

EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD INITIATIVE

*Simplifying, facilitating,
connecting.*



DG EAC, Higher Education Unit / Erasmus+

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General policy overview and roadmap of digitalisation of Erasmus+ mobility management

Nadia Manzoni, Team Leader
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EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR UNIVERSITIES

SUPPORTING AND ENABLING
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
ACROSS EUROPE



A European shared vision to support all types of higher education institutions to adapt to changing conditions across all their missions

Priority areas for transformation based and clear objectives

Concrete actions at EU level to enable and support the sector

Synergies with actions and national reforms



Four flagship initiatives



Expand to **60 European Universities with more than 500 universities by mid-2024**, with an Erasmus+ indicative budget totalling EUR 1.1 billion for 2021-2027.



Work towards a **legal statute for alliances** of higher education institutions: pilot as of 2022 under Erasmus+ the implementation of existing European instruments



Examine options and necessary steps towards a **joint European degree**: pilot as of 2022 under Erasmus+ the first steps towards a joint European degree, in particular the development of European criteria for the award of a European Degree label



Scale up the **European Student Card initiative by starting deploying a unique European Student Identifier** to all mobile students in 2022 and to all students in universities in Europe by mid-2024

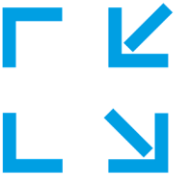
Goals of European Student Card Initiative



- Green Erasmus+ programme administration through paperless workflows – from application to transcript of records
- Digital Erasmus+ programme through once-only principle and efficiency gains for mobility management
- More inclusive Erasmus+ programme through more ready made and more targeted communication with students
- Smoother mobility experience abroad for students and a sense of a European student identity

Underpinned by **Erasmus Charter Higher Education** –commitment to digitalisation of all Erasmus+ participating higher education institutions

