REPORT:

START-UP
KRAKOW 2017

#OMGKRK

Author

Bartosz Józefowski

This publication is not financed by any outside sources.

#OMGKRK

The Krakow technology and startup environment use this hashtag as its official flag which has become a recognized hallmark. By using the #omgkrk for anything on social media you can be assured your message will reach thousands of people fascinated with new technologies and entrepreneurship.

Are you interested in start-ups? – Then you are part of #omgkrk. Welcome!

Introduction

The Krakow start-up environment continually stir people's emotions and interest. In order to sort this area out a bit, I'm delivering a report, well actually a catalogue, to the reader. Its contents were not supported by any long-term research. It is a census and a picture of what is happening in the royal city. For those seeking deeper knowledge, it is not enough, but it can certainly provide a solid understanding for those interested.

How do we define startups? - The definition of startups is an academic dispute. In fact, putting a boundary between start-ups and non-start-ups almost never really matters. Instead of a definition, I suggest a list of inspiring start-ups. Getting to know at least a few of them makes it easier to understand this start-up environment without wading through the wide range of definitions. So, instead of theory – how it is working in practice!

How many? – There are definitely many companies active in Krakow appearing at events, with each one identically and culturally representing a new wave of entrepreneurship. However, calling each of them a start-up would be an exaggeration.

Start-ups rise and fall at a rapid pace. **I estimate that there are currently approx. 100 active start-ups in Krakow.** When we treat the definition of start-ups a bit more loosely, we can estimate there are approx. 200-300 such entities. There are also many non-independent academic projects, as well as fledgling projects carried out in evenings following full-time jobs which can be added to this number. The more loosely you use the term start-up, the easier it is to start counting Krakow's start-ups in the hundreds.

There are several thousand people in the area interested in start-up issues. The largest group is on facebook (and only considers part of the area) is 5,000 people. During each year, there are more than 750 IT and startup events in Krakow. This all makes Krakow a central hub for start-ups.

I hope that this humble report will not only be an inventory of what is happening in Krakow as far as start-ups, but also a personal inspiration and invitation to act.

Media Summary

*Krakow start-ups employ hundreds of people, produce solutions used worldwide and continue to gain the recognition of more and more international investors. The top start-ups alone have attracted **a total of more than PLN 500 million in investments to Krakow**.*

In Krakow, it can be easily estimated that there are around 10,000 people working to create an ecosystem of interesting technological and business solutions. In fact, Krakow hosts over 750 events annually which serve as an exchange of such experiences.

After all, enterprises are the most important element of this start-up eco-system. I point out that in the narrowest sense of the word there are approx. 100 start-ups in the area, but it must be remembered, that all companies, including those on the verge of "not yet a start-up" or "no longer a start-up" brings the total to at least several hundred entities.

Companies found in Krakow follow every significant trend in the world of technology including those involving virtual reality, blockchain, 3D printing, artificial intelligence, big data and the 4.0 industry.

Author of the publication:
Bartosz Józefowski (bart@omgkrk.com)

A long time supporter of start-ups, Bartosz is experienced in all steps of start-up including incubation, acceleration and investing. Currently, he manages the KPT ScaleUp acceleration program, is one of the managers of the FZKPT investment fund, has been involved in the support of #omgkrk for years and is the regional ambassador of the Start-up Poland foundation.

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Krakow's TOP

Start-up up businesses do not compete with each other, or even with other companies. Start-ups struggle to provide value to the customers who are willing to pay for it. This "ranking" shows companies that have collected the largest investor financing, because it is an easy measure. That's how it is done in the world of start-ups. In practice I am unsure if this means they the "best" companies, but this list is meant to inspire and show that we are talking about jobs, investments and products.

• The data presented on the following pages comes from media reports and own analysis. They were not authorized by individual companies.

BASE

BRAINLY

estimote

SILVAIR

kontakt.io

SYNERISE

SALES MANAGO

ELMODIS

⅄ BASE

Base is a company that creates CRM (client relations manager) software that manages the entire sales process for companies. Currently, it has **more than 7,000 customers**, and its main mission is to "radically improve the work experience for 25 million people in the world dealing in professional sales." Base CRM already competes with global leaders. Simply tracing Base CRM's history reveals the names of many key people involved in the Krakow start-up scene.

www.getbase.com
Acquired investments: $53 million
Employees in Krakow: 200

BRAINLY

Brainly is one of the few Polish consumer startups (B2C) that has achieved global success. Brainly is an on-line portal that allows students to support each other with their homework. The startup transfers a shared sitting over a homework task to the Internet. The original name of the portal (and a domain that still operates) is zadane.pl. **Brainly operates in more than 35 countries and has 100 million unique users per month.** In 2016, Brainly took over its largest competitor in the United States.

www.brainly.com
Acquired investments: $38 million
Employees in Krakow: 75

Estimote is probably Krakow's best known start-up worldwide and is a graduate of the prestigious Y Combinator. The company produces software and devices that permit building mobile applications aware of the real context in which they are used. The basic product and icon of the company are the so-called beacons for creating indoor navigation. Estimote has been the organizer and supporter of various events for the Krakow startup community for many years.

www.estimote.com
Acquired investments: $14 million
Employees in Krakow: 70

SILVAIR

Silvair is a company that implements the real internet of things with the world of lighting by producing smart lighting systems available in different variants. Silvair operates on the basis of Bluetooth Mesh. It cannot be overlooked that Szymon Slupik, **Silvair's CTO was the head of the Bluetooth SIG working group dealing with Mesh,** showing that Silvair is at the forefront of this technology. At the same time, Silvair is a prime example of what it means to be pivotal in the world of start-ups.

