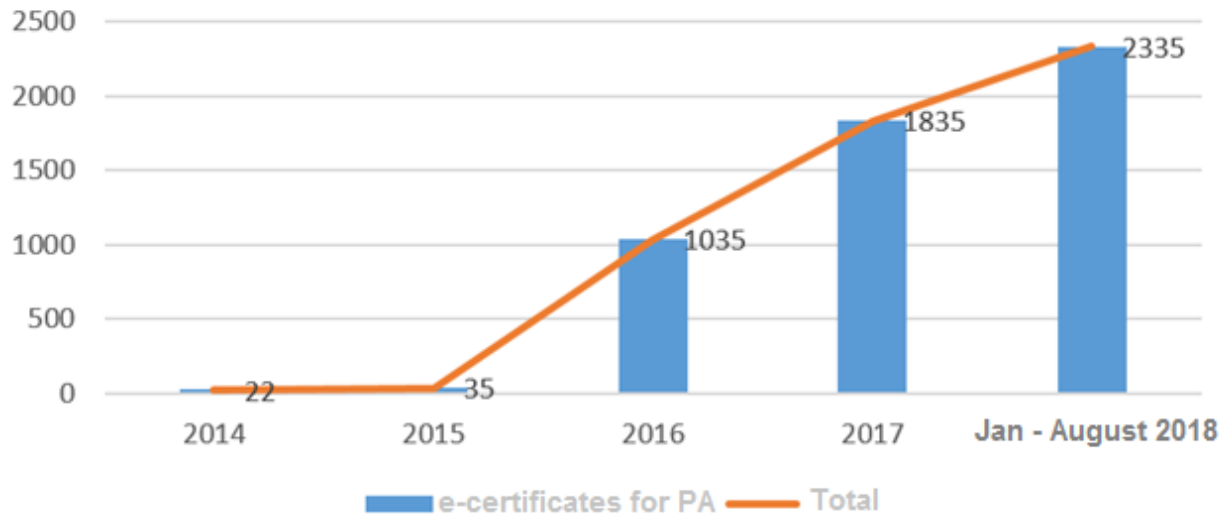
The following graphs show measurable indicators for trusted services provided by the ASAP - NAIS over the years, progressively:



Qualified certificates for private entities (e-licenses, customs agents)

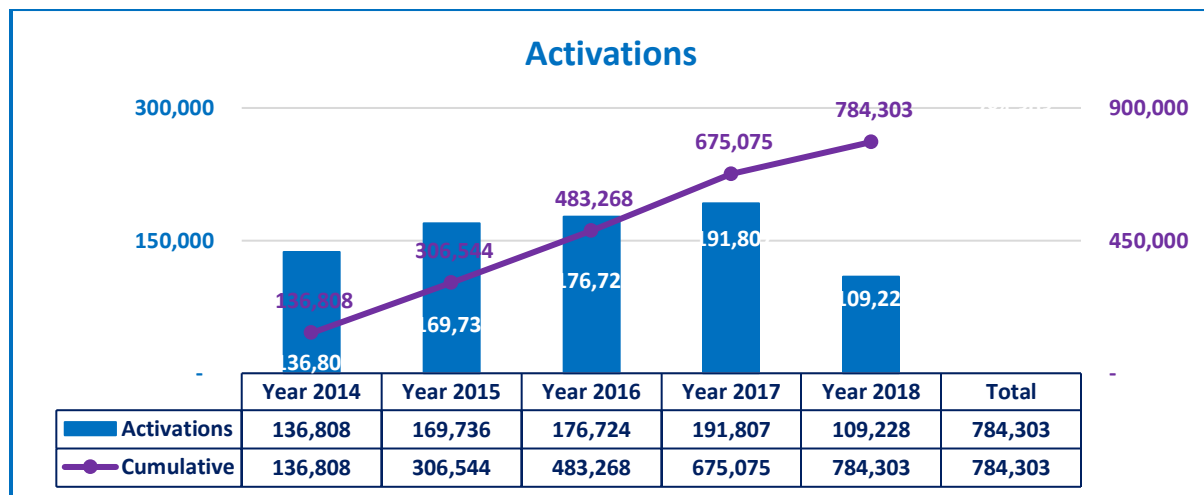


Qualified certificates for public administration



From January 2014 until now, 784 303 electronic certificates have been issued on Citizen Identity Cards from ALEAT, which through the card reader enable the execution of various transactions.

Qualified Electronic Certificates for Citizens:



Today, trusted services find a widespread use in public services through the government portal, e-Albania, where citizens can apply and benefit from electronic documents, without having the need

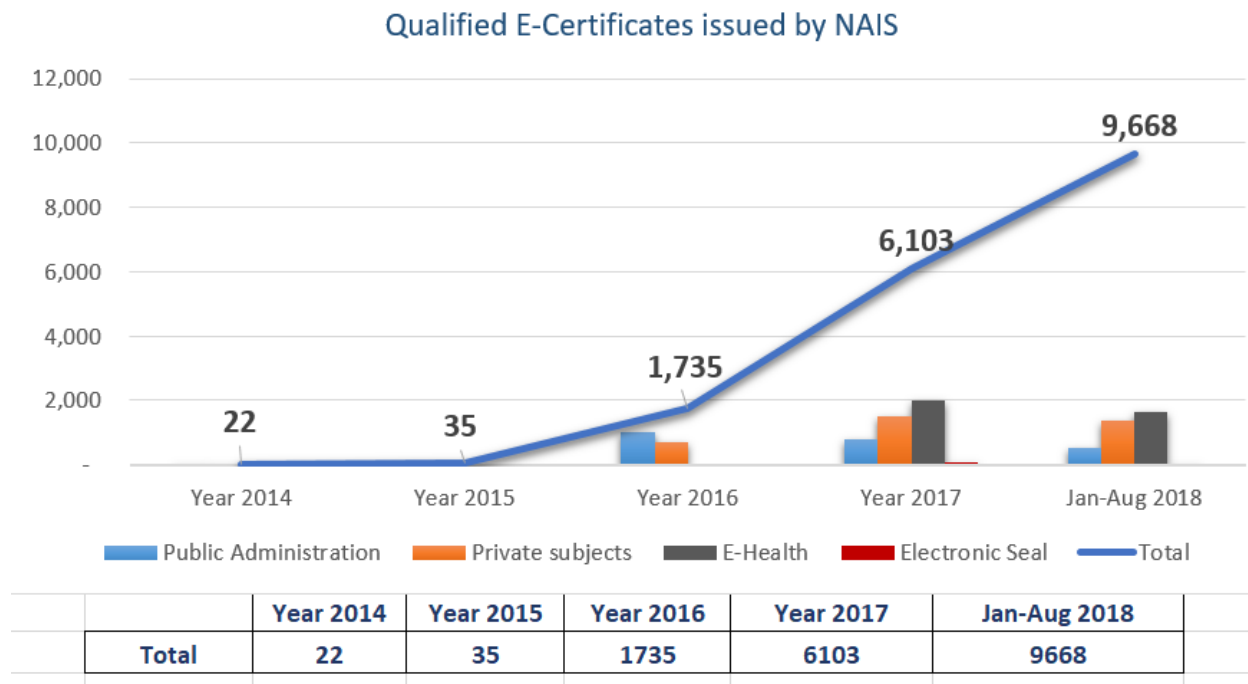
to wait in lines for getting the services required. There are about 3 million electronic user accesses counted from citizens and businesses.

This portal currently offers a total of **1268** electronic services. Most of them have informative character and about **100** of them are specific services which through the interaction of systems (secure electronic transmission) are obtained electronically. Administrative documents obtained through e-Albania have the same legal value as a written document within the country. The number of services where the electronic signature is used are **68**, while the number of services where the electronic stamp is used are **54**. For some services, which also requires a physical identification at the counter, today citizens can e-mail them electronically.

Many public institutions are equipped with an electronic seal / electronic signature for providing a range of services / documents, facilitating processes and delivering them with a high security standard.

Altogether, there are currently about 9,668 qualified certificates issued to the public administration / private sector, which generate electronic identification, electronic signatures and electronic stamps. This indicator demonstrates the ever-increasing tendency of using safe products and tools and maximizing the commitment of institutional instruments to ensure citizen integrity, according to international standards.

Graphic presentation of certificates issued by NAIS:



As clearly shown from the graphic above, the impact of qualified e-certificate usage is direct, especially in the significant reduction of people waiting in lines in front of public institution offices, which are printing **3 times less** documents in hardcopy, or are following the practice of online certification only. The number of personal and family certificates issued from the civil status offices in the country has dropped by 3 times, saving the citizens approximately **64,000,000 leke**. The same logic stands for the online self-provision of tax verifiers, that has saved businesses **500,000 hours** of work (about 60 years) waiting in lines, avoiding many bureaucratic actions that would bring them added business costs.

With this rhythm soon, to the list of 54 electronic documents will be added other 5 types of documents:

- o Issuing copy of the permit and license from Business Center;*
- o Certification for voluntary insured persons by the social insurance institution;*
- o Certification of OSHEE for citizens and businesses;*
- o Certification of debts from UKT for the government: and businesses;*
- o Certification for settlement of local obligations by the Municipality of Tirana;*