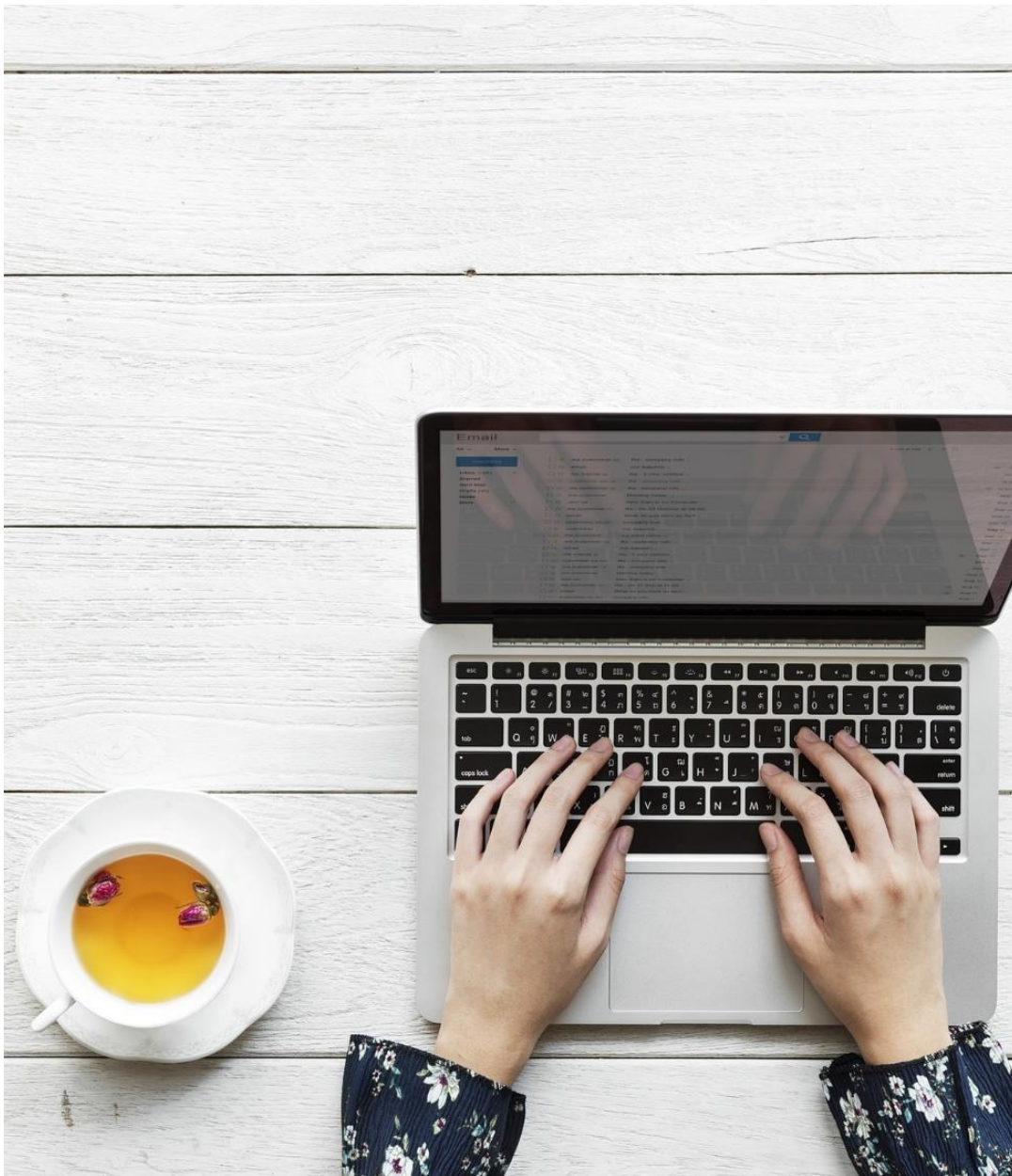




How do we get there?

Workstreams under ESCI:

1. Connect all universities in E+ countries via a digital network - Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) Network
2. Offer a software for institutions without student information systems - EWP Dashboard
3. Offer a student facing infrastructure- Erasmus+ App
4. Issue an identifier to students to be able to identify them across IT systems - European Student Identifier
5. Ensure students can confirm their status abroad - European Student Card