www.silvair.com
Acquired investments: $16 million
Employees in Krakow: 60

kontakt.io

No, it's not a mistake. Kontakt.io is yet another Krakow company constructing beacons. The company produces small devices and software enabling the creation of mobile applications aware of the context in which they are used and aware of their location. In its commitment to the local community, the company has put emphasis on hackathons among other events. It's worth reviewing the internet in search of recordings promoting the epic events organized by this company.

www.kontakt.io
Acquired investments: $10 million
Employees in Krakow: 70

SYNERISE

Synerise is a company whose area of operations sounds like a conglomeration of all fashionable buzzwords including bigdata, omnichannel marketing and automation tools. In practice, Synerise creates a new generation marketing tool. Synerise already has some large, recognizable clients and is also strongly supported by Microsoft. As part of its external financing, the company has already converted some of its equity investors into strategic investors. The operation itself has caused one of the largest exits of VC funds in Poland.

www.synerise.com
Acquired investments: $12 million
Employees in Krakow: 70

SALES MANAGO
marketing automation

Salesmanago produces a system that allows the automation of companies' marketing activities. This Krakow based company is fighting for global players in its category and owes its dynamic development to an aggressive, bold style of management. The company employs a large team in Krakow that sells its services worldwide. More than 50% of Salesmanago's revenue comes from exports and altogether it generates more than twelve million or so PLN of revenue quarterly.

www.salesmanago.com
Acquired investments: $7.5 million
Employees in Krakow: 170

ELMODIS

Among other elements, Elmodis produces an advanced system that collects and analyzes information about the work of machines on production lines. The system detects anomalies and enables the reduction of maintenance costs and operation. The company operates in the area of predictive maintenance in the popular and newly fashionable 4.0 Industry. Innovation Nest, the Dutch SET Ventures and Intel Capital have all invested in Elmodis.

www.elmodis.com
Acquired investments: $5 million
Employees in Krakow: 50

Why not data on revenue?

Short answers to this question which always comes up when this type of report is presented:

1. Companies do not publish income data. As an author, I would have to address many individual companies requesting, waiting and reminding them for information which requires much time and resources. On the other hand, this report was made quickly and without spending a penny. For now, let this be the MVP of a report on start-ups. Hopefully, in the future it will be possible to supplement it with the precise data.

2. Despite the fact that investors sometimes make mistakes, they do make every effort possible to make good decisions. Especially when we consider having many investors including foreign and large amounts, we can treat their decisions as a simplified indicator of the attractiveness of a given company.

3. Turnover, or even profit is not always a good indicator of the condition of a given company and even less often a predictor of its long-term value.

Why is the list incomplete?

It is difficult to take an explicit stand towards some companies one way or another. The most common doubt is whether a given company is a startup. In the case of Krakow, there are no doubts about such companies as Comarch, Onet.pl, Nazwa.pl, and Interia, or they are small and there is also a group I'm not sure about including firms such as InFakt, Codewise, Freshmail, Selvita and MedApp. I encourage you to discuss this subject on-line and send in your proposals.

The top 8 Krakow start-ups gained a total revenue of over PLN 500 million.

The top 8 Krakow startups employ about 800 people. Mainly highly qualified specialists.

All TOP companies sell their products on the international market.

Brainly has 100 million users per month. Some 70 million pupils in the entire EU participate.

At least 4 start-ups from this list count their business clients in the thousands.

Finding different start-ups in Krakow is easy: IoT, AI, VR, Blockchain, Industry 4.0 and even Cybersecurity.

SPOTLIGHT
these startups are worth following

Subjective selection of 10 promising startups

2040.io

B2B software using artificial intelligence and a conversational interface. Their main product is Edward - an intelligent assistant for sales departments.

Autenti

A platform for document authorization and contract conclusion via the Internet. They won the BNP Paribas hackathon, the Wolves Summit competition, took part in the PWC Startup Collider and Google Campus Residency. The company has won a large grant for research and development works awarded by the NCRD.

Beit.tech

This start-up builds quantum algorithms that permit solving extremely difficult problems. The company is run by a very strong team. It was granted a large amount of funding as part of the NCRD subsidies.

CallPage

This plug-in and its entire system allows companies to call back almost immediately to people visiting their website. It deserves special attention due to the very efficient execution of sales. The company is growing rapidly, has 65 employees and has already closed its seed investment round.

Contellio

Contellio automates the process of designing graphic materials and today is already selling globally. The company is run by a highly experienced team. Contellio is a graduate of the Techstars acceleration program of Berlin.

💎 DrOmnibus

Produces games supporting the therapy of children within the autism spectrum. The company has started to gain momentum - in the summer of 2017 it was Poland's only participant in Google Launchpad.

💎 FindAir

This team of young entrepreneurs won the start-up competition at InfoShare 2017. They offer a digital overlay for an inhaler for people with respiratory problems. The overlay communicates with the phone via Bluetooth, which makes the inhaler become a smart device. FindAir closed its first investment round in October.

💎 inMotion

This start-up produces sliders for cameras and mobile phones. The young and talented president and founder of the company has gained much attention. Among others, the company was awarded atn the Microsoft Imagine Cup competition and has done well on Kickstarter.

💎 Reality Games

Reality Games produces a big data engine for game developers. As PoC of its broader strategy, the company has released the Landlord mobile game which already has gained several million players worldwide and brings in six-digit revenues per month. The company has grown without the support of investors from 3 to 40 people in less than two years.

