

Digital Identity Framework

Press Release

Eurosmart welcomes the finalization of the European Identity Framework Dossier

Eurosmart welcomes the European Commission's proposal and the commendable efforts of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union in shaping a comprehensive framework for a European Digital Identity. The successful conclusion of the Digital Identity Framework dossier represents a pivotal milestone in the development of digital identity and trust services across the European Union.

Journey to the Digital Identity Framework

The journey towards this achievement began with the Commission's Letter of Intent in the State of the Union on 16 September 2020, building upon [Regulation \(EU\) No 910/2014](#), which set the conditions for recognizing electronic identification means among Member States. The proposal, presented on 3 June 2021, led to extensive cooperation among key committees in the European Parliament, including ITRE (Lead Committee), IMCO, JURI, and LIBE (Associated Committees).

The essence of the Commission's proposal

The draft proposal clarified provisions, introduced new definitions, and established obligations for Member States, with a key goal of creating a harmonious framework for the European Digital Identity Wallet (EDIW).

Under Article 6, Member States will issue the EDIW, ensuring secure identification data storage and sharing. Provisions for validation mechanisms, authenticity checks, and the absence of issuance fees are introduced.

Enhancing cross-border usability and critical services

The Article 7 of the Commission's proposal focuses on cross-border usability, while critical services like health, finance, and the judiciary are considered under Article 7 to provide unique and persistent identification of natural persons.

To enhance the EDIW's capabilities, Article 14 allows for the adoption of equivalent trust service requirements for third countries. Articles 17, 18, 20, 21, and 24 have also been revised to align with network and information security rules.

A comprehensive framework for Digital Trust

Article 29 of the Commission's proposal defines the requirements for a qualified service for remote electronic signature creation devices, while Article 45 enables users to identify website operators by requiring web browsers to facilitate the use of qualified certificates.

Several other amendments are included to enhance user trust and electronic ledger usage. Furthermore, a review clause is established to evaluate the Regulation's application two years after entry into force.

Recent developments and upcoming milestones

In terms of recent developments, four trilogues played a crucial role in shaping the European Digital Identity Framework:

First Trilogue (21 March 2023): Rapporteur Romana Jerković (S&D, Croatia) shared those discussions progressed slowly, citing the Swedish Presidency as "extremely challenging to work with."

Second Trilogue (23 May 2023): While challenges persisted, some progress was made, particularly in securing the inclusion of the obligation for parties to register with national authorities and the use of pseudonyms.

Third Trilogue (28 June 2023): On behalf of Rapporteur Romana Jerković (S&D, Croatia), MEP Lina Gálvez Muñoz (S&D, Spain) shared that the negotiating parties reached an agreement on a small package brought by the Parliament, including high-level cybersecurity and data protection, as well as a comprehensive approach to governance. They also agreed for the Wallet to be a multifunctional tool supporting different cases such as signing documents, storing personal documents, and online authentication, among others.

Fourth Trilogue (8 November): Although a partial provisional agreement was reached by co-legislators during the third trilogue, the Parliament together with the Spanish Council Presidency and the Commission, have been working over the last few months to translate this agreement into concrete texts. Thus, a final compromise solution was reached at the technical level, but an additional trilogue was deemed necessary to formally close negotiations under the Spanish Council Presidency in order to find compromises and finalize outstanding issues related to the Wallet, QES, open source, authentic sources, validation mechanisms, and certification, among other points. The ITRE Committee vote on the file is expected in late November or early December 2023, with a plenary vote foreseen in early 2024.

About us

Eurosmart, the Voice of the Digital Security Industry, is a **European non-profit association located in Brussels**, representing the **Digital Security Industry** for multisector applications. **Founded in 1995**, the association is committed to expanding the world's Digital secure devices market, developing smart security standards and continuously improving the quality of security applications.

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Square de Meeûs 35 | 1000 Brussels | Belgium
Tel +32 2 895 36 56 | mail Contact@eurosmart.com