



# European Student Card – CEEDUCON 2025

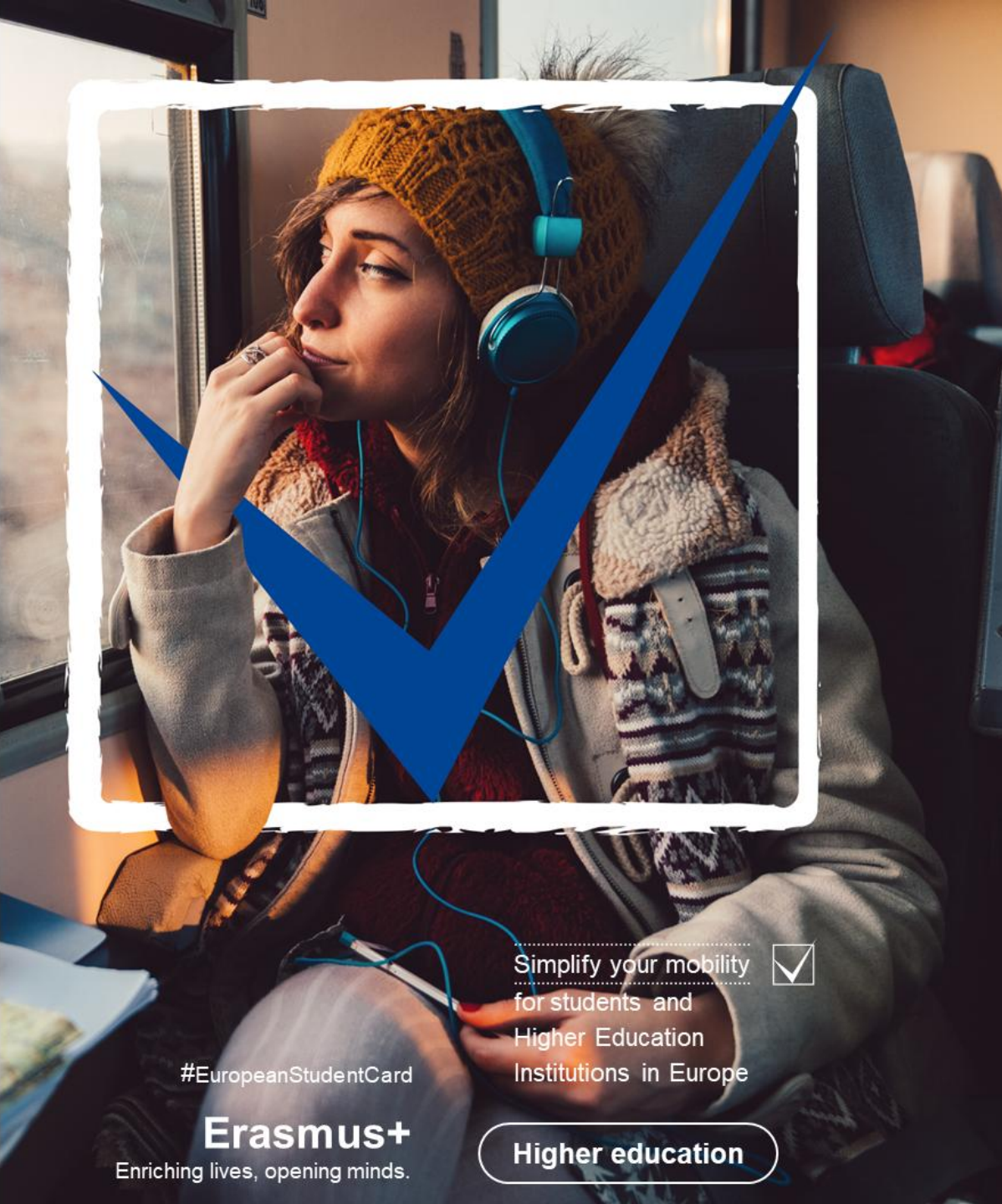
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20<sup>th</sup> of November 2025

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Simplify your mobility  
for students and  
Higher Education  
Institutions in Europe



#EuropeanStudentCard

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## AGENDA FOR TODAY

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | ESC Background & Context  |
| 2 | How does the ESC work?    |
| 3 | ESC-R Updates             |
| 4 | Demo of the ESC-R         |
| 5 | Other updates             |
| 6 | ESC Materials & Resources |
| 7 | Q&A                       |



A European Student Card to make it easier to be a mobile student ☒

recognise your student status  
across Europe

facilitate access to student services

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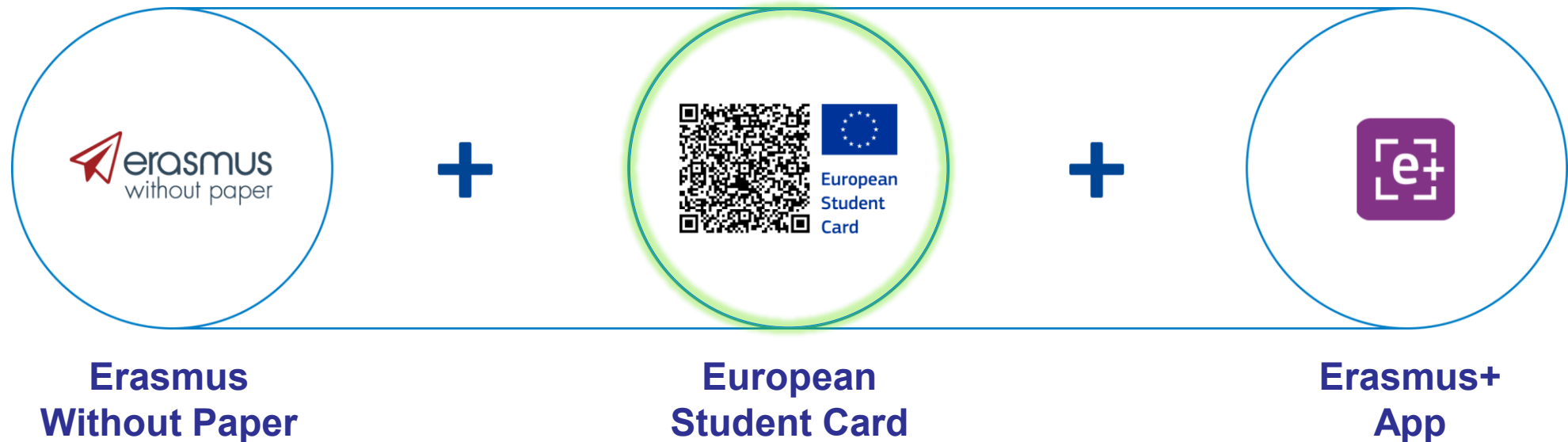
## 2 | ESC Background & Context

# ESC BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

## The European Student Card Initiative (ESCI)

Student mobility in Europe is in constant development, and so is the need to simplify procedures and to promote greener and student-friendly alternatives.