💎 Sinterit

Sinterit is a manufacturer of 3D printers using the SLS method. It offers very high quality prints and is the first desktop printer of its class. Sinterit's team of extremely talented engineers and the acquisition of a strategic investor of more than 1 million euros are noteworthy.
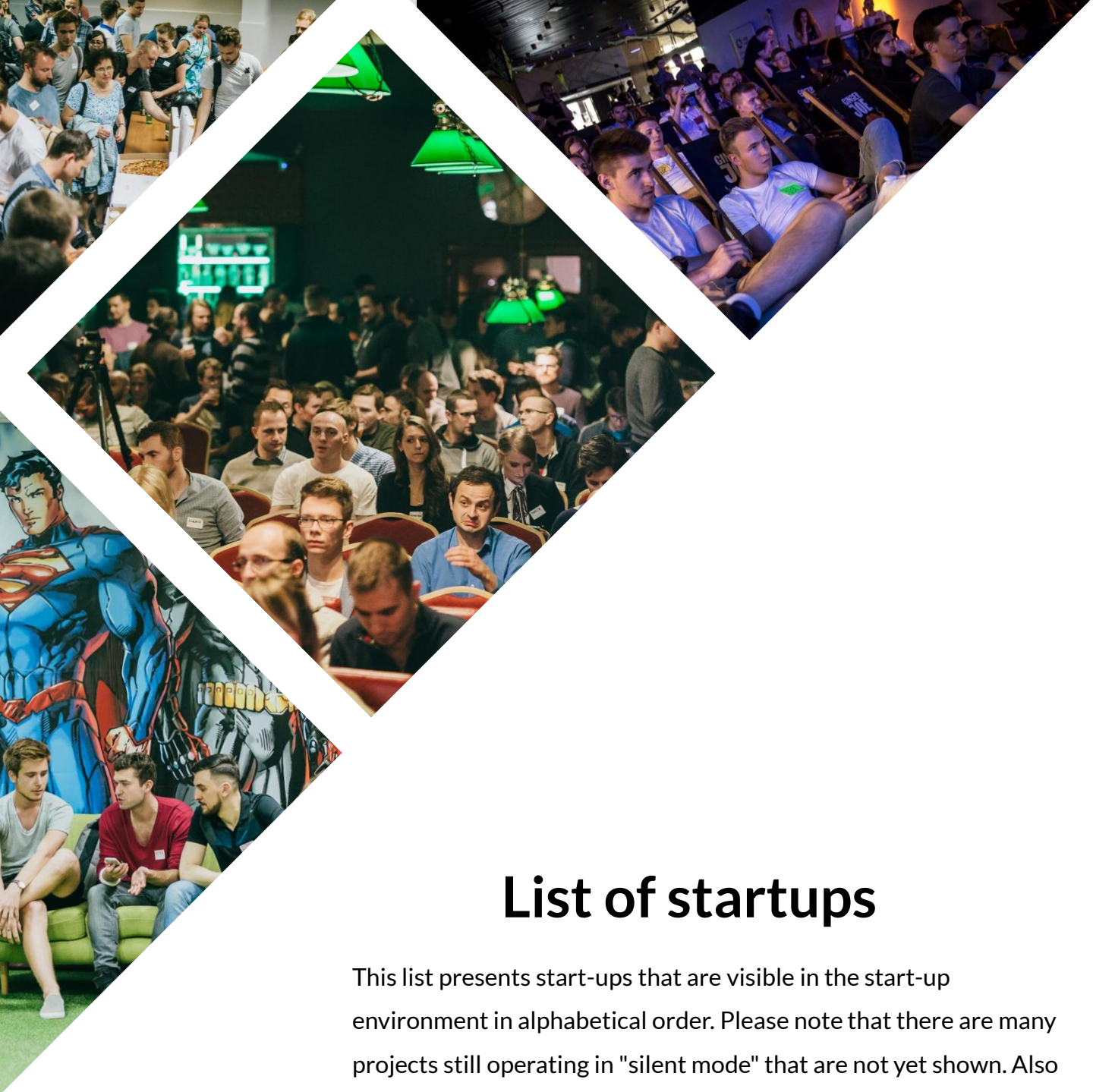
List of startups

This list presents start-ups that are visible in the start-up environment in alphabetical order. Please note that there are many projects still operating in "silent mode" that are not yet shown. Also be aware that it is very difficult to capture all members of this dynamically changing field.

If you think someone should be added to the list, please send your proposals to bart@omgkrk.com.

1000realities	1000realities.pl	B2B	VR
2040.io	2040.io	B2B	AI
Airly	airly.pl	B2G	
AirMatrix	airmatrix.info	B2C	
Allani	allani.pl	Market	
Answear	answear.com	Market	
AnyMind	anymind.com	B2B	
Autenti	autenti.com	B2B	Blockchain
aye aye labs	ayeayelabs.com	B2B	Druk3D
Base	getbase.pl	B2B	
Beit.tech	beit.tech	B2B	
Bidroom	bidroom.com	Market	
Bleesk	bleesk.com	B2B	
bookto.pl	bookto.pl	Market	
Brainly	brainly.pl	B2C	
ButtonWood	buttonwood.pl	B2C	
CallPage	callpage.pl	B2B	
Coditsu	coditsu.io	B2B	
Consonance	consonance.tech	B2B	MedTech
Contactis	contactis.pl	B2B	AI