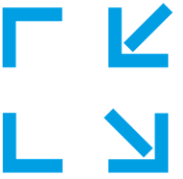




Erasmus Without Paper Network

Alexandra Licht, Policy Officer
DG EAC, Higher Education Unit / Erasmus+

Erasmus Without Paper (EWP)



What is it for?

For Erasmus coordinators in universities to manage mobilities more efficiently by replacing paper exchanges with data exchanges between IT-systems.

How?

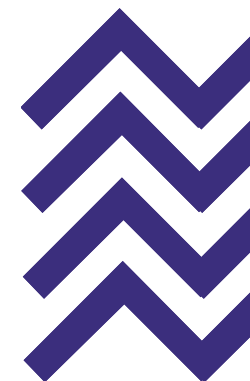
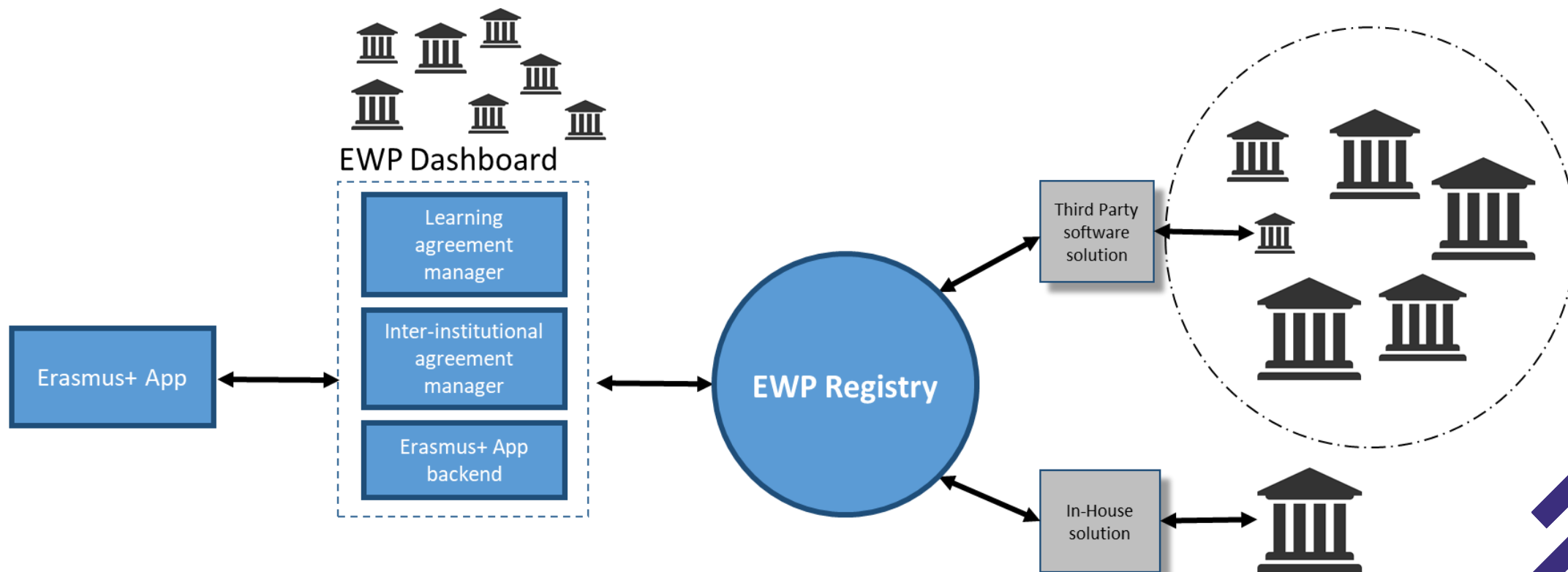
EWP interconnects a multitude of student information systems through the use of [APIs](#) (i.e. connectors between the Network and the users).

Which processes does the Network support?

- Exchange and signature of learning agreements
- Exchange and signature of Inter-institutional agreements
- Exchange of transcripts of records
- Student application and nominations

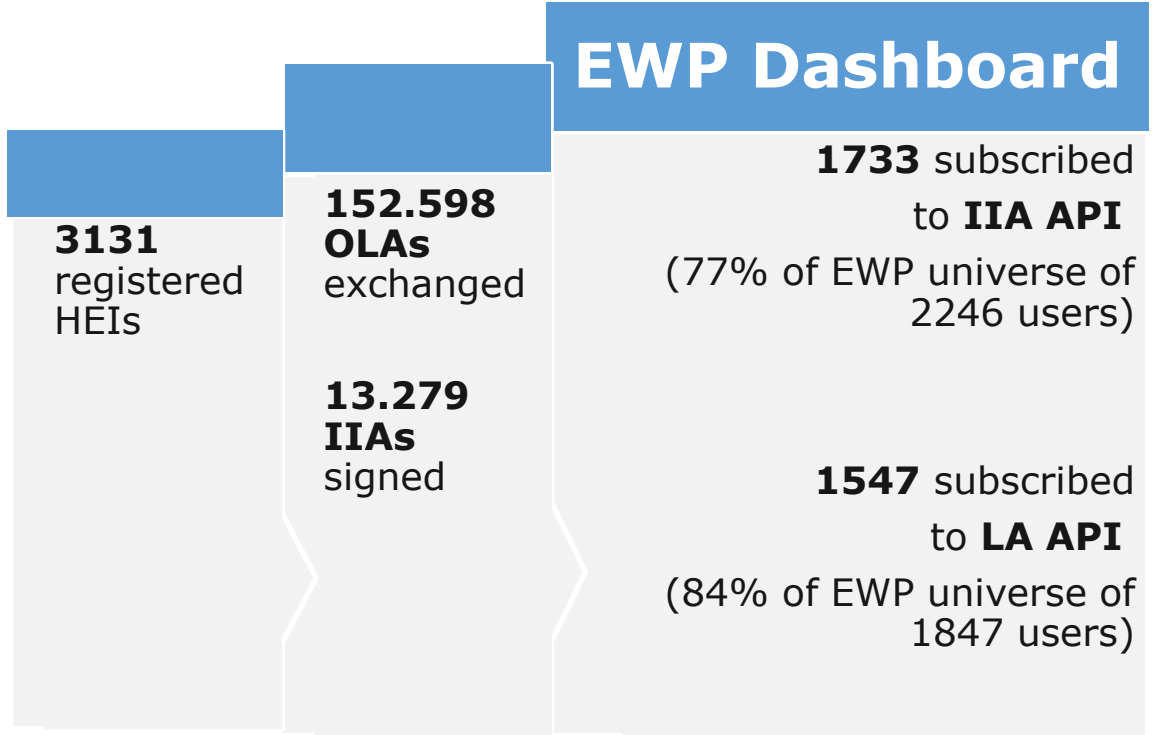
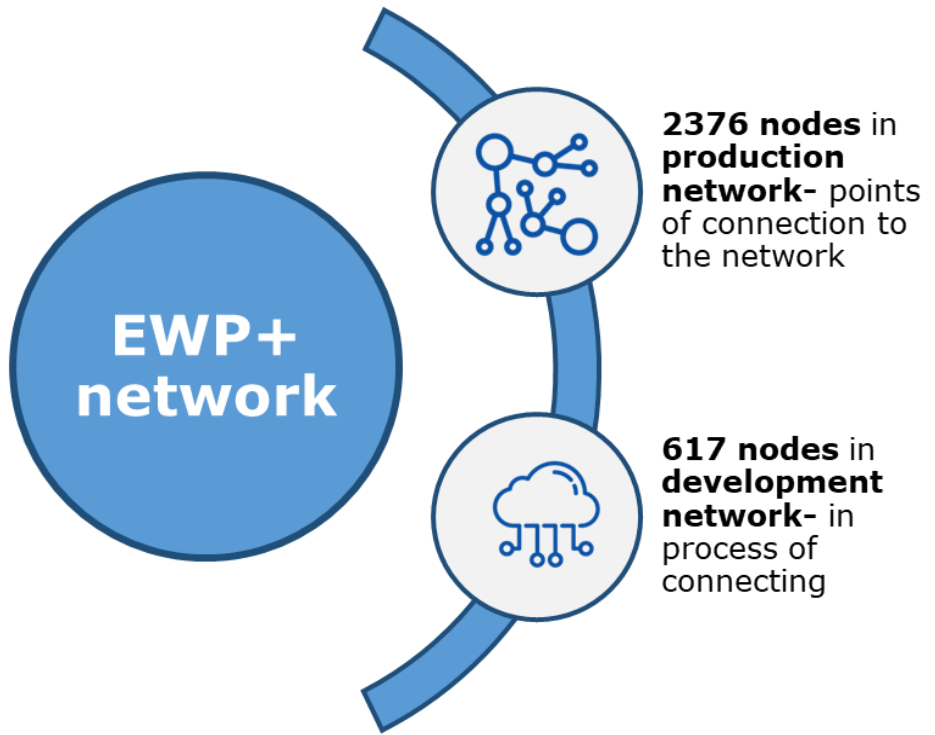


