



## Interoperable Europe Act Linking public services, supporting public policies and building public benefits



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## Europe's Digital Decade: digital targets for 2030



Digitalisation of public services Key Public Services: 100% online e-Health: 100% availability medical records Digital Identity: 80% citizens using digital ID





- Key public services online they also need to be aligned with EU values and principles; they need to be **interoperable**
- The public sector needs to become more data-driven, to improve the capability of developing policies and services through the management, sharing and use of data



## EU policy on interoperability – What is already happening?

Non-binding **European Interoperability Framework** (latest version from 2017). National implementation monitored through National Interoperability Framework Observatory (NIFO).

**Support to interoperability activities** since 1995 (currently under DEP), solutions to be found on **online platform (JoinUp) for interoperability solutions** and **community** since 2011.

**Cooperation with Member States** through the informal CIO network (since 2015), and the Expert Group on interoperability of European public services (since 2020).





## Challenges with cross-border interoperability in practice



Car driver wants to get a digital parking ticket in a city outside the country his car is registered in.

But: The parking app only allows to enter national license plates.

A hospital wants to share the capacities of free intensive care beds with the nearest hospital that is on the other side of the border.

But: The current legal and technical framework just allows to share nationally.





A city wants to implement traffic management solutions. They are looking for a good example.

While such good examples exist across Europe, they are difficult to find and reuse.





# **Problem definition:** Limited interoperability of services and data of public administrations in Europe



Inefficient governance of interoperability efforts between EU policies, the Commission and Member States for all administrative levels and sectors.



Lack of common minimum interoperability specifications, shared solutions, standards.



Lack of an 'interoperability-by-default' approach in the design and implementation of EU and MS's legislation and policies.





## A legislative package

#### Communication + Proposal for Regulation

#### **Setting the scene:**

Key Public Services: 100% online by 2030 - Cross-border interoperability as key enabler

#### **Publishing EIF4SCC**

	Cities &	Communities	
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## Scope and legal basis of the Act

#### Who is addressed?

Public sector bodies of Member States and Union institutions, agencies and bodies (Art.1(2))

#### What is laid down in the Regulation?

- measures to promote the cross-border interoperability of network and information systems which are used to provide or manage public services in the Union
- by establishing **common rules and a framework for coordination** on public sector interoperability, with the
- aim of fostering the development of interoperable trans-European digital public services infrastructure (Art. 1(1))

Legal basis: Art. 172 TFEU (trans-European networks)







## Structured and co-owned EU cooperation







### Interoperability assessment (Art. 3)

#### Why?

#### The assessment is

- A mechanism for **discovery** of opportunities to build better digital public services at lower costs (e.g. through discovery of reusable solutions)
- To **detect barriers** for cross-border interoperability early in the process of policy making and implementation
- To help implementing other EU policies, e.g. Digital Decade 2030
- To help prevent **failed investments** in IT public sector projects

#### When?

- Before taking binding decisions on requirements for new or significantly modified system(s) for public services
- EU policies and trans-European systems/services will normally be in scope and will therefore be accompanied with an interoperability assessment
- No obligation for MS or local/regional administrations to re-assess requirements assessed at EU level; outcome of EU assessment for their reuse (e.g., suggestions on reusable solutions)





### Interoperability assessment (Art. 3)

#### Main elements

Description of the level of alignment

- with the European Interoperability Framework,
- with the Interoperable Europe solutions,
- **Comparison** of as-is and to-be regarding crossborder interoperability
- Assessment results at MS and local level important feedback into future EU policies

#### Estimation of regional experts on efforts

- These decisions would be taken anyways, and what may happen is that having guidelines, tools and help from the EU may actually represent a decrease in the cost of the "original" task [Expert at regional level].
- In general, my understanding is that several tasks may be required regardless of the IOP assessment. In these cases, the effort may be concentrated in aligning these descriptions with an EU reference framework/template [Expert at regional level].
- Assuming there is an IT-strategy within the public administration, the additional costs of this exercise should be minimal [Expert at regional level].











### Interoperability solutions

#### Share and reuse (Art. 4)



## Why?

- Essential enabler for effective digital transformation
- Avoid top-down-support and accompany bottom-up sustainable interoperability developments
- New paradigm for **shared innovation** and implementation



#### How?

- Sharing on **request** (para (1))
- or by **publication** on the Interoperable Europe Portal or a linked Portal (Para (3))
- Adapting to own needs allowed sharing adaptation mandatory (para (4))
- Incentive for cost-sharing (para (5))





### Interoperable Europe support measures

### **Policy support**

- Policy implementation support projects (Art 9)
- Training (Art 13)
- Peer reviews (Art 14)

### **Innovation measures**

- GovTech (Art 10)
- Regulatory sandboxes

## **Planning and monitoring**

- Interoperable Europe Agenda annual strategic planning (Art 19)
- Monitoring implementation of EIF, take-up of IOP solutions and development of OS solutions (Art 20)





## What's in it for local and regional administrations?

- Represented in the Interoperable Europe Board via the Committee of the Regions (member);
- Can contribute directly via the Interoperable Europe Community (incl. participation in operational tasks through working groups, advice to the Board, shape the Interoperable Europe Agenda);
- Can participate in **support measures**, e.g. GovTech incubator, peer reviews;
- Benefit from the specific European Interoperability Framework for Smart Cities and Communities (Staff Working Document accompanying the Act);
- Benefit from capacity building and re-usable interoperability solutions through the Interoperable
  Europe Academy and Portal;
- Interoperability assessments will trigger that more EU/MS proposals come with reusable solutions;
- Obligation to share interoperability assets, under certain conditions and if requested



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## Thank you



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community innovation ∞ govtech ∞

Stay in touch



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