

March 24th 2026

30 Years of interconnection: experience from an Italian IXP

Maurizio Goretti – Namex CEO



Disclaimer

- The views expressed in this presentation are my own
- They do not necessarily reflect the official position of Namex
- They come on 30 years of experience working at an IXP.

Congrats



Peering Days
March 24th 2026



Spoiler

- **Local**
- **Neutral**
- **Not for profit**
- **Member/Community based**
- **Mediterranean**

Bologna



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Bologna

- Bologna la Dotta (the Learned)
 - University of Bologna [founded in 1088](#)
 - Cineca HPC center founded in 1969
 - Leonardo, ranked as the 6th most powerful computer in the world



Bologna

- Bologna la Grassa (The Fat), because of good local food
- We took food very seriously



Bologna

Spaghetti alla bolognese is a fake!



Bologna

- Tortellini in brodo
- Tagliatelle al ragù
- Mortadella Bologna IGP
- We are very **local** when it comes to food



Italy means being **Local**

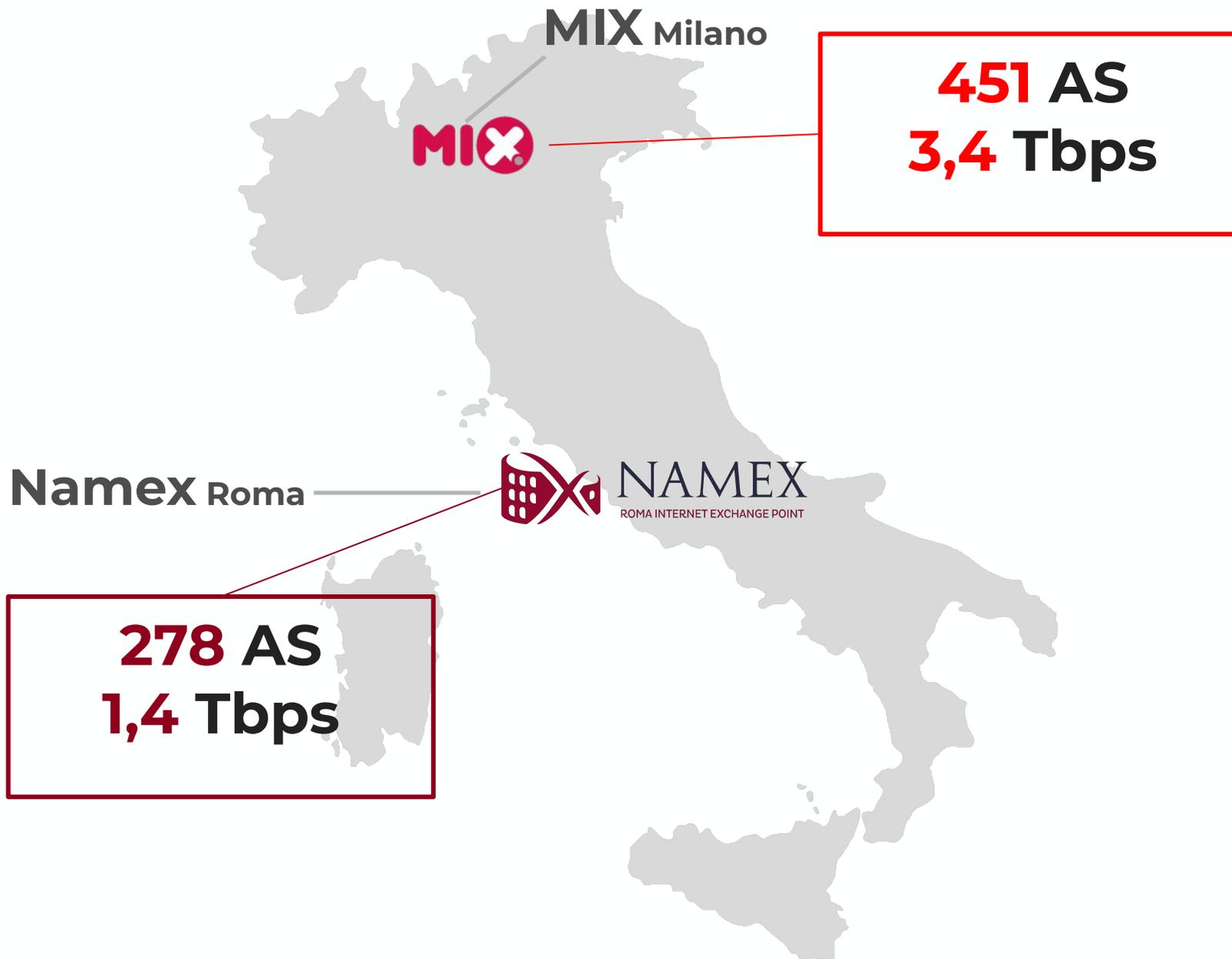
- Italian are deeply **local**, deeply regional ...
- There is a strong rivalry not only between regions, but even between small cities within the same region
- Each region has its own food ... and IXP