Contelio	contellio.com	B2B		
Craftinity	craftinity.com	B2B	AI	
Crossweb	crossweb.pl	B2C		
CyberusLabs	cyberuslabs.com	B2B	Cybersec	
DrOmnibus	dromnibus.com	B2B	B2C	MedTech
Dropsport	dropsport.com	Market		
ecolife	ecolife.eu.com	B2C		
Edrone	edrone.me	B2B		
Efento	efento.pl	B2B	Przemysł 4.0	
Elmodis	elmodis.com	B2B	Przemysł 4.0	
Embetech	embe.tech	B2B	Przemysł 4.0	
EpicVR	epicvr.pl	B2B	VR	
Estimote	estimote.com	B2B		
Eventory	eventory.cc	B2B		
ExMetrix	exmetrix.com	B2B	BigData	
FindAir	findair.pl	B2C		
FinFlow	finflow.com	B2B		
Flowbox	flowbox.io	B2B		
FlowPIN	flowpin.net	B2B	Przemysł 4.0	
FlyTech	flytechuav.com	B2B	Drony	

Framewhere	framewhere.com	Market
Guides4Art	guides4art.pl	B2B
GymManager	gymmanager.com.pl	B2B
Harimata	harimata.pl	B2B
Husarion	husarion.com	B2C
inMotion	in-motion.io	B2C
InstaGo!	instago.social	B2B
Joymile	joymile.com	Market
Kontakt.io	kontakt.io	B2B
Lovely	ourlovely.com	B2C
Lucky Duck Games	luckyduckgames.com	B2C
Luna	luna-lang.org	B2B
Omnicalculator	omnicalculator.com	B2B
PasujeMi	pasujemi.pl	Market
Picodi	picodi.com	Market
Posbistro	posbistro.com	B2B
PrinCity	princity.com	B2B
Przedszkolowo	przedszkolowo.pl	B2B
PushPushGo	pushpushgo.com	B2B
Reality Games	wearerealitygames.com	B2C B2B BigData

SALESmanago	salesmanago.pl	B2B	
Seedia	seedia.city	B2B	B2G
Shapecare	shape.care	B2C	
Shapespark	shapespark.com	B2B	
Sherly	sher.ly	B2B	
Silvair	silvair.com	B2B	Przemysł 4.0
Simpro	simprosoft.com	B2B	VR
Sinterit	sinterit.com	B2B	Druk3D
Skillveo	skillveo.com	B2B	
Squaber	squaber.com	B2C	
Synerise	synerise.com	B2B	BigData
Talent Place	talentplace.pl	B2B	
Techmo	techmo.pl	B2B	
Turboegg	turboegg.com	B2B	B2C
TurboTłumaczenia	turbotlumaczenia.pl	B2B	
VoicePin	voicepin.com	B2B	Cybersec
WhoIsHiring	whoishiring.io	Market	
WiKey	getwikey.com	B2B	B2C
Woolet	woolet.co	B2C	
Zalamo	zalamo.com	Market	

International Start-ups

Krakow is slowly becoming an international hub for start-ups. There is a tremendous vacuum for more, because on the one hand it is an attractive destination for Ukrainian startups and on the other is a cheaper alternative for western companies, which are increasingly choosing Krakow instead of Berlin as their start-up destination for.

AirHelp

Offers help for passengers of airlines whose flights are delayed or canceled. This is one of the largest companies of this type in the world - it was founded by a Dane, with headquarters in NY.

Azimo

A startup dealing with micropayments worldwide. Its main office is located in London and one of the founders of the company is Polish. The company has its own R&D department in Krakow, which employs dozens of specialists.

Revolut

"Your Alternative Digital Banking" - is how Revolut, one of Europes largest fintechs is advertised. It has settled a large part of its IT activities in Krakow, employing nearly 100 specialists.

Uber

There is little need to introduce this company, but few people know that it has an operational center in Krakow employing nearly 150 people and serving many European markets for this online giant.

Smart Recruiters

This is an on-line platform supporting the recruitment process of new employees. Smart Recruiters has branches in San Francisco and Krakow.

CD Projekt RED

Of course, this company is Polish, but I am placing it in the international tab because of the success and scale it has achieved. The company is known primarily from its game The Witcher, which has made the Poland's gamedev industry famous. It is one of the stock exchange's most-valued technology companies. Its Kraków branch is known for its work on the new Cyberpunk 2077 game.
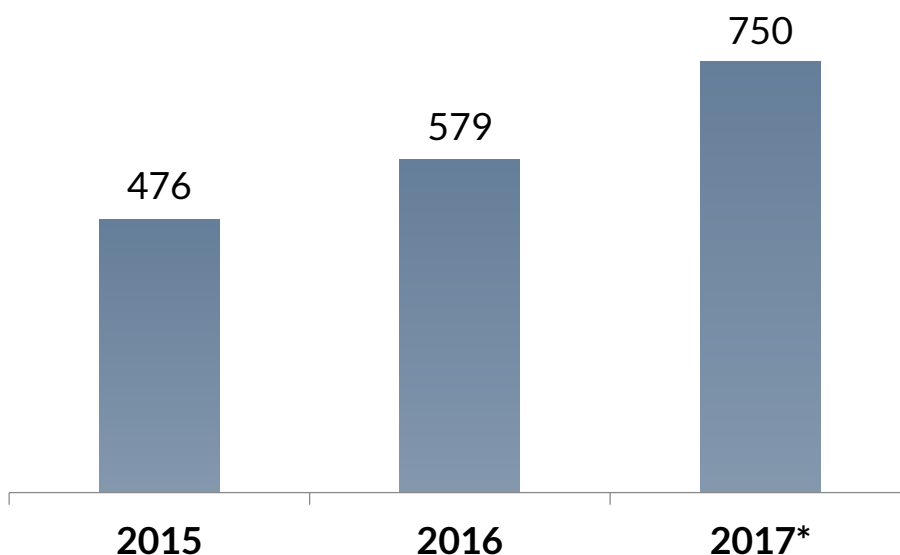
Events

Sharing of knowledge is a basic element of start-up culture. Mixing of experiences and perspectives is also important. Creativity is born at the interface between different areas and fields. To be innovative, you need to reach beyond your personal domain, even for inspiration. That's why start-up meetings are so important. Another important element is building a personal contact network.