The Council Recommendation of 05 April 2022 identified the ESCI as a key action to promote simpler, flexible, and easy-to-integrate solutions for student mobility.



# ESC BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

## What is the European Student Card?

The **European Student Card** is not a new card nor an additional one, but simply each institution's current card, adapted to take on a **European dimension**, and **establishing a common European identity for higher education students**.

With a European Student Card, a student can...



**Verify their student status** quickly and reliably anywhere in Europe



**Access physical and digital services** during their mobility, like the library or public transport

# ESC BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

## What is the European Student Card?

The European Student Card upgrades the student cards of higher education institutions with certain common elements.

### ESI\*

A digital identifier used to uniquely identify students of European higher education institutions, linking them to a given ESC

\* It is not recommended to print it on the card.

### European Student Card Number (ESCN)

A unique card identifier that serves to identify student cards belonging to a given institution and to validate their student status



### European Student Card logo\* / QR code

Combines the European elements (text & flag) with a QR code, certifying the cards authenticity across Europe and enabling the validation of student status

\* The new ESC logo replaces the previous combination of hologram + QR code ).



Depending on the institution issuing the card, the ESC can be in a **digital** or a **physical format** and can be integrated into student cards **with any type of technology**. The ESC can be issued **directly** by the higher education institution or **co-branded**.

# ESC BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

## Creating value for the ESC

The ESC aims to **enable students from Higher education institutions to access various on- and off-campus services when on mobility abroad** in Erasmus+ Countries.



The **European Student Card** “upgrades” existing student cards and does not necessarily impact the services already offered or associated with the cards. With an ESC, a student’s status can be verified securely and in real time, helping to create a European dimension among student cards issued in different countries.



The **principle of reciprocity** plays a key role as a commitment in the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education. Higher education institutions should strive, as much as possible, to offer incoming mobility students the same services provided to their own students. This ensures that their own students can expect equivalent treatment when participating in mobility programs abroad.

*What else is the project team working on this year?*



Developing a **service catalogue** to better understand the service ecosystem in different countries and provide more transparency on available services.



**Building lasting partnerships with strategic service providers** to expand the range of services available for ESC cardholders and enhance its added value towards students.



Supporting digitalisation in the field of education, creating and disseminating standard specifications for a **digital European Student Card**.

# EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD

State-of-play in Europe



4.4 M

ESCs issued to date\*\*

1.9 M

Currently active ESCs



508

Organisations that have issued ESCs\*\*

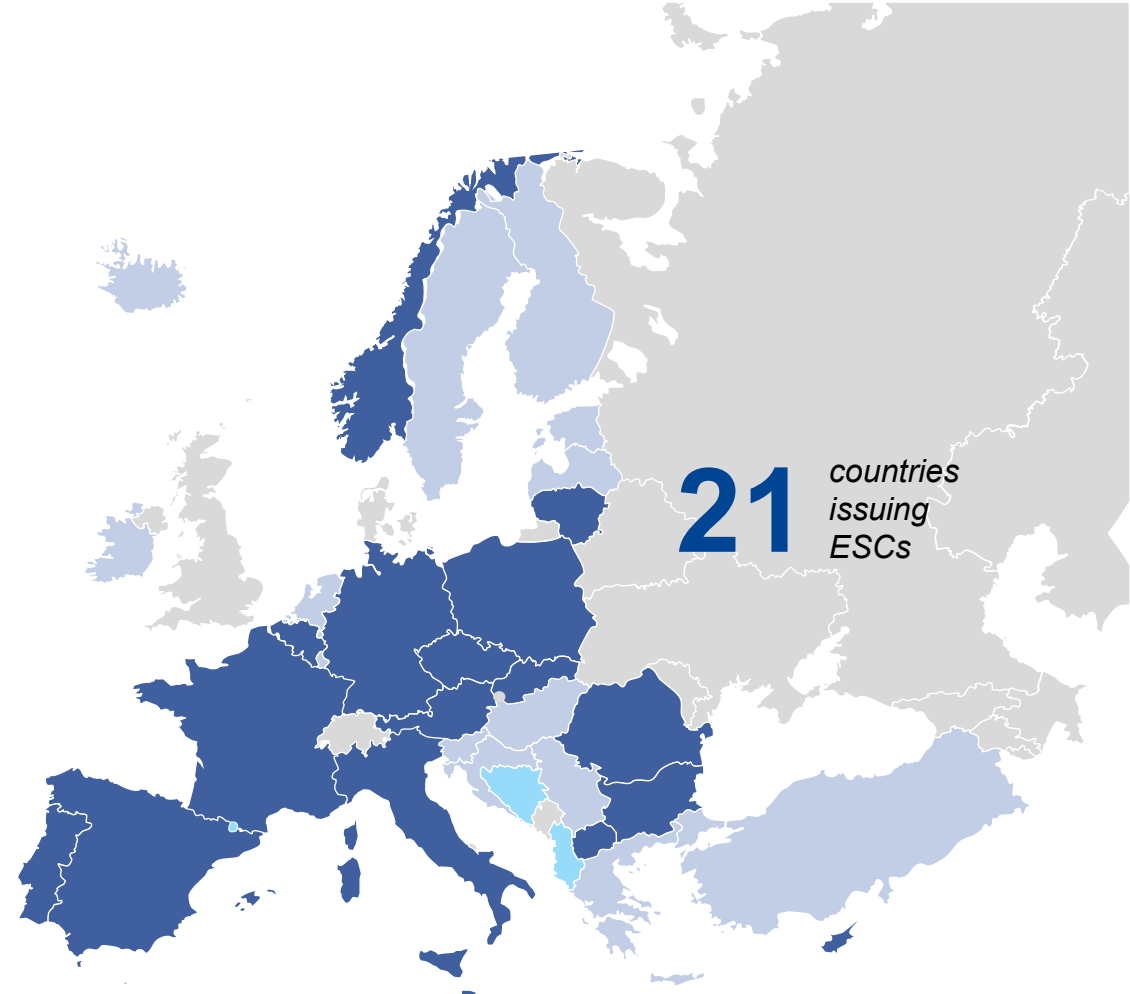
309

Organisations issuing active ESCs\*\*\*

## Data from the ESC-Router (November 2025)

\*\* Includes both active and inactive/expired cards.