Erasmus Without Paper (EWP) Network components





Current traffic volume – February 2022



January 2022-December 2024



erasmus⁺
without paper



Key EWP+ tenets

Business
continuity

Results
oriented

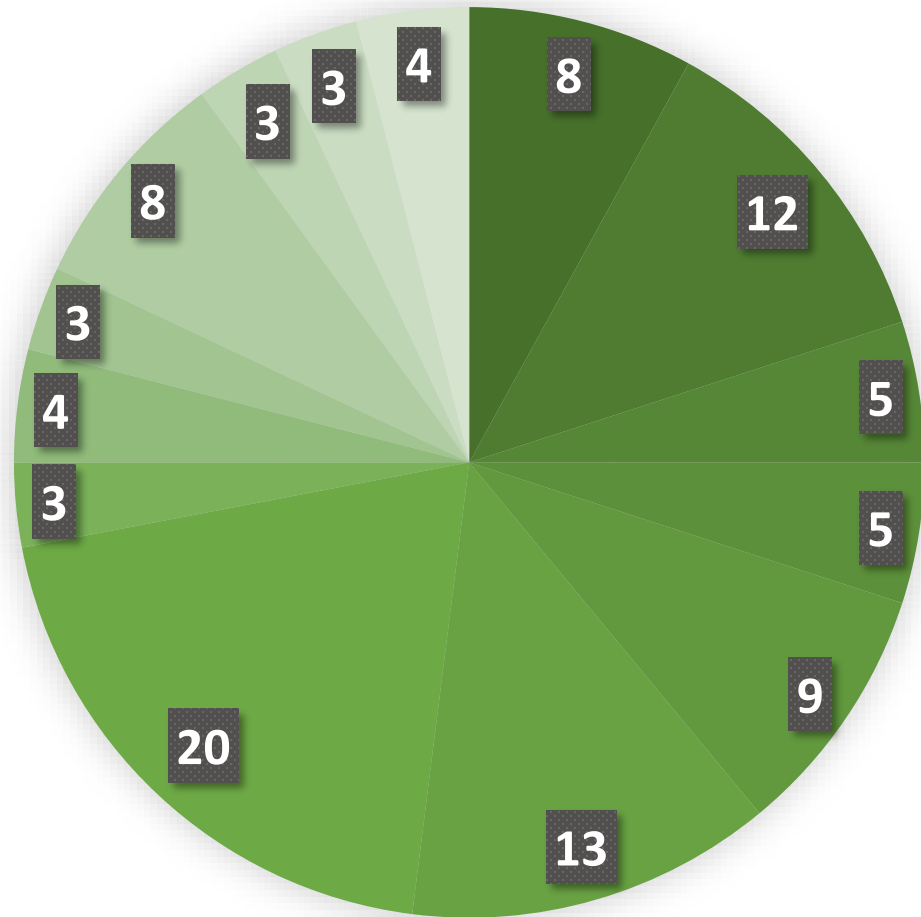
Iteration and
evolution

Multi
stakeholder

By universities
for
universities



EWP+ envisaged deliverables



- EWP Dashboard enhancements
- EWP Network reinforcement
- EWP helpdesk
- EWP governance
- Outreach & communication
- Analysis of current systems
- Preparation enhanced infrastructure
- Further development
- Dashboard as service (continuity)
- App as service (continuity)
- ESI adoption
- Change management within HEIs
- Specialised support
- Programme management



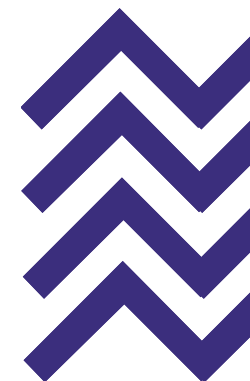
- *Continued availability of the digital infrastructure*
- *Enhanced helpdesk*
- *Addressing technical debt accrued in the last year*
- *Outreach and communication towards community*



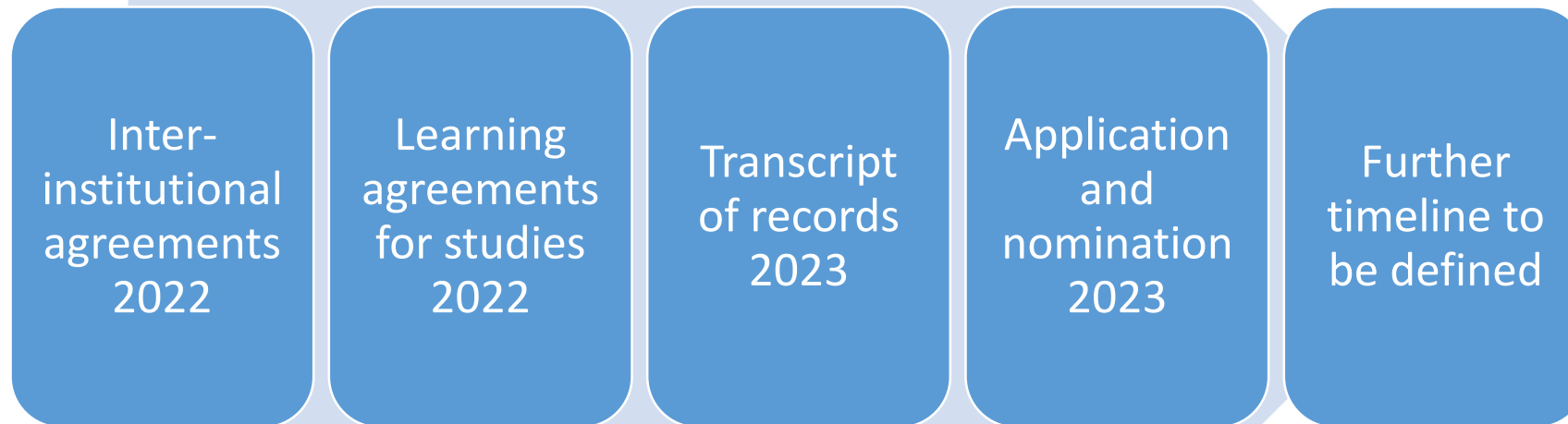


Activities extended onto 2023

- *Robust and participatory governance model*
- *Mainstreaming ESI (R2)*
- *Support for change management in HEIs (R2)*
- *Programme management environment (R2)*



Erasmus+ digitalisation timeline





Erasmus+ App

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Available features on the Erasmus+ App

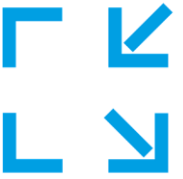
- Ability to manage administrative procedures for EWP Dashboard users
- ESI-based European Student Card
- Multilingual information on mobility opportunities
- Deals, Tips & Stories
- Events by HEIs



Future features of the Erasmus+ App



- Ability to manage administrative procedures for all students and expansion to more admin processes
- Fully digital European Student Card
- Integration with Online Linguistic Support
- Review of mobility experience
- Much more...

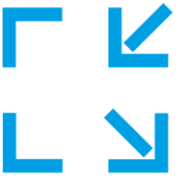




European Student Identifier



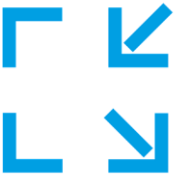
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Authentication and identification

- Student mobility requires knowing both who a person is and what their home university is
- Universities need to exchange students' records and students must be uniquely identified





European Student Identifier- ESI

The European Student Identifier is **globally unique, persistent, non-targeted, technically independent and GDPR compliant**. It reliably identifies students across different e-services.

Depending on the qualifiers needed to make a given student code globally unique, there are 2 possible formats

ESI with nation-wide (or region-wide) student code : `urn:schac:personalUniqueCode:int:esi:<country-code>:<code>`

Example : `urn:schac:personalUniqueCode:int:esi: HR:xxxxxxxx`

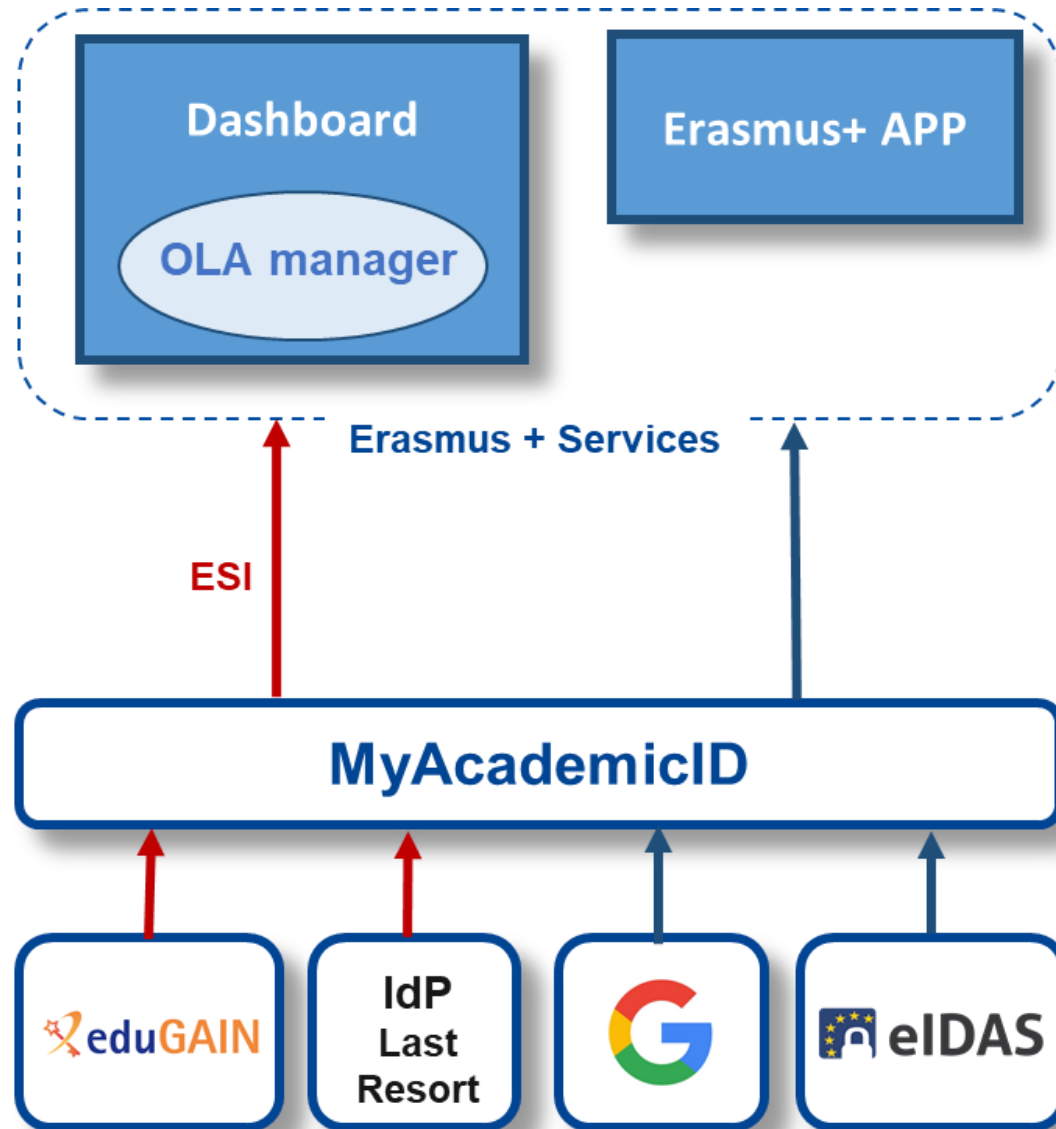
ESI with HEI-wide scope student code : `urn:schac:personalUniqueCode:int:esi:<shO>:<code>`

Example : `urn:schac:personalUniqueCode:int:esi: example.edu:xxxxxxxx`

For more information: <https://wiki.geant.org/display/SM/European+Student+Identifier>





How does it work?



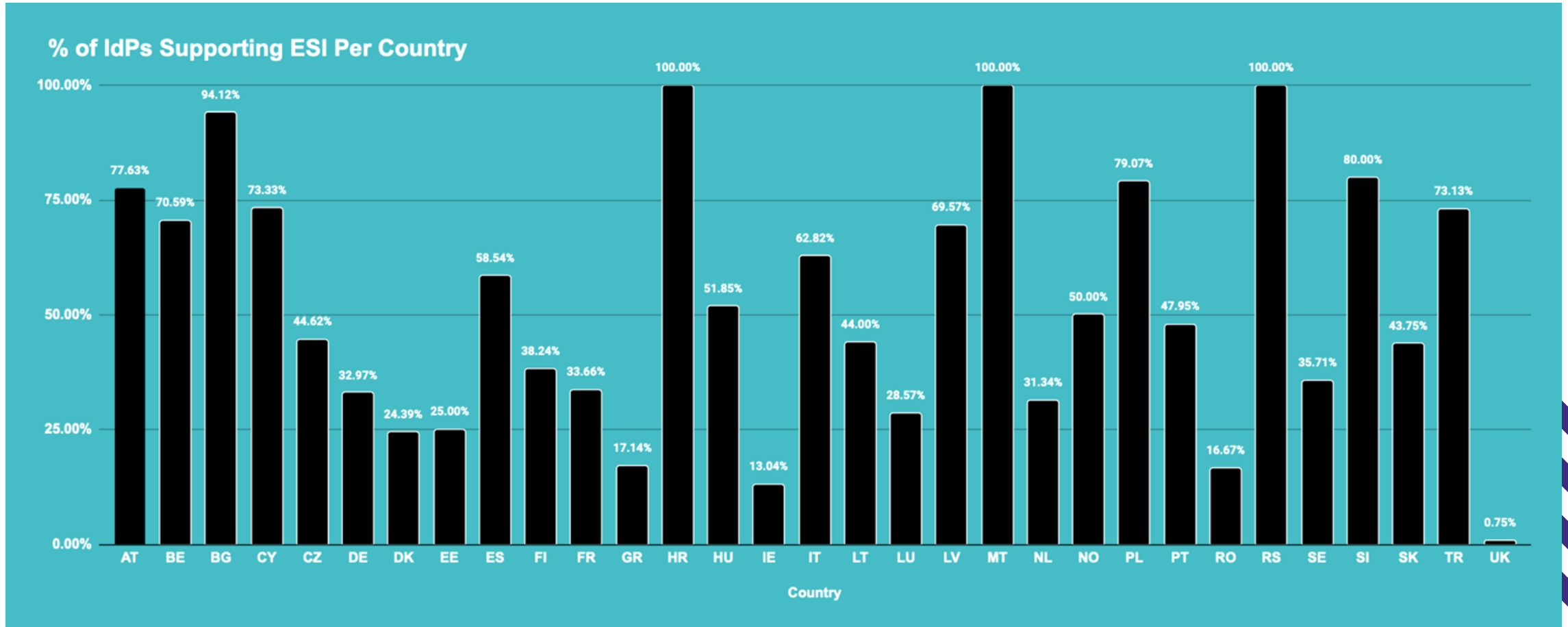


State of play of student authentication solutions

- A big majority of universities use **EduGAIN** and issue European Student Identifier in order to allow students to authenticate in the EWP Network.
 - A minority has **national IDP solution** (Poland, France, Italy, Spain...)
 - Around 500 universities are deploying an **Identity Provider of Last Resort**-“whitelisted” by Erasmus+ National Agencies for that purpose
 - **Future Developments:** ESI will be the to identify students in the Beneficiary Module but also authenticate the student status through the European Student Card
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Identity Providers releasing ESI

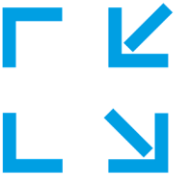




European Student Card

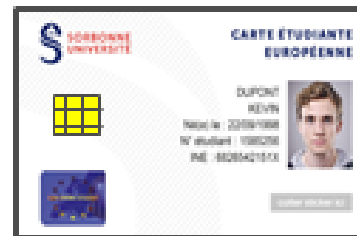


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What is the European Student Card?