Thanks for help in preparing this part of the report to:

Crossweb.pl

I'm happy again

750 technological and startup meetings annually

| | 476 | 579 | 750 |
| 2015 | 2016 | 2017* |

- *595 events took place in Krakow until October 25, 2017; by the end of the year (at the moment), a total of 667 were reported. Data from the previous years' show that some events are published and promoted at the last minute, therefore the total estimate is that by the end of the year there will be 750 events in Krakow
- Crossweb.pl collects data on almost all technological i-start-up events in Poland. Crossweb's calendar is one of the easiest ways to gain insights into what is going on around you as far as start-up issues

Cyclic events which, according to Crossweb.pl, developed in 2017:

Tipi UX Krakow

Teepee UX is a regular meeting concerning User Experience, graphics, psychology, programming and marketing - that Is, everything that is important when creating useful solutions.
https://www.tipiux.com

Crypto@Cracow

A series of meetings for those interested in blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies.
https://www.meetup.com/pl-PL/Crypto-Cracow/

Impact.tech

Regular meetings for people focused on the use of technology and business to have a positive impact on the world.
https://www.meetup.com/pl-PL/Impact-tech-Krakow/

How would you summarize 2017 from the perspective of tech and start-up events?

In 2017, cryptocurrencies fought their way among the issues covered at meetings in Krakow. Even in 2016, there were no such events, and now a separate cycle devoted to this subject was developed and it arouses great interest and attracts people. This is connected with the visible trend of an increasing specialization of the events in Krakow. We now have fewer general meetings concerning start-ups or technology. Now, more specific, narrower topics are popular such as blockchain and tech management.

Past trends were also characterized by a growing interest in events among IT companies. Such companies not only sponsor or provide space for events, but also organize meetings, hackathons and workshops on their own. Of course, the aim of these type initiatives is to build a given company's image among developers - fortunately most do it in a way that is not very intrusive.

Krzysztof Hostyński
the founder of Crossweb.pl

Gamedev - the games industry

Game developers. On the one hand, it seems that culturally and mentally, game developers are very similar to start-ups. It is a world of geeks immersed in new technologies they can make money on. On the other hand, it is a completely separate world - as if a separate tribe. The jargon, events, idols, even the media they use are completely separate.

In Poland and in Krakow itself, games is a very thriving sector which is why this micro chapter is devoted to the gaming industry in Krakow.

According to the "Polish GameDev 2017" study, 31% of new and 21.3% of all game studies in Poland took place in Krakow

http://www.kpt.krakow.pl/badania-kondycja-polskiej-branzy-gier17/

The most important event of the Polish gaming industry is probably the annual Digital Dragons conference held in Krakow.

People interested in a career in this industry should also check:
- KrakJam – an annual 48-hour hackathon of game developers, gathers more than 100 people in Krakow,
- Game Academy – a Krakow cycle of training lectures.

They develop games in Krakow

|	
7Levels	www.7lvls.com
Badly Interrogated	www.badlyinterrogated.com
Bloober Team	www.blooberteam.com
FGI Studio	www.fgi-studio.com
GameDesire	www.gamedesire.com
Home Net Games	www.homenetgames.com
Moonlit	www.moonlit.pl
One More Level	www.omlgames.com
Polyslash	www.polyslash.com
Reality Games	www.wearerealitygames.com
Red Limb Studio	www.redlimbstudio.com
Redi Games	www.fb.me/RediGames
Teyon	www.teyon.com
Two Mammoths	www.twomammoths.com

+ independent developers, the so-called "indie developers"

Thanks for the help in the sections concerning the games industry to the team of:

Digital Dragons
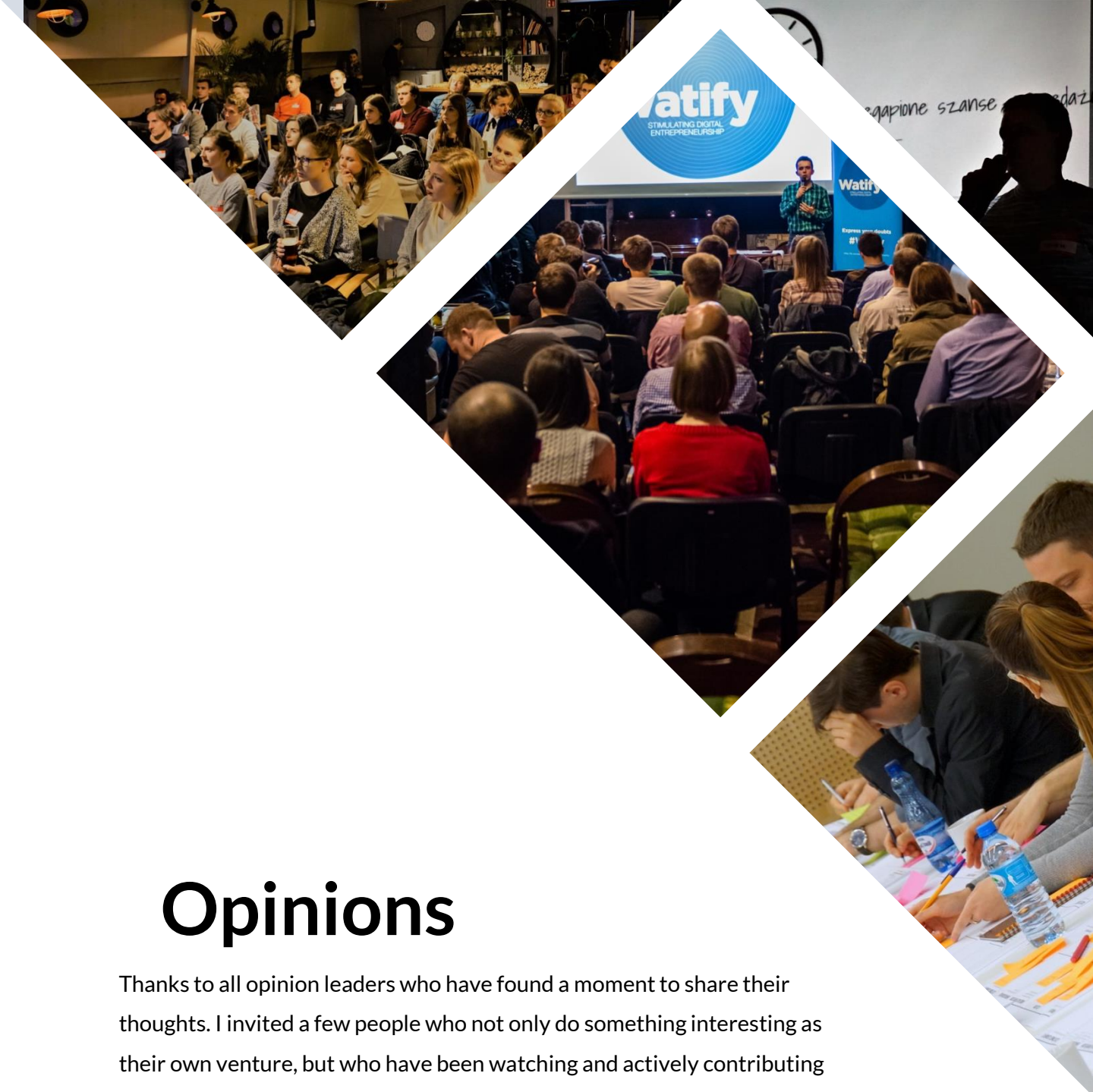
Opinions

Thanks to all opinion leaders who have found a moment to share their thoughts. I invited a few people who not only do something interesting as their own venture, but who have been watching and actively contributing to the Krakow start-up scene for a long time.

What opportunities do you see for start-ups in Krakow?

We have the opportunity to encourage start-up founders to move to Krakow which is extremely easy for EU citizens. Krakow has a recognizable brand that should not be ignored. When people hear that I live in Krakow, they often respond with -"you lucky guy". It's not just about the beauty of the city and its many attractions. The positive atmosphere of the city, the number of students of technical faculties, support for the ecosystem, and the waves of foreign investors mean that Krakow still "looks good" after checking carefully.

We have the opportunity to attract founders of start-ups to Krakow, but we also need to provide more than visas for entrepreneurs from non-EU countries being available, but also procedures for applying for them to be made relatively simple.

Richard Lucas

An entrepreneur, investor, organizer

What must happen in Krakow for new projects to come?

The next generation of companies must "pass". The companies that are successful today and employ more than 100 people have to wait for a takeover. VC money from abroad forced the companies to provide share options for employees.

When someone buys Estimote, Base, Brainly, Codewise etc. a new class of players will appear on the Krakow market: experienced, with a supply of cash, who have already seen how to do it. They will start up companies, join others or invest.

There is a risk that they will leave Krakow, but I think they will stay. They have worked here for many years, not because they have had to. They could find a job somewhere else. They worked here because they wanted to live here.

Paweł Nowak
Contellio, #omgkrk foundation

What does the startup Krakow need most at the moment?

That is a good question, because everyone is wondering why it is impossible to make Krakow become another promised land if we have very good engineers. Also having many additional creative young people should enable success. Where is the problem then?

In my opinion, the problem is very average quarterbacks who do not understand what projects to work with. Who are the quarterbacks? They are the agents who, as a representative of one of the funds told me: like to invest in simple solutions, with a small number of engineers, but with a lot of sellers. It's a good strategy, but there is no way to build a scale on reproducible, simple projects, and thus there is no chance of great success and finally there are no exits. People who invest have the greatest impact on the state of startups, because they set the trends.

Andrzej Targosz
Eventory, Proidea

What do Polish start-up founders need?

When it comes to the level of knowledge the ecosystem goes through successive phases. Once, the problem was to answer the question of who should use the product being developed. We have gradually undergone developing the product, the first sales. We started to go abroad in a natural way. Some companies have started to scale sales and collect large financing rounds. It is important that those who have been successful, help the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Piotr Wilam
Innovation Nest

What start-ups will grow in numbers in Krakow?

I do not believe that I write this myself, but there are many indications that we will have more and more spin-off projects from public R&D institutions in Krakow. Not only more and more hardware, which is already happily happening, but hard deep-tech from universities.

There are two reasons. First of all, the development of the start-up scene "deep inside" (selected companies grow and employ more and more people) and the general situation on the labor market in the IT segment will slow down the supply of new software projects. Developers have so many attractive alternatives that they must be really super determined to start their own project. Meanwhile, for people at universities, especially for young researchers, their own company remains an interesting alternative which also diametrically changes their position on the status ladder and sovereignty of operation. The second reason is related to the changes in the regulatory environment of the university: there are specific incentives "pushing projects out" from the university. Obviously, there are more barriers, it will be an evolution and not a revolution, but the combination of both factors will be visible in the next 2-3 years.

Wojciech Przybylski

Krakow Technology Park

What do we have to do in 2018 as an ecosystem?

If Krakow wants to be a world-class start-up ecosystem, it must be inspired by the best in the world, such as Y Combinator, whose first advice for young entrepreneurs is - "Get started now". There is nothing to wait for. There will be no better time to start your path as an entrepreneur than now. 2018 should be the year of starting operations, "Getting started now" and creating new seeds for startups in our ecosystem.

Nevertheless, if we want the small seeds to grow fast, we must become better at combining all the key components that we already have in Krakow such as the universities, corporations, start-ups, and culture. We need to act across the silo structure. In 2018, you can be sure that OMGKRK will continue to develop, inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs, and build strong connections between key nodes of innovative Krakow.

Paul Kulon

#omgkrk supporting foundation

Guide to #omgkrk

Who to go to for help? Who can advise? Who is it worth talking to? Here are some proposals to facilitate moving around the start-up environment in Krakow.

Sites:

Krakow Technology Park

This is a place of many conferences and meetings. It has an ecosystem including an incubator, an accelerator and investment funds with which more than 100 young IT companies are currently associated. It offers workshops, meetings, space - and is well worth following. In addition to startups, the Park also attracts the games and film industry. (info: the author of the report works at the KTP) www.kpt.krakow.pl

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Hub:raum

T-mobile group's innovation hub which operates throughout Europe, especially in the central-eastern part Is an extremely important resource of the city. Hub:raum has a very attractive office and event space and brings talents and experts from all over Europe to Krakow. https://www.facebook.com/hubraumDT/

Business Link

Co-working space and offices for young entrepreneurs. BL always has an event offer at a very good level. BL does not focus on startups, rather it gathers all kinds of companies - for example - training or service companies. http://blpoland.com/krakow/

Biznes Lab

Relatively new coworking space and offices, with a fairly attractive event room. More and more meetups choose this place for their meetings. https://biznes-lab.pl/

Cluster cowork

Relatively new coworking space and offices, with a fairly attractive event room. More and more meetups choose this place for their meetings. https://biznes-lab.pl/

Investors:

Innovation Nest

IN opened a new fund with the support of the European Investment Fund in 2017, which means a new international opening for the company. IN is also the organizer of very high quality events.

http://www.innovationnest.co/

Leonardo Fund

This is a fund from the Bridge Alfa II generation. Interested in R&D, deep tech and games.

http://www.leonardofund.pl/

Innoventure

A fund from the Bridge Alfa II generation. Interested in R&D, deep tech and games.

http://innoventure.io/

Satus

Satus recorded a very large investment exit in 2017. For sure it will continue to be active in the coming years. http://www.satus.pl/

Other funds

The funds which were not very active in 2017, but perhaps will be activated again at the launch of the PDF Starter and Bridge Alfa III gen programs are: **Bitspiration Booster, KTP Seed Fund, Nomad Fund, QBN Fund, Augere Venture**.

In 2018

The Polish Development Fund will release several investment instruments, including the starter type dedicated to startups. The NCRD will also release another round of "Bridge Alpha" funds. They are worth monitoring this coming year.

Recommended meetups:

Startup Stage
Meetings on start-ups usually held in English, for intermediate and advanced people.
https://www.facebook.com/StartupStage

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hive53
Offers meetings with startup founders and interesting people. Similar events with a different number (hive44 Katowice, hive61 Poznań etc.) can be found in other Polish cities.
https://www.facebook.com/Hive53

Open Coffee Krk
Every two weeks on Thursday, 8:00 am - 9:00 am an "unmeeting" is held. Everyone has the right to take not more than 2 minutes from the time of others. 9am - 10pm networking.
http://www.ockrk.co

Aula Polska
Aula Poland Meetings concern startups organized originally in Warsaw and now in many other Polish cities.
https://www.facebook.com/aula.polska
https://www.facebook.com/aulakrakow

Krakow Enterprise Mondays
A series of meetings during which students have the chance to meet entrepreneurs. Offers the best entrepreneurial lesson in the informal atmosphere of a pub.
http://krakowenterprisemondays.com/

Startup Weekend
The best way to start your own start-up. An intense weekend of teamwork, mentoring and prototyping. Each SW has its own theme. It is worth going to a SW to another city if the topic suits us.
https://www.facebook.com/swkrakow

Geek Girls Carrots
Meetings for girls interested in IT. Mainly - in the form of introductory lectures to various areas. Meetings organized throughout Poland.
https://www.facebook.com/geekgirlscarrots

Start-ups - how to start?