IXPs in Italy

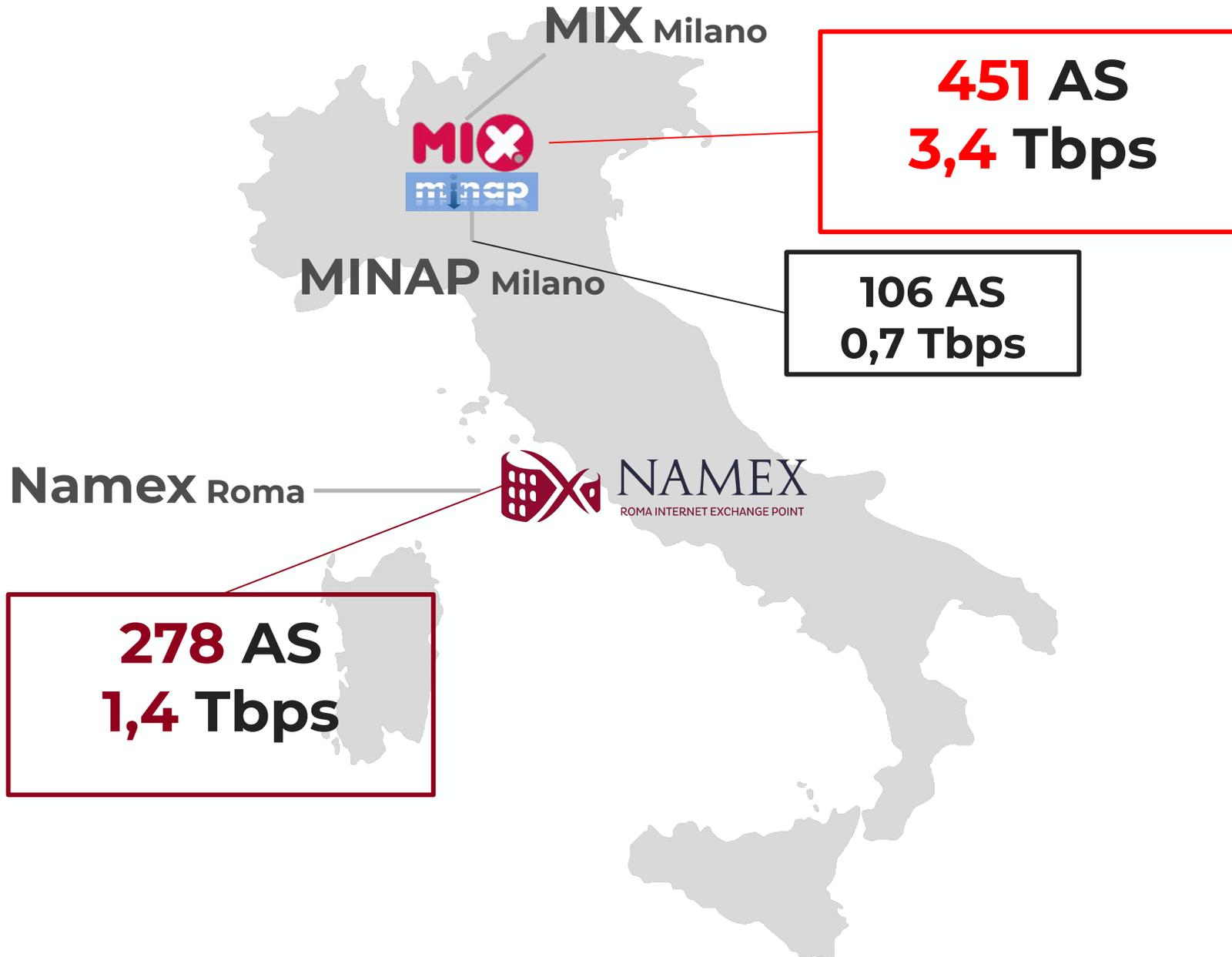


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Main IXPs in Italy



Main IXPs in Italy



Main IXPs in Italy

117 AS
0,3 Tbps

TOP-IX Torino



Main IXPs in Italy



Short **IXP** History in Italy

- Northern Italy, and Milan in particular, is in the richest area of the country and has developed much faster than Rome
- Rome's peculiarity is that it serve Central and Southern Italy and, as the capital, attracts Public Administration
- Italy is the country of small and medium-sized enterprises: this is also true for ISPs

Being **local**

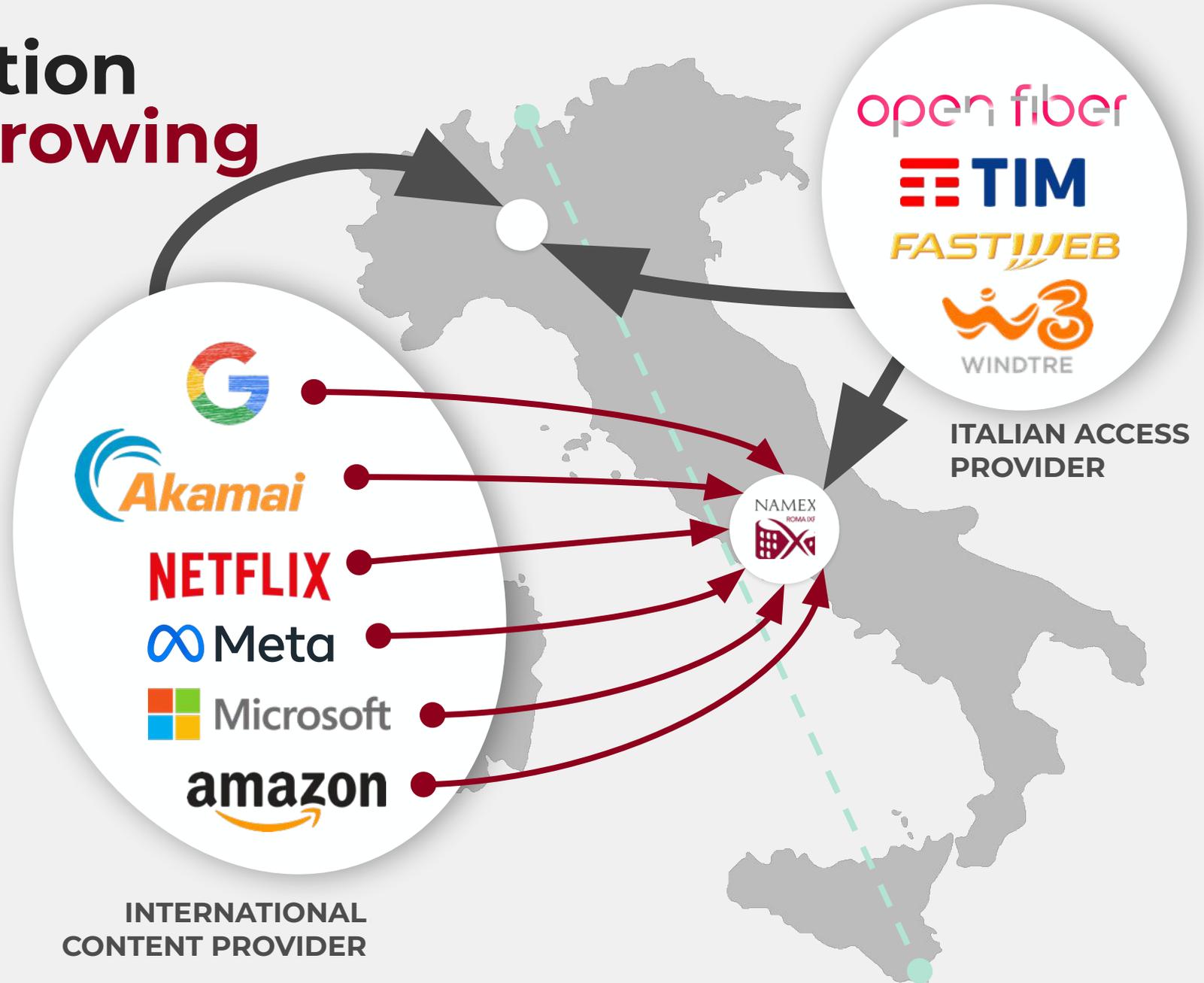
- Rome and Milan have many **local** unique ISPs (unique AS)
- Today, according to IXPDB, **Namex has 113 unique AS (40%)**, most of them **local** ISPs from Central and Southern Italy
- **Local** also means having a **unique** geographical position

Interconnection in Rome is growing

Rome is increasingly important for the interconnection of Content Providers with Access Providers.

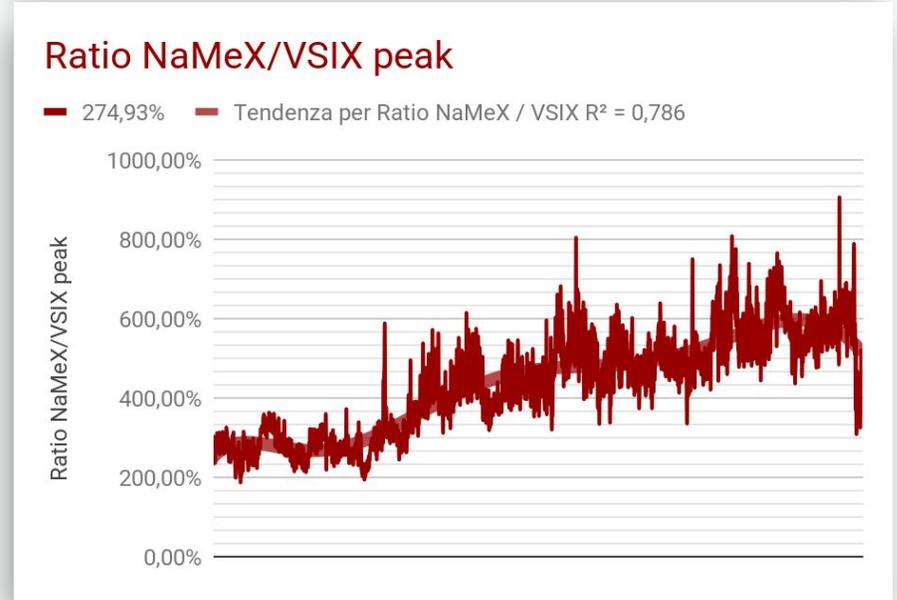
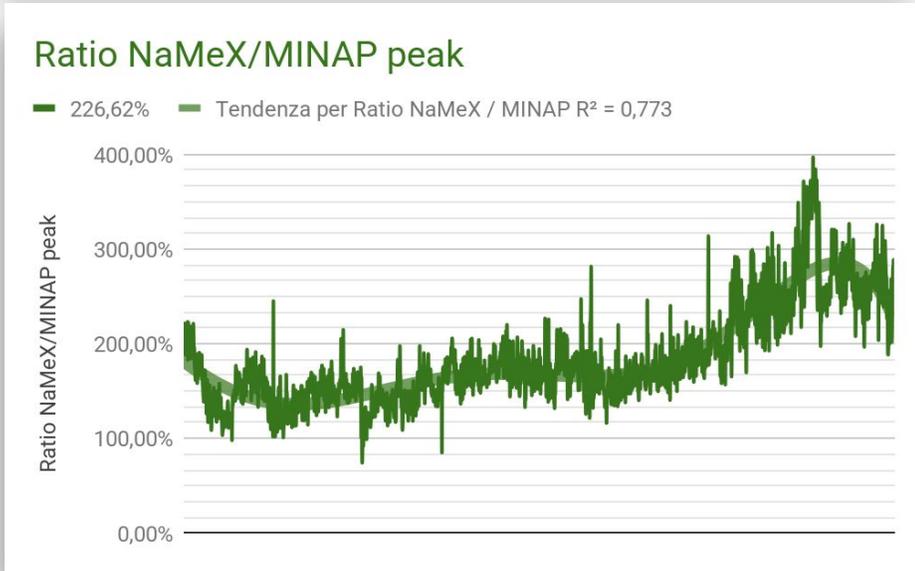
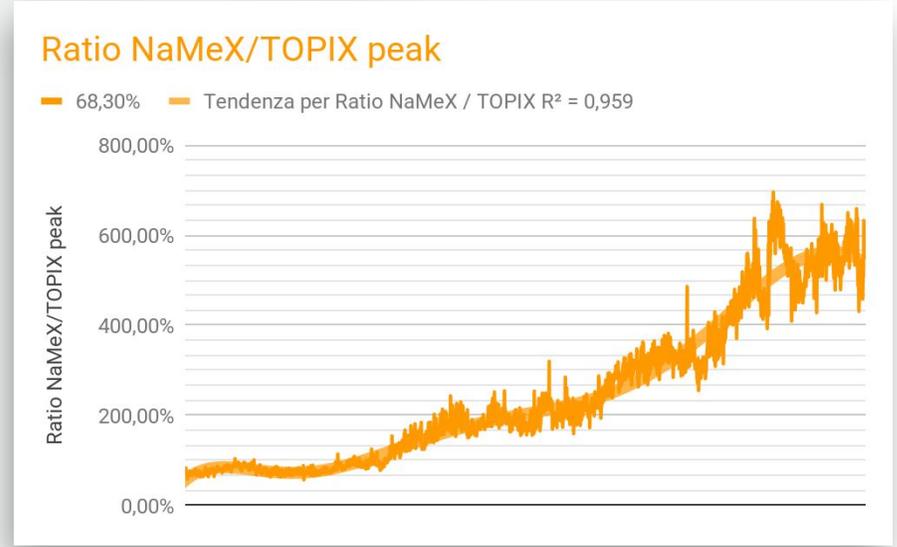
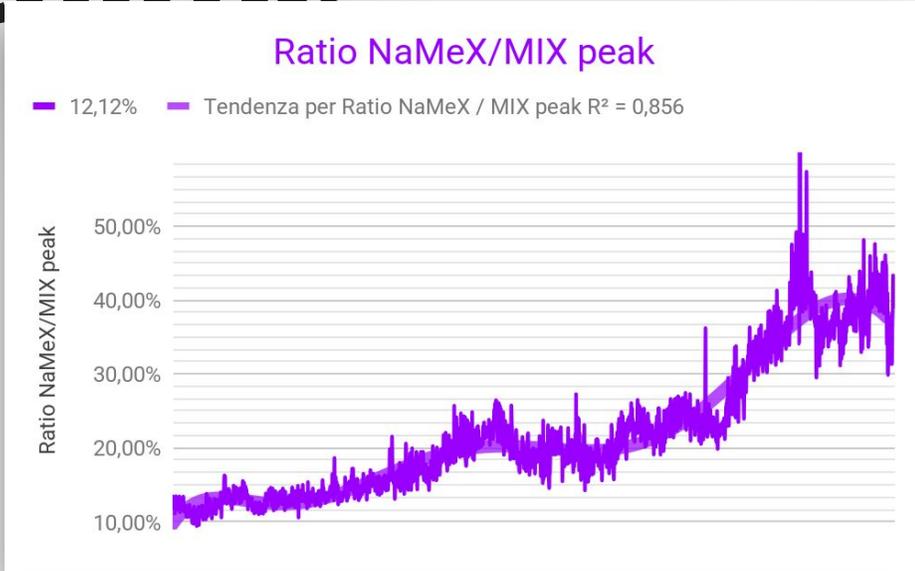
Content needs to be close to end users.

Italy is narrow and long (more than 20 ms), and Content Providers need to connect to Rome to cover Central and Southern Italy.



