

## Digital IIAs / LAs via EWP

Jean Monnet

Sport

Youth

School education

Vocational education and training

Adult education



Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds

**Higher education** 



- Latest information about digital IIAs and LAs roll-out in EWP
- Where to find critical resources and useful information
- Known issues / challenges and how to overcome them
- Good practices sharing and tackling open questions with the experts





## Why are we here?

## Bridging the digital divide: 95% of learning agreements to be fully digital by 2025

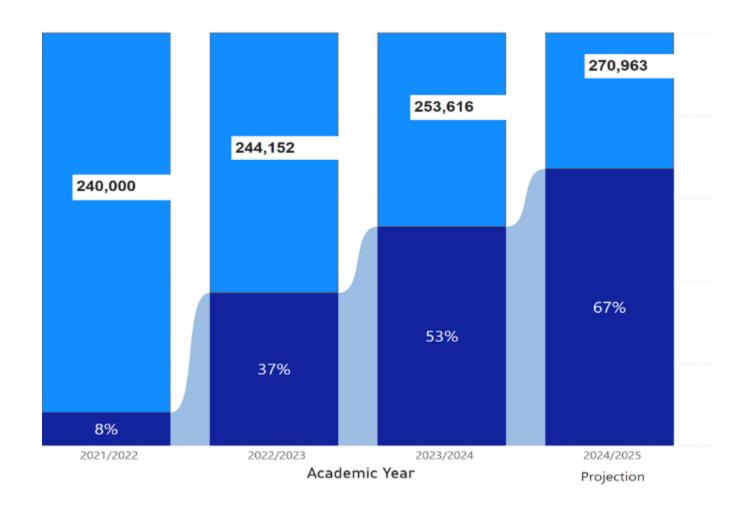
The number of digital learning agreements completed per academic year has increased steadily in the past years. An action plan for 2024-2025 aims to close the remaining gaps.







## Europe is going digital – we need Spain!







## Europe is going digital – we need Spain!

Top performaning programme countries				
Slovakia	100% digital LAs			
Croatia	100% digital LAs			
Latvia	100% digital LAs			
Malta	100% digital LAs			
Cyprus	100% digital LAs			
Bulgaria	95% digital LAs			

Source: European Commission country-fiches, December 2024





## Ongoing activities to reach the targets



With Erasmus+ National Agencies and Digital Officers



With IROs



With technical teams operating EWP Network nodes





## Important documents

- Mandatory Business Requirements
- Comprehensive User Guide





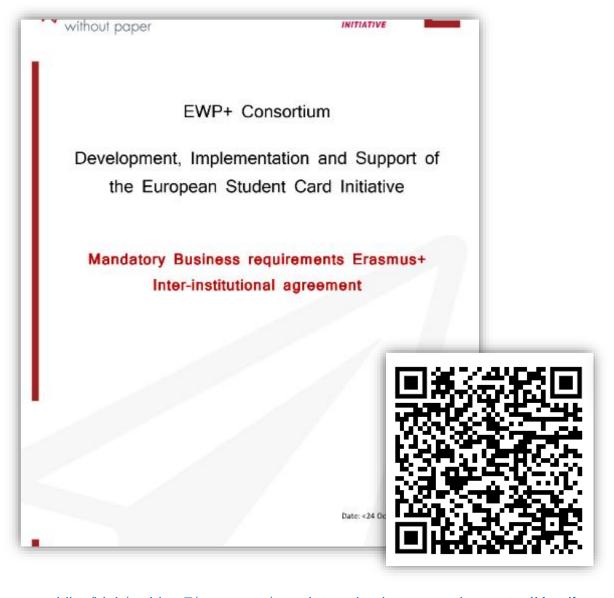
## Mandatory Business Requirements

- "Bridge" between business and IT point of view
  - Detailed description of business process requirements, workflows/ document life cycle for the technical solutions developed under EWP
  - Includes user stories
  - High-level process flowchart
- Primary source for the technical community to define technical specification and systems' development





# Mandatory Business requirements for Inter-institutional Agreements



https://github.com/erasmus-without-paper/ewp-specs-api-iias/blob/stable-v7/resources/mandatory\_business\_requirements\_IIA.pdf





## Mandatory Business requirements for LA



https://github.com/erasmus-without-paper/ewp-specs-api-omobility-las/blob/stable-v1/resources/mandatory\_business\_requirements\_LA.pdf





## Comprehensive User Guides

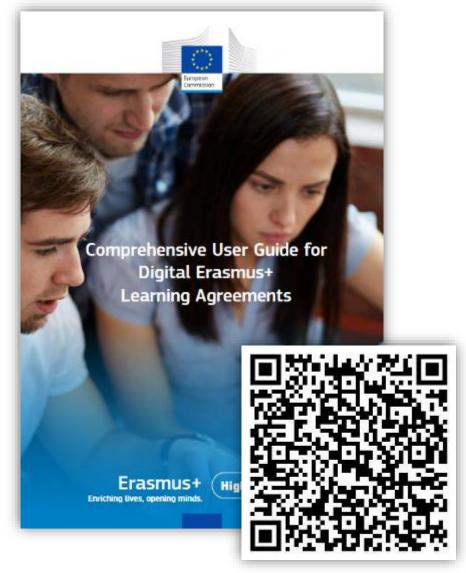
- Official user guides published on ESCI portal.
- Goal: enhancing "human interoperability" and fostering a shared understanding of the process.
- EWP community consultation as a key background source for scenario-based recommendations





## Comprehensive User Guide for digital LA

- Content
  - Intro
  - LA for studies in EWP
  - Erasmus+ Programme requirements
  - Clarifications about certain fields
  - Exceptional scenarios
  - Fields exchanged via EWP



https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/document/comprehensive-user-guide-for-digital-erasmus-learning-agreements





## Comprehensive User Guide for digital Inter-institutional Agreements



