European interoperability policy

THE EXPERT GROUP ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE
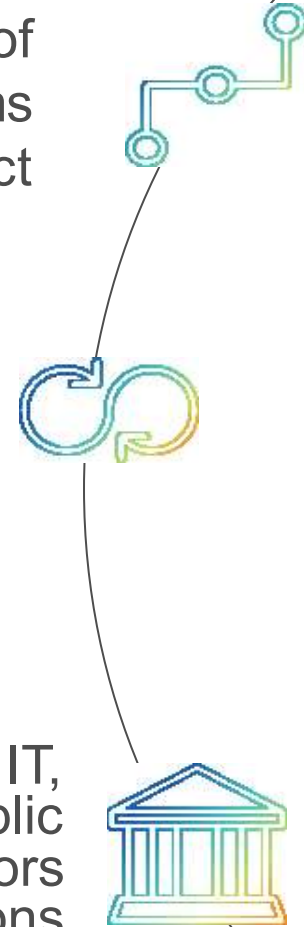
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Interoperability is....

The general capacity of organisations and systems to cooperate and interact

Solid foundation of digital government and seamless data exchanges

is essential for....

Bridging gaps between policy and IT, allowing administrations to make public services work across borders, sectors and organisations

… And why does it matter?

- Fundamental dimension for administrative simplification, enabling the interconnection and access to "authoritative data sources" towards the **once-only principle** (semantics).

- A guiding instrument towards efficient, inclusive, accessible and timely **digitalisation** of public services, as proved by the pandemic.

- A lever on digital transformation and innovation in public sector, through jointly experimentation and implementation of innovative solutions, like GovTech.

What is the current state of EU public sector interoperability policy?

- **The European Interoperability Framework** (EIF) – the reference model for ensuring interoperability.

- Provide guidance to public administrations on the **design and update** of national interoperability frameworks (NIFs), policies, strategies and guidelines.

- EU funded solutions are openly available for reuse at https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/

- Cooperation with Member States through the **CIO Network** and **Expert Group on Interoperability of European Public Services** (exchange on good practices, advice on the implementation of public sector interoperability and policy development).

The European Union has an ambitious vision for its Digital Decade; and for interoperability. *Interoperability is certainly not a word that rolls off the tongue but nevertheless, it is at the very heart of our European project. … **In 2022, the Commission will publish a proposal for a reinforced interoperability policy**, which will foster the digital transformation of our administrations.*

Source: Foreword by Commissioner Hahn to the Expert recommendations for the next EU Interoperability Policy (October 2021)

Strengthened EU interoperability policy: proposal for a regulation

Establish a strategic governance between EU public administrations (Member States, CIOs, experts) to **work and support** cross-border and cross-sector interoperability, with focus on:

- Co-ownership and co-creation of a catalogue of interoperability and reusable solutions

- Supporting joint experimentation and innovation initiatives amongst public sector entities, including with the private sector ("GovTech")

- Supporting EU policymaking that aims to be digital-ready and interoperable-by-design

Expected in 4Q 2022