The #omgkrk support foundation has translated an excellent guide to the world of start-ups. The guide was originally released by Y Combinator - the best start-up accelerator in the world. According to Paweł Nowak, the initiator of the translation of the entire guide into Polish: "The language barrier should not stop anyone from doing extraordinary things and learning from the best".
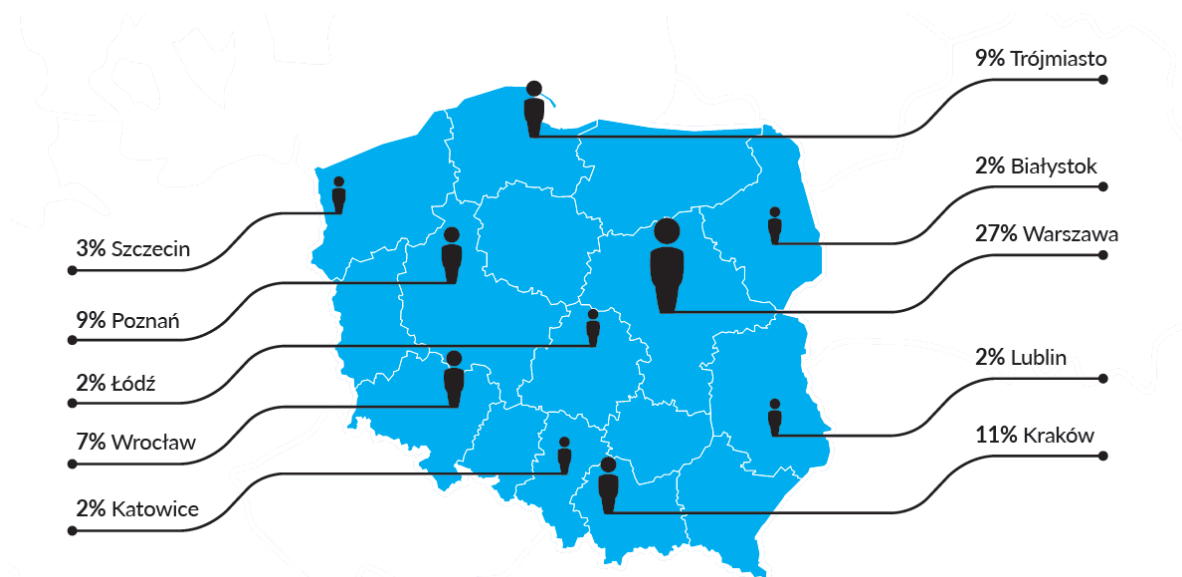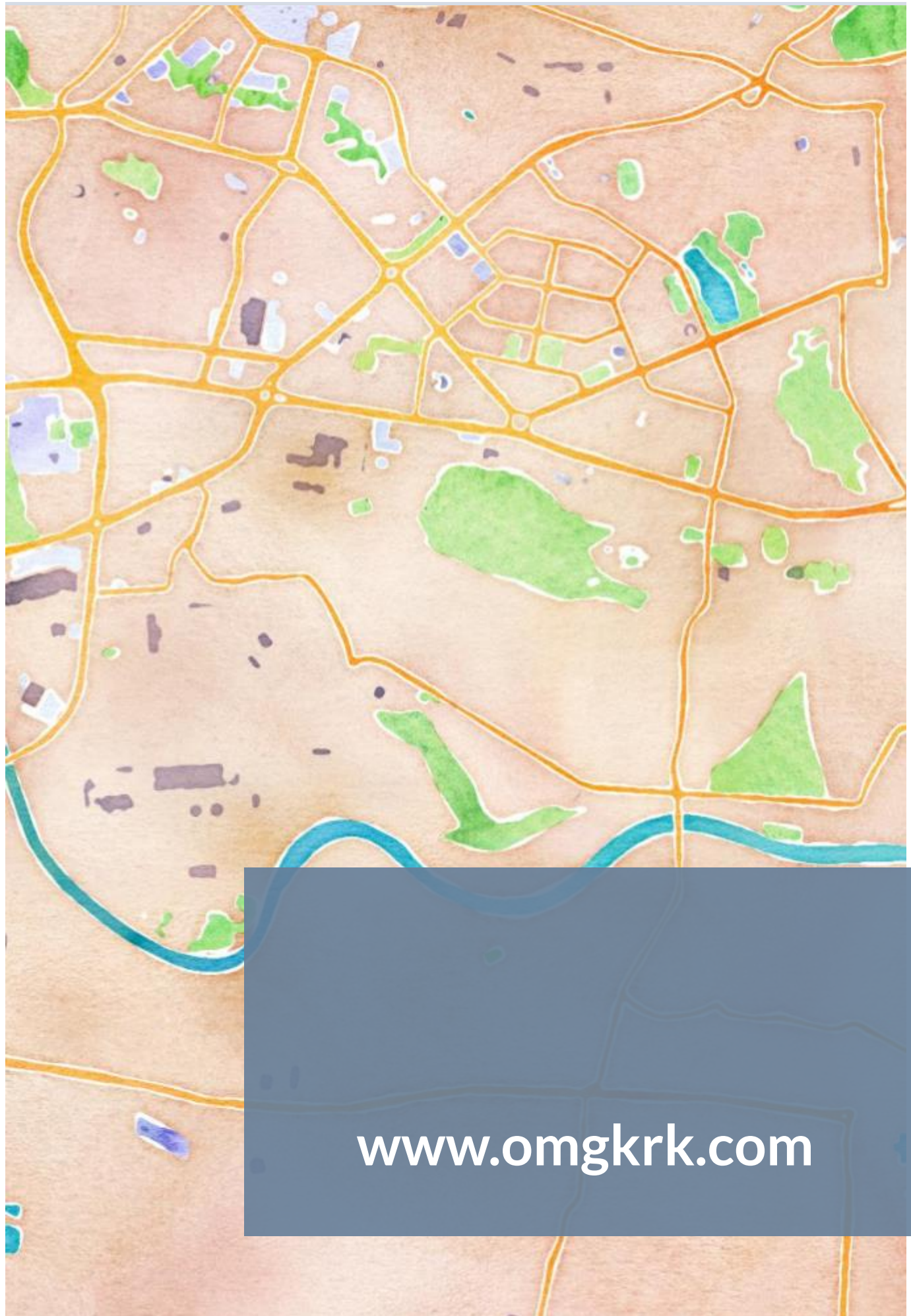
www.omgkrk.com/start

Start-ups in research

For those interested in Polish start-ups, the most interesting is the report of the Start-up Poland foundation published every year since 2015.

The 2016 report on the Deloitte research: "Diagnosis of the start-up ecosystem in Poland" can be an additional source of knowledge.

Location of start-ups from the Polish Start-ups 2016 report*, Startup Poland, p.17.

* Start-up Poland's 2017 report does not update data on the start-up population in Poland, therefore no newer data appears than the data quoted above. Only statistics of the survey's respondents are listed

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