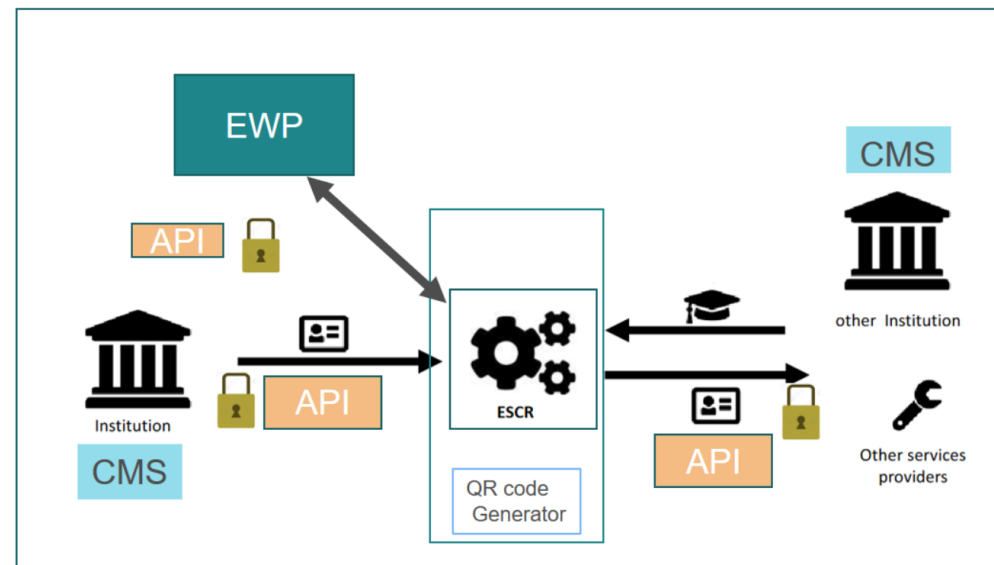
- An existing national or institutional student card with European attributes:
 - Hologram
 - QR code
 - European Student Identifier
 - European Student Card Number
- A card that enables access to on campus and offcampus services for students when on a mobility abroad (libraries, canteens, student offers etc)
- State of play: over 2 million European Student Card holograms issued, over 1 million cards issued with a QR code
- **Priority** in the future is to have digital cards





How does the European Student Card work?

- Card issuers apply for the hologram and print it onto the cards
- Universities upload student identification data onto the European Student Card Router
- Router issues a European Student Card Number and a QR code that card issuers print onto the plastic or digital card
- The QR code can be read by service providers on campus abroad





Latest Updates: Baseline Study Initial Findings

Main stakeholders identified

- Card Holders (students)
- Card Issuers (HEIs, NAs, Student Unions)
- Student Services providers
- National Agencies
- Card Management System Providers (HEIs, External Card Management System providers)
- Card Manufacturers/Providers + Hologram Providers

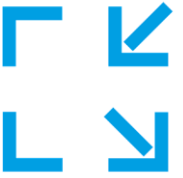
Country fiches to assess ESC "readiness" per country

- Assess general criteria such as numbers of HEIs or number of outgoing/incoming students
- But also more precise criteria such as student card situations in each country, for example:
 - In countries like Estonia, Spain or Greece, the majority of cards seem to be now digital and available through HEIs app
 - ISIC Card present in most Baltic countries (means ESC will have to be complementary)





Latest Updates (2)



Communication Strategy

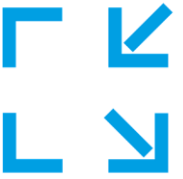
- Started drafting Communication Strategy
- Co-Definition of target audience(s) in development

ESCI informational portal

- Progressing with information architecture and wireframes design
- Organisation of multiple sessions to co-define architecture and goal of the portal are scheduled

E-mail for **Helpdesk** already set and active: ESC.support@nttdata.com





Upcoming events

- **April:** *“Erasmus Going Digital” webinars for Dashboard and Network users:*
 - Dashboard Wednesday 6 April 11:00 – 12:30*
 - Network Wednesday 6 April 14:00 - 15:30*
- **18 May:** *EDSSI final conference in Thessaloniki*



Q & A



Thank you