\*\*\* Active organisations (including higher education institutions, public authorities and third-party processors) that have more than 10 currently active ESCs in the ESC-R.



### Where ESCs are issued:

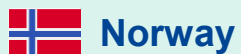
- 18 countries associated to Erasmus+ issuing ESCs
- 3 countries not associated to Erasmus+ issuing ESCs

### Other countries connected to the ESC-R:

- 14 countries associated to Erasmus + connected to the ESC-R, but not issuing ESCs

# LEVEL OF ADOPTION

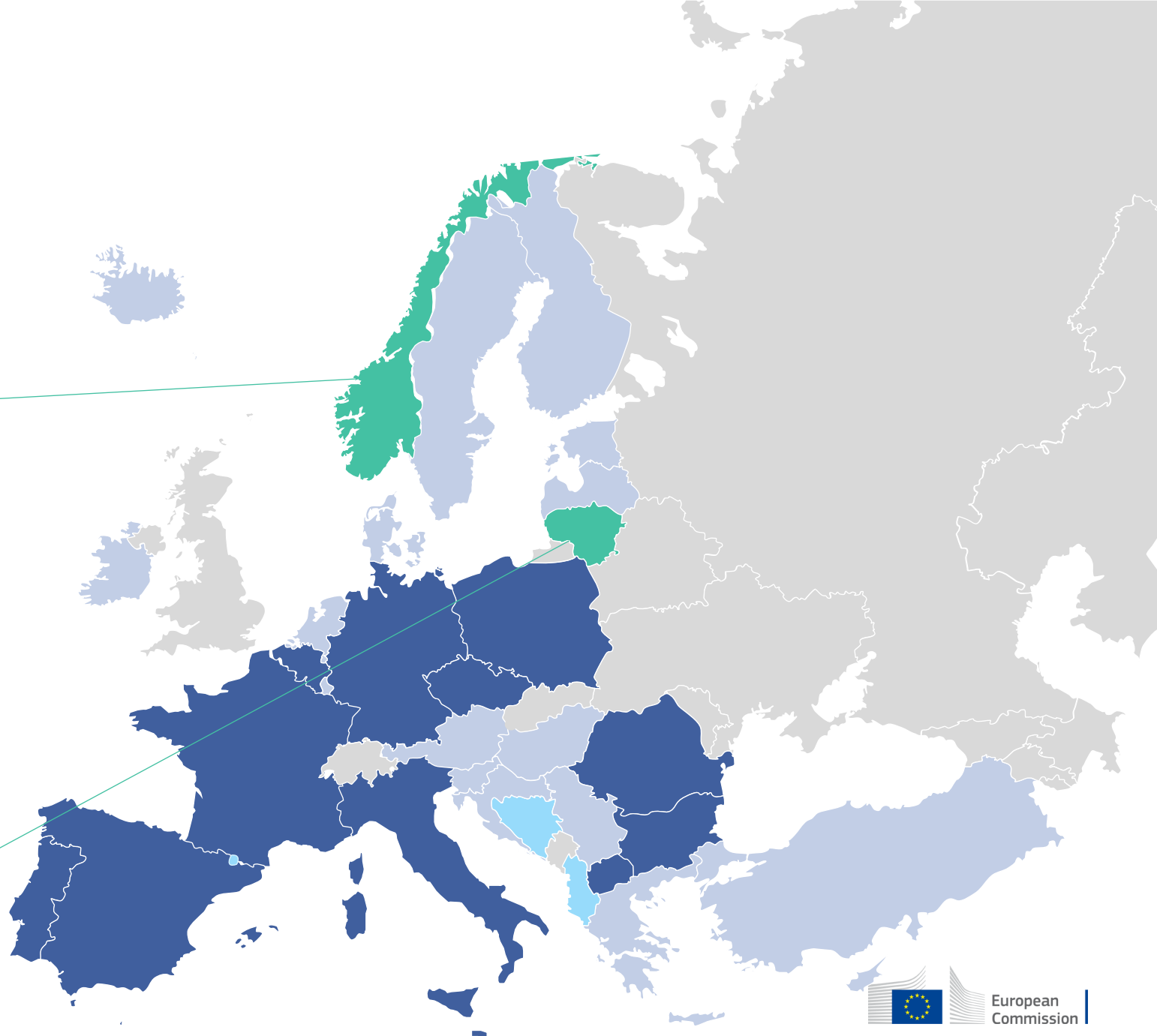
## Examples of ESC issuance



The **Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research (SIKT)**, has developed an application that allows Norwegian higher education institutions to issue ESCs. In this model, cards are issued by **SIKT**, acting as a **third-party processor**, on behalf of the participating institutions.



The **Lithuanian National Union of Students (LSS)** has begun issuing ESCs to all interested Lithuanian students, on behalf of the **Ministry of Education**. These cards are provided in **physical format**.





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## 2 | How does the ESC work?

# HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

## What is the ESC-Router (ESC-R)?

The European Student Card Router (ESC-R) is a **platform** that allows higher education institutions and other card issuers to **issue and manage ESCs**, as well as **verify student status**. The ESC-R was launched on the European Commission's cloud on **23 October 2024**.

The screenshot displays the 'Organisations' management interface of the ESC Router. The left sidebar provides navigation options, with 'ORGANISATIONS' currently selected. The main content area features a table of organizations, each with a unique identifier, country, and type. The table includes search filters for Name, Identifier, and Country, and a 'Filter columns' button. The 'Actions' column for each organization provides options to view, edit, or delete the entry.

| Name              | Identifier | Country        | Organisation type            | Active | Actions |
|-------------------|------------|----------------|------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Anonymous org 1   |            | (FR) - France  | Higher education institution | Yes    |         |
| Anonymous org 10  |            | (DE) - Germany | Higher education institution | No     |         |
| Anonymous org 101 |            | (FR) - France  | Higher education institution | Yes    |         |
| Anonymous org 102 |            | (FR) - France  | Higher education institution | Yes    |         |
| Anonymous org 103 |            | (CZ) - Czechia | Higher education institution | No     |         |
| Anonymous org 104 |            | (FR) - France  | Higher education institution | No     |         |
| Anonymous org 105 |            | (FR) - France  | Higher education institution | No     |         |
| Anonymous org 106 |            | (BE) - Belgium | Higher education institution | No     |         |

### Benefits of the ESC-R



More **secure infrastructure and environment**



**Scalable data model based on EU standards**



New and improved **User Interface** following EU design guidelines



**Issue ESCs directly from the ESC-R**



**Access an updated API**

# HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

## User categories in the ESC-Router (ESC-R)

The European Student Card Router (ESC-R) supports different kinds of user categories, including **higher education institutions, public authorities, and third-party processors**.



**Higher education institutions** issuing student cards in any **EU/EEA\*** **Member State or European microstate**



**Public authorities** issuing student cards at local, regional or national level in any **EU/EEA Member State or European microstate**



**Third-party processors** issuing student cards on behalf of higher education institutions or public authorities registered to the ESC-Router

\* *European Economic Area*

**Note:** ECHE holders in third countries (other than EEA) associated to the Erasmus+ Programme and ECHE holders in the Western Balkans (Region 1) are also eligible to adopt the ESC.

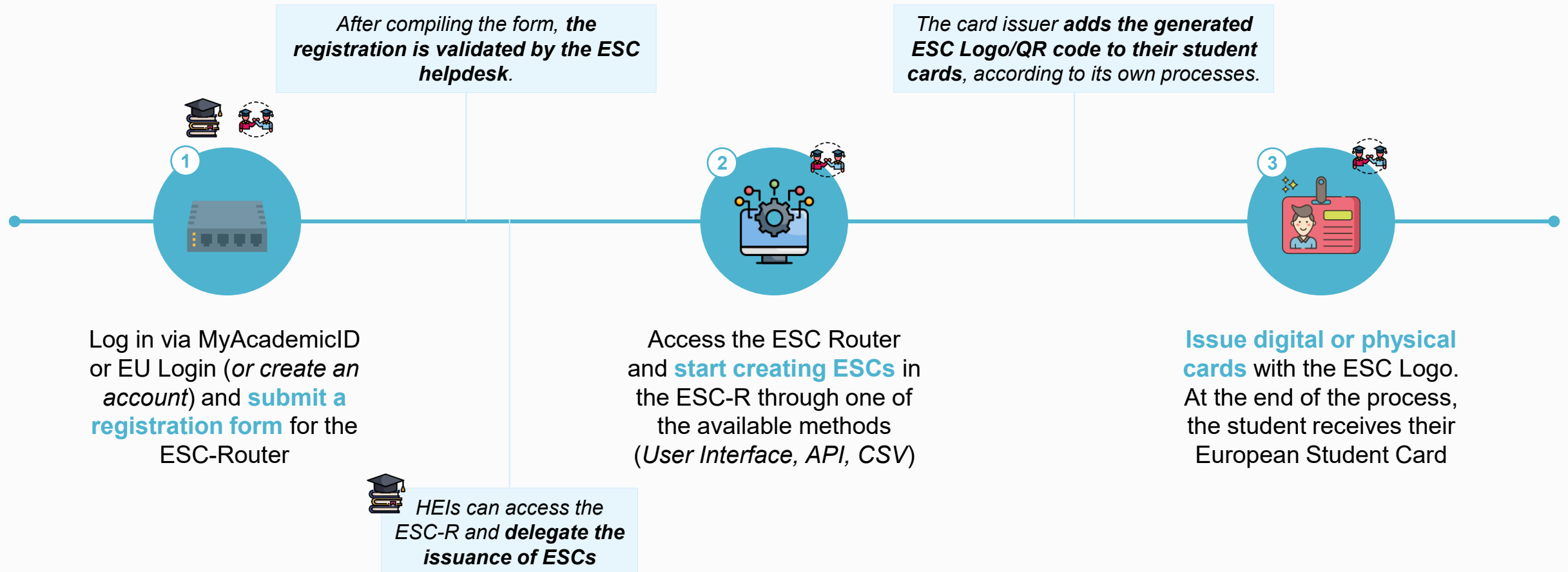
# HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

How to issue ESCs through the ESC-R



Higher education institution

Card issuer

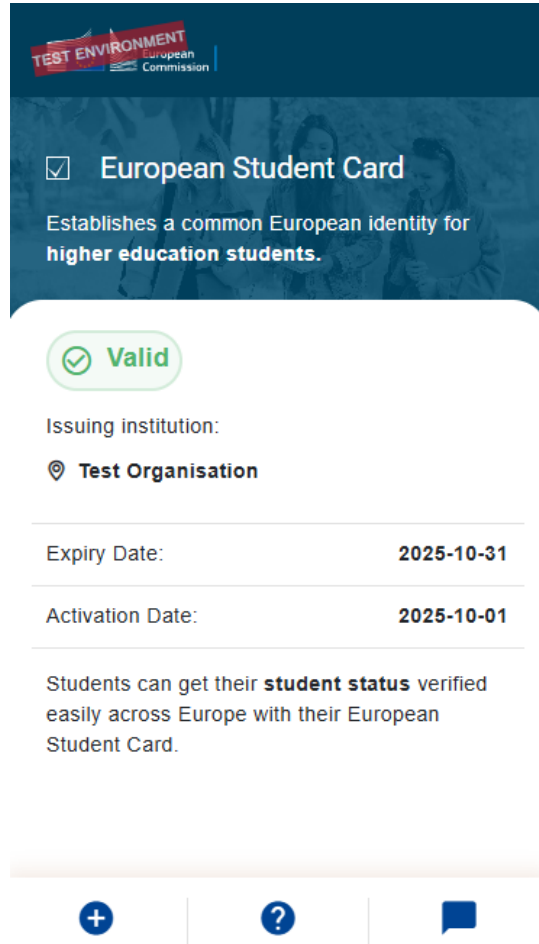


More detailed information on how to implement the ESC is provided within the General specifications (including comprehensive explanations on the ESC and its main business processes) and Technical specifications (including clear guidelines for implementation).

# HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

## Student status verification

When scanning the QR code\* of a European Student Card to validate the status of a student, the **higher education institution** or **service provider** will be presented with a similar **validation screen**:



TEST ENVIRONMENT  
European Commission

☒ **European Student Card**

Establishes a common European identity for  
**higher education students.**

☒ **Valid**

Issuing institution:  
📍 **Test Organisation**

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Expiry Date:     | <b>2025-10-31</b> |
| Activation Date: | <b>2025-10-01</b> |

Students can get their **student status** verified easily across Europe with their European Student Card.

+ | ? | 🗨️

**Note:** For basic validation, no specific equipment is required to scan the QR code of a European Student Card. The QR code can be simply scanned with a smartphone or similar device.



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### 3 | ESC-R Updates

# OTHER UPDATES

## ESC-R new release

### New validation Page

**Verifier** is redesigned with a new look and feel.

#### ☒ European Student Card

Establishes a common European identity for higher education students.

☒ Valid

Issuing institution:

☒ Anonymous org 41



Expiry Date:

2026-10-01

Activation Date:

2018-07-11

Students can get their **student status** verified easily across Europe with their European Student Card.

About the ESC



FAQs



Service desk



Mobile view

#### ☒ European Student Card

Establishes a common European identity for higher education students.

☒ Valid

Issuing institution:

☒ Test Organisation

Expiry Date:

2025-10-31

Activation Date:

2025-10-01

Students can get their **student status** verified easily across Europe with their European Student Card.



# OTHER UPDATES AND INFORMATION

## ESC Service Catalogue

### For students



**The ESC Service Catalogue** will be a dedicated platform accessible to students, allowing them to search for and find services available to those holding a European Student Card.

### For higher education institutions and service providers



**The ESC Service Manager**, the 'behind-the-scenes' version of the ESC Service Catalogue, is already available. Higher education institutions and service providers can easily list the services they provide to ESC holders through the ESC Service Manager.

### Some key features of the service catalogue include:



#### Digital Catalogue

*A digital directory of student services that accept the ESC*



#### Filterable Listings

*Easily search and filter services by city, country, and type*



#### Map view

*Browse through all the services available in a map view*



#### Service Contributions

*Higher education institutions and external service providers can add services using dedicated forms*

## ESC Service Catalogue



List View   Map View

Search

Search by name or description...

Country

Start typing a country name...

City

Search by city name...

## Tags

Select one or more tags...



All categories

### Accommodation

 **Culture**

 **Entertainment**

 **Food and drink**

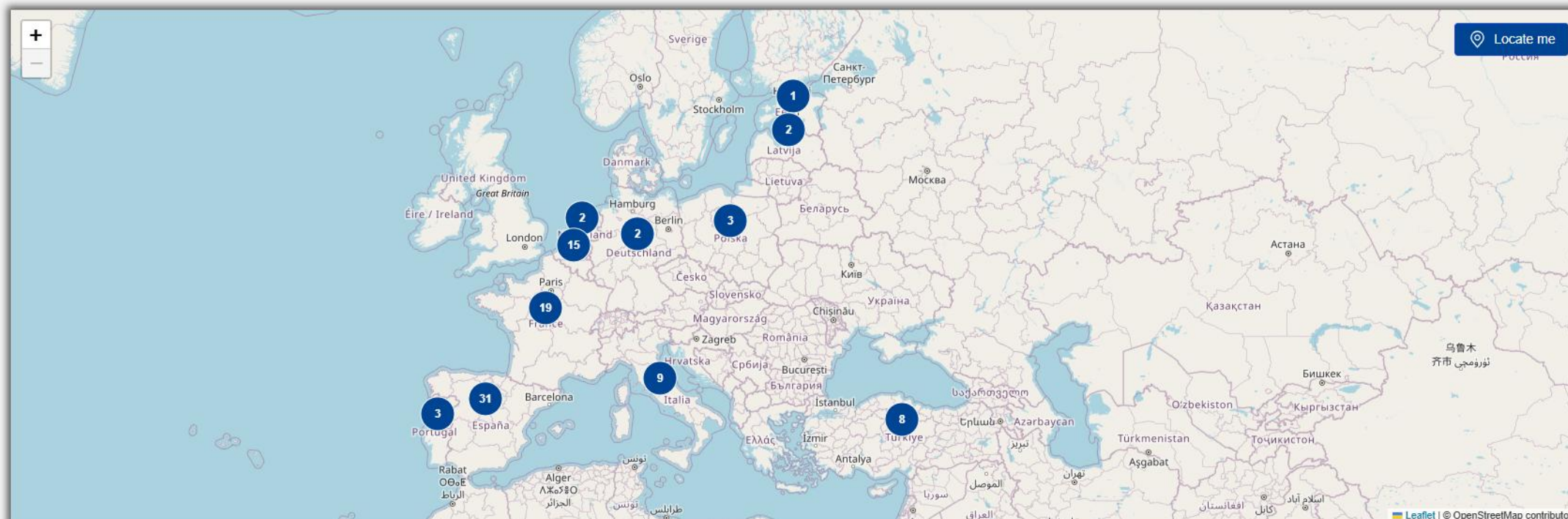
 **Services** Shopping

Sport

 **Study**

Travel

**Other**



 Please zoom in to a specific area to check the services that matches the selected filters, take into account that the blue circles counts services per country including all the territories of that country, without taking into account the filters



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## 4 | Demo of the ESC-R

# DEMO OF THE ESC-R



ESC Router

esc super admin 

- HOME
- EUROPEAN STUDENT CARDS
  - Cardholders
  - Card Management
  - Import Cards
- ORGANISATIONS**
- CARD VALIDATION
- DOCUMENTATION
  - Backwards Compatibility
  - Current Version
- ADMINISTRATIVE USERS
- LOG OUT

## Organisations

+ New

Filter columns

| Name ↕                                 | Identifier ↕                           | Country ↕                             | Organisation type ↕           | Active ↕                      | Actions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="text" value="Search..."/> | <input type="text" value="Search..."/> | <input type="text" value="ISO Code"/> | <input type="text" value=""/> | <input type="text" value=""/> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Anonymous org 1                        |                                        | (FR) - France                         | Higher education institution  | Yes                           |                                                                                             |
| Anonymous org 10                       |                                        | (DE) - Germany                        | Higher education institution  | No                            |          |
| Anonymous org 101                      |                                        | (FR) - France                         | Higher education institution  | Yes                           |                                                                                             |
| Anonymous org 102                      |                                        | (FR) - France                         | Higher education institution  | Yes                           |                                                                                             |
| Anonymous org 103                      |                                        | (CZ) - Czechia                        | Higher education institution  | No                            |    |
| Anonymous org 104                      |                                        | (FR) - France                         | Higher education institution  | No                            |    |
| Anonymous org 105                      |                                        | (FR) - France                         | Higher education institution  | No                            |    |
| Anonymous org 106                      |                                        | (BE) - Belgium                        | Higher education institution  | No                            |    |



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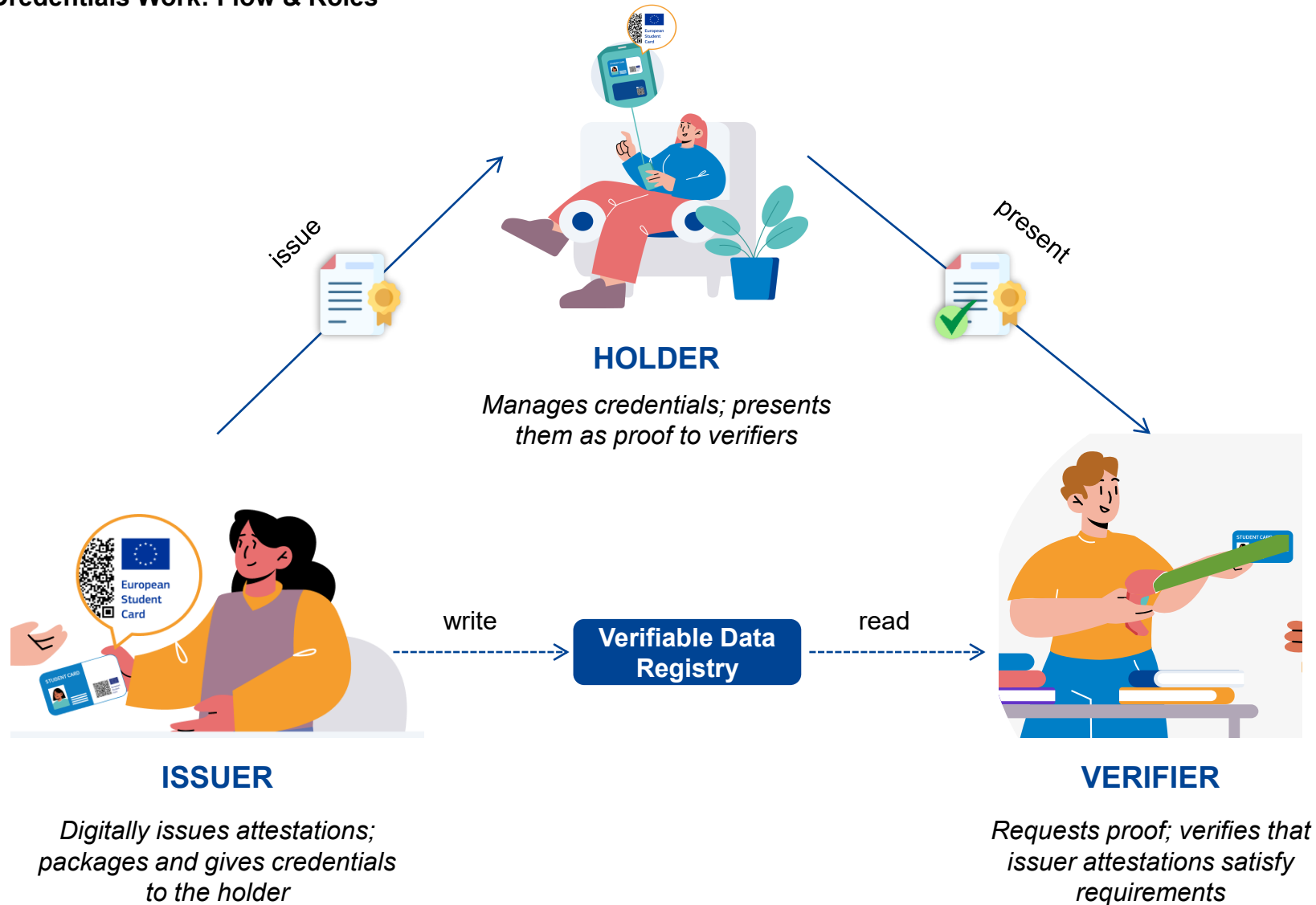
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## 5 | Other updates

*ESC Verifiable Credentials pilot, Call for Partnerships, ESCI Champions*

# OTHER UPDATES

## How Verifiable Credentials Work: Flow & Roles



# OTHER UPDATES

## Verifiable Credentials Pilot

The ESC Verifiable Credential Pilot is an opportunity for a selected group of card issuers to test first-hand the issuance of the Digital ESC and have a say in the future development of the ESC. Two pilot scenarios :

- Issue Verifiable Credentials via the **ESC Router**.
- Issue Verifiable Credentials in a **decentralised manner**.

### Benefits of the Digital ESC as a verifiable credential

A **Digital ESC** can play a great role in facilitating student mobility, as students can conveniently access their credentials and benefits through their mobile devices.

- Trusted and portable proof of student status
- Instant verification across institutions
- Privacy-preserving and scalable

### Ease of use and Verification from a Student's Perspective



*Ease of wallet use and credential storage.*



*Clarity of instructions and user interface.*



*Verification process on the ESC Verifier.*



# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## Use case 1: Storing Digital ESC as Verifiable Credentials

### Storing Digital ESCs as Verifiable Credentials



#### Business objective

Provide students with a secure, portable, and privacy-preserving ESC as a verifiable credential stored in a digital wallet.



#### Key actors

- **Student (Cardholder)** – owner of the credential
- **Issuing Organisation** – higher education institution, public authority, or authorised third party processor
- **Talao Wallet**



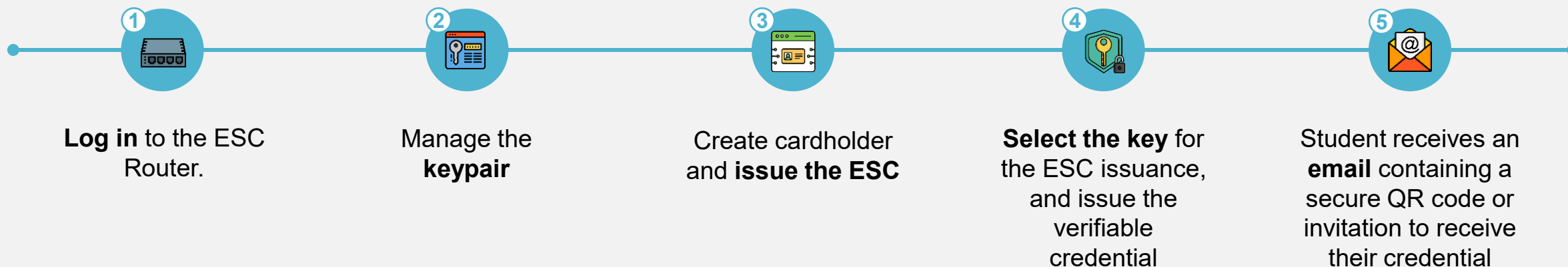
#### Preconditions

- The organisation must be registered in the ESC Router.
- The student is enrolled in a higher education institution.

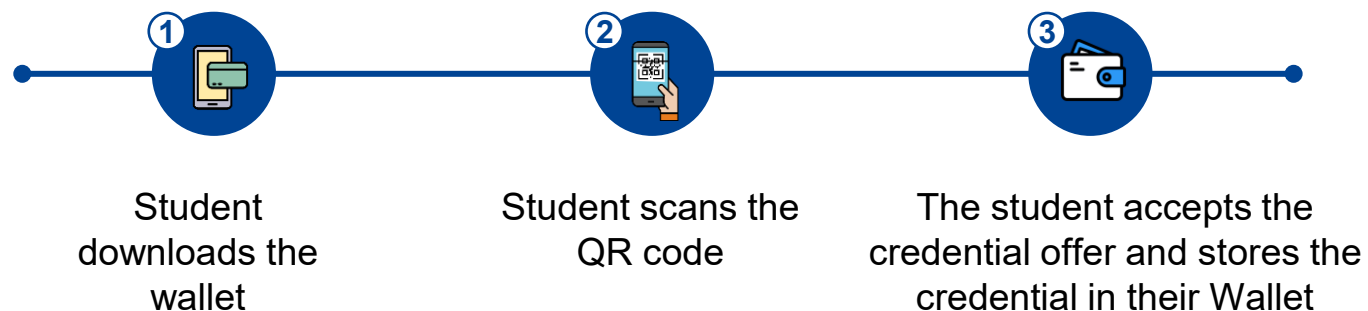
# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## Issuance process

### Card issuer



### Card holder



# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## Use case 2: Verifying and Displaying ESC as Verifiable Credentials

### Verifying and Displaying ESC as Verifiable Credentials



#### Business objective

Enable a secure and privacy-preserving mechanism for verifying a student's status and access to services using a Digital ESC stored in a digital wallet.



#### Key actors

- **Student (Cardholder)** – owner of the credential
- **Issuing Organisation** – higher education institution, public authority, or authorised third party processor
- **Verifier (e.g. International Office)** – requests and checks the credential
- **Talao Wallet**



#### Preconditions

The student has received and stored a Digital ESC in their wallet.

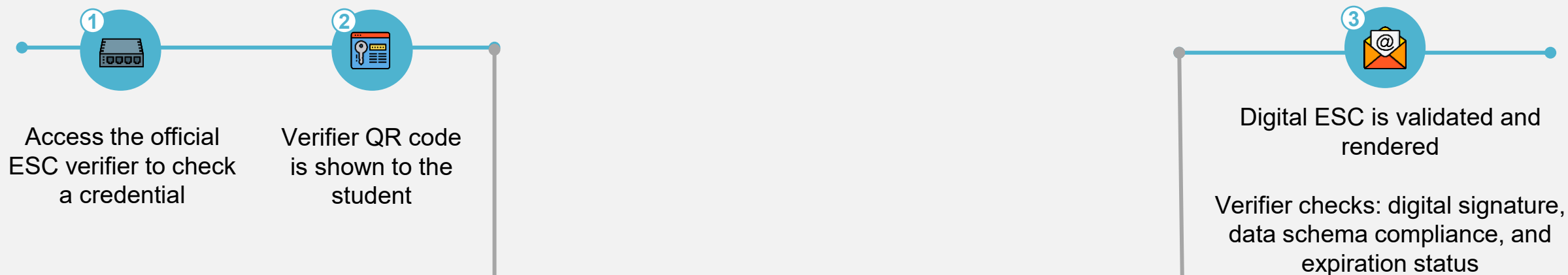
The verifying party has access to the verifier app.

The issuer's public key is accessible in ESC Router to allow for signature validation.

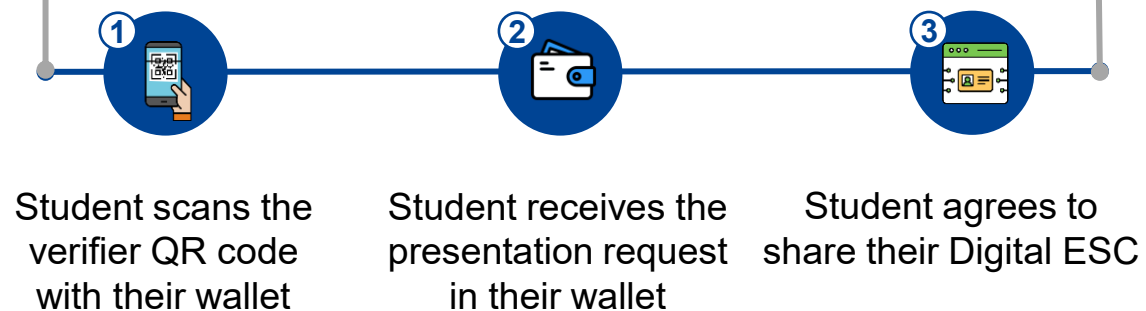
# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## Verifying flow

### Verifier

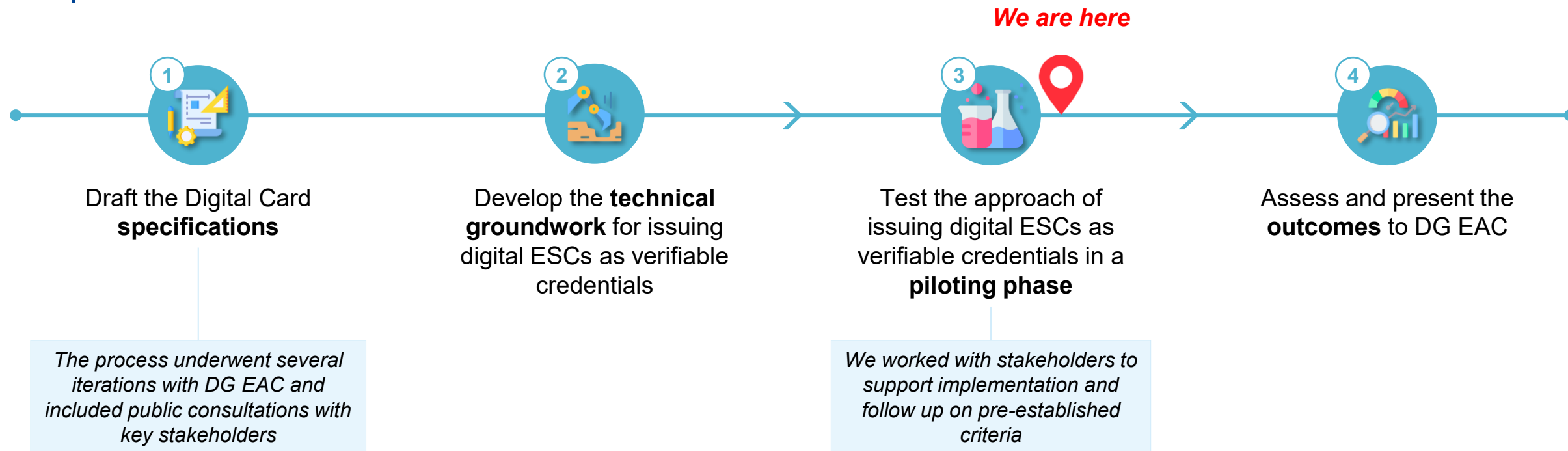


### Card holder



# VERIFIABLE CREDENTIALS

## The status of the pilot



The verifiable credentials are intended to be an evolution and will be made available to all ESC-R users. Any card created will automatically be converted into a verifiable credential once the features are ready. **There is no reason to wait with the issuance of ESCs in the current form.**

# OTHER UPDATES

## Partnership Program

### Implementation of the ESC Partnerships Strategy



**Preparation** for the launch of a partnerships programme - drafting agreements, defining business processes.



**Operationalisation** of the partnerships programme - reaching out to potential partners, holding discussions, launching the open call

### Partnerships Activities



#### 103 Open call answers

- 23 Service Providers
- 49 Students
- 23 Higher Education Institutions
- 8 other organisations, amongst which several student unions.



#### Partnership outreach

*Exploratory meetings with existing service providers.*



#### Service Catalogue

*A dedicated platform for students to search for and find services available to European Student Card holders*

# OTHER UPDATES

## ESCI Champions

The ESCI Champions initiative aims to recognise higher education institutions and organisations that have made significant progress in adopting the different building blocks of the European Student Card Initiative (ESCI).



### ESCI Champions 2025-2027

- The **32** selected ESCI Champions were appointed for a period of two years (2025-2027) and will benefit from enhanced visibility, access to promotional and communication material to promote ESCI in their home country.
- ESCI Champions will participate in ESCI meetings, national events, and various outreach activities, including through sharing testimonials and best practices.
- The call on ESCI Champions for the period 2025-2027 was closed on 16 May with a **total amount of 102 applications registered**.

#### Who was eligible?



Higher education institutions holding an ECHE



Other higher education institutions, national authorities, student unions, and third-party processors that issue ESCs

The ESCI Community will have a new dedicated area of the ESCI portal that will serve as a hub for all human-centred stories and visibility programmes linked to the initiative, showcasing the people and practices behind ESCI deployment across Europe.



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## 6 | ESC Materials & Resources

# ESC TRAININGS & RESOURCES

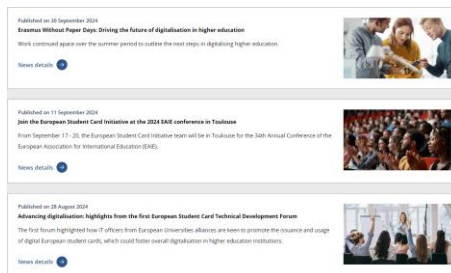
## ESC Trainings & Resources



**Training sessions** about the European Student Card are organised regularly by the ESC Project Team. Monitor the [Events](#) page of the ESCI Website to always be up to date on upcoming training sessions and events.

### ESCI News Articles

The **latest news, events, and updates** on the European Student Card, Erasmus+ App and Erasmus Without Paper are regularly published on the [ESCI Website](#).



### ESCI Newsletter

You can subscribe [here](#) to the **ESCI Newsletter**

Newsroom  
ESCI / Actions

Subscribe to ESCI newsletter

The European Student Card Initiative is a movement towards efficient and secure management of student mobility. By subscribing to the newsletter, you are not just staying informed, you are becoming a part of this revolutionary journey. Delivered every two months in your email inbox with updates about Erasmus Without Paper, the European Student Card, the Erasmus+ App as well as invitations to events and useful resources.

For more information about the European Student Card Initiative, please visit the [European Student Card Initiative Portal](#).

Main Information

E-mail \*

First name \*

Last name \*

Country of residence \*

Organization type \*

### FAQs

[FAQs](#) are also available under the ESCI Website

- + If one partner institution is not able to exchange digital inter-institutional agreements or digital learning agreements through the EWP Network yet, do we need to postpone the planned mobility cooperation?
- + Is there a deadline for my institution to ensure all our existing inter-institutional agreements outside EWP are transferred to the network?
- + My institution does not use any software for managing student mobility. Can we still join?
- + My institution has concluded many inter-institutional agreements outside the EWP Network, are these agreement considered valid?
- + How much does it cost to use the EWP Dashboard?
- + What is the European Student Identifier (ESI) and how can my institution obtain it?

### Helpdesk

If you don't find the answer to your question, contact the ESC support team through our:

[ESCI Helpdesk](#)

[esc.support@nttdata.com](mailto:esc.support@nttdata.com)





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## 7 | Q&A

# THANK YOU!

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2021 - 2027



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**NTT DATA**