Comparison of Italian IXP traffic

P



Neutral

- **Neutral** means mainly **carrier-neutral** (or AS neutral) and data center carrier-neutral
- Historically, **Italy lacked carrier-neutral data centers**. Most facilities were owned and operated by incumbent telecom operators — unlike Northern Europe.
- This is why the two main Italian IXPs operate their own data centers
- This is why Namex started offering co-location services

DCs in Rome



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Not for Profit

- Namex is a **Not-for-Profit** legal entity
- This doesn't mean it is free
 - In 2025, we exceeded €6 million in revenue
- It means we have to reinvest all profit in:
 - Staff
 - Equipment
 - Community
 - Pro-bono projects

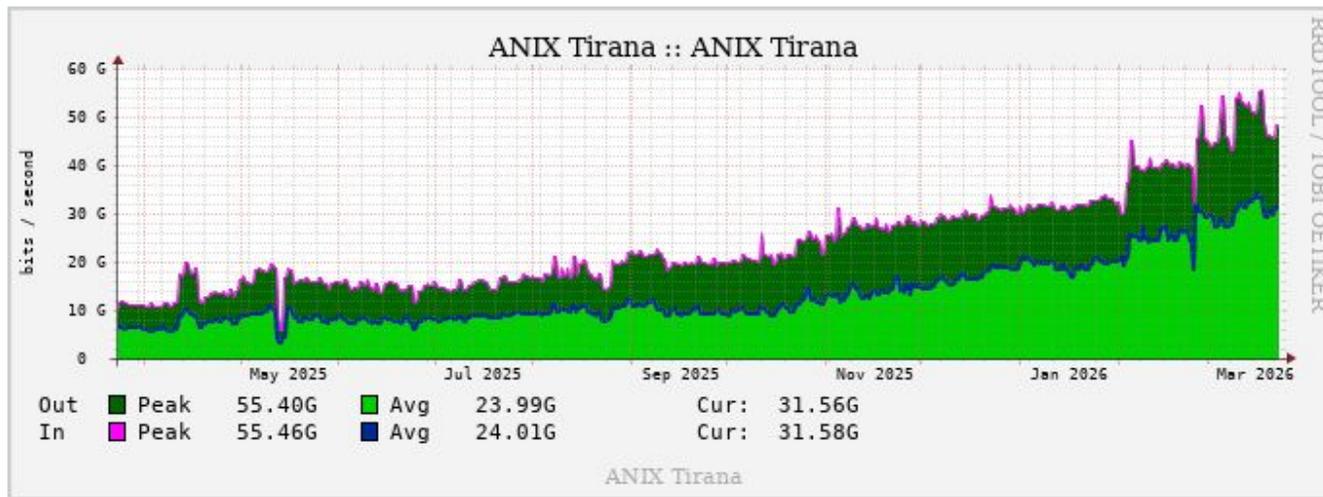
ANIX



31 AS presenti

- 22 ISP Albanesi
- 2 Content
- 2 Int. Transit

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Community/Member based

- Consortium of ISPs - **195**
- Each ISP is worth 1
- ISPs Meeting point



NAM 2025 - 700 Participants - 270 Companies



**Namex
Annual Meeting
2026!**

NAM 2026
NAMEX ANNUAL MEETING
SAVE THE DATE
27-28 May 2026
Roma

**Peering Days
March 24th 2026**



RMNOG



Peering Days
March 24th 2026

Bari NOG



Peering Days
March 24th 2026



Training for ISPs

Studenti in totale (2024)

236

Certificazioni*

203

Aziende raggiunte

84



📅 28-29 APRILE 2025

Networking per l'accesso ai cloud pubblici: aspetti base

REGISTER

→ school.namex.it



I LUNEDÌ
DI MIKROTIK

Realizzazione di una infrastruttura di Data Center ISP con Mikrotik (parte I)

📅 12 MAGGIO 2025

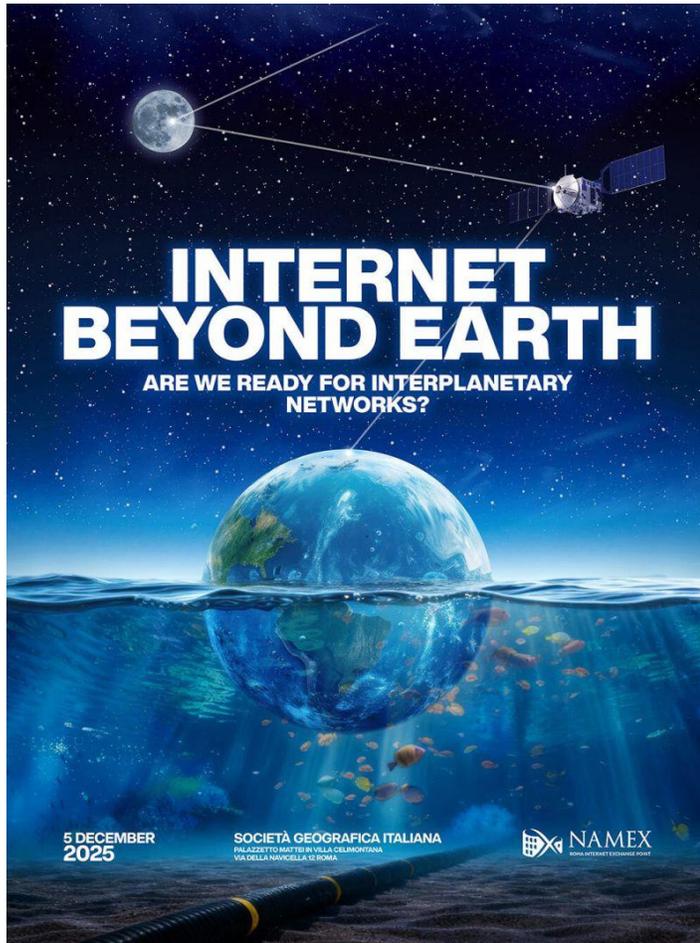
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Workshops

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Il viaggio del calcio in streaming

18 novembre 2025 | The Social Hub, Roma

Vincenzo Roggio
DAZN – Broadcaster

Philippe Tripodi
MainStreaming – CDN

Flavio Luciani
NameX – IXP

Giulio De Nicola
Fastweb+Vodafone – ISP

NAMEX
ROMA INTERNET EXCHANGE POINT

Mediterranean



Mediterranean alliance

Collaboration with other IXPs - TOP-IX

- Signed a one-stop-shop commercial agreement
- Peering, Data Centers, Time, New services (Cloud Federation, QKD)



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Argo

La prima federazione di servizi tra Internet Exchange italiani

Ad oggi, la federazione rende disponibili 4 servizi principali:

- Interconnessione distribuita** (16 location)

- Servizi di Data Center**

- Time as a Service (Taas)**

- One Stop Shop**



Transformation

- Lately, people have been speaking negatively about IXPs — their future, it is said, is uncertain.
- We believe that the future of IXPs is bright and that they are simply evolving.

- IXPs are no longer just switches. IXP contribute to ensuring
 - Resilience
 - Digital Sovereignty
 - Edge

- Please follow Flavio Luciani's presentation on this later.

Conclusions

**KEEP
LOCAL
INGREDIENTS
IN A LOCAL
PLATE.**

DIFFERENT PEERINGS, DIFFERENT PASTAS.



Do your exercises

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The infographic features a central illustration of a green pasta pot with spaghetti. Three dashed arrows point from the pot to three different pasta dishes at the top: Spaghetti alla AMATRICIANA, Spaghetti CACIO & PEPE, and Spaghetti alla CARBONARA. Each dish is accompanied by a plus or minus sign and an icon representing an ingredient: a tomato can for Amatriciana, a slice of guanciale for Cacio & Pepe, and an egg for Carbonara.

+ Spaghetti alla AMATRICIANA

- Spaghetti CACIO & PEPE

+ Spaghetti alla CARBONARA

THE GRICIA PROTOCOL
BASE LAYER FOR ROMAN PASTA:

Spaghetti + Guanciale + Pecorino + Pepe

Grab your t-shirt



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March 24th 2026

Thank you



PEERING DAYS

23RD - 25TH
MARCH 2026
Bologna

MAURIZIO GORETTI
NameX CEO

FLAVIO LUCIANI
NameX CTO

ANDREA GATTAMORTA
NameX CCO

LUCA DAVOLI
Membership
Development and
Marketing

DANIELE ARENA
Peering developer

CHRISTIAN CINETTO
Head of
Communication
and Content

 **NAMEX**
ROMA INTERNET EXCHANGE POINT

NAMEX IS LOCAL HOST OF PEERING DAYS 2026

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