



EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD INITIATIVE

Facilitating a connected European Education Area

Erasmus Goes Digital Webinar – 3 November 2022

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EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR UNIVERSITIES



Political ambition

- European Education Area by 2025 – where European Universities have **50% student mobility**
- The European Student Card Initiative to make administrative processes to exchange students **fully digital and seamless**
- **European Council Conclusions** in April 2022
 - Identify the European Student Card initiative as a **key action to achieve this ambition** by simplifying administration for institutions
 - Call on the Commission and Member States to work together to **widen the European Student Card initiative**, especially to support new emerging mobility cooperation models, and to encourage Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to **make full use of digital tools for mobility**



European Student Card

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Achievements so far

- Thanks to **the incredible efforts of HEIs** nearly **100%** of institutions with an ECHE connected to the Erasmus Without Paper Network
- **Around 90%** connected to exchange data for Inter-Institutional Agreements (IIAs), Learning Agreements (LAs) and issue a European Student Identifier (ESI)
- Today, nearly **20.000 IIAs** and **44.000 LAs** signed by all parties (student, sending and host HEI).
- Sharp increase in number of agreements signed after the interoperability action plan. Visit the [EWP statistical portal](#) for more data.

Supporting each other

- Achieving digital Erasmus is a **shared effort** by the entire higher education community at the EU, national and institutional level
- While seamless data exchanges to decrease administrative burden is a worthy endeavor - the process of **connecting over 5000 HEIs has proven to be more difficult than envisaged**
- A minority of HEIs (**10-15%**) are unfortunately still connected to EWP via a problematic implementation
- We are committed to **improving implementation strategies at the EU level moving forward** based on lessons learned and feedback received from HEIs
- This includes **closer monitoring of specific nodes** with reported errors and not setting new targets for EWP nominations and Transcript of Records **until robust user testing is completed**



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State of play

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Digitalisation progress



- **Target set at the end of 2022** to achieve full interoperability and transition to digital management of new Inter-institutional Agreements and Learning Agreements with a proper European Student Identifier
- Agreements already concluded on paper or via email **remain valid after the end of 2022**. Institutions **will need time** to transition all inter-institutional agreements to a digital format.
- A target to complete this transition **to be set together with stakeholders** through the EWP governance structure
- **In 2023, Targeted approach** to solve any remaining technical issues in case any HEIs still experience problems with their mobility management software or the issuing of ESIs
- ECHE monitoring should focus **on the efforts made by HEIs and providing further guidance when needed**



Results of the Action Plan

- **Enhanced Service Desk** operational and **proactive debugging** of interoperability problems undertaken
 - The number of successfully completed agreements increasing
 - More details in the Assessment Report to be presented later
- **More structured stakeholder consultations and cooperation**
 - Governance involving different stakeholder groups operational
 - Town-Halls for an open dialogue held
- **EWP Mandatory Business Requirements** for agreements completed to ensure compliance with EWP specifications
- **Relationship Managers** recruited to **follow closely implementation** of third-party software providers and in-house systems

Moving forward together

- **No target for now** for HEIs to implement exchanges of nominations and Transcript of Records through EWP
 - New process for setting timelines to be co-created with stakeholders
 - More robust testing will be carried out before confirming any indicative timelines
- A set of **new priority actions** to follow the conclusion of the Action Plan to be formulated in cooperation with stakeholders
- We aim to have **several EAIE sessions and EAC stand** in Rotterdam to be able to meet face to face with more higher education institutions and discuss the future of digital Erasmus+



European Student Card Initiative

An initiative to help students and higher education institutions on Erasmus+ exchanges by simplifying administrative processes and enhancing digitalisation.



The 3 building blocks of the initiative



European Student Card

Transforms current student cards into a European Student Card so students can benefit from on- and off-campus services during their mobility.

Simplifying your European-wide studies →



Erasmus+ App

A single app to help Erasmus students with all their practical administration - before, during and after their mobility programme.

Maximising your Erasmus+ exchange →



Erasmus Without Paper

A digital solution connecting systems in use at higher education institutions so they can manage their Erasmus+ mobilities online.

Cutting paperwork, streamlining admin →

Enhanced communication

- **New ESCI information portal launched - erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative**
- **Communication and testing to be enhanced through “Digital Champions”**
 - We want to showcase the efforts made by HEIs and share your success stories
 - Digital Champions will also support end user testing of any new developments before they are made available to the community

Thank you

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2021 - 2027

For more information visit the ESCI portal:

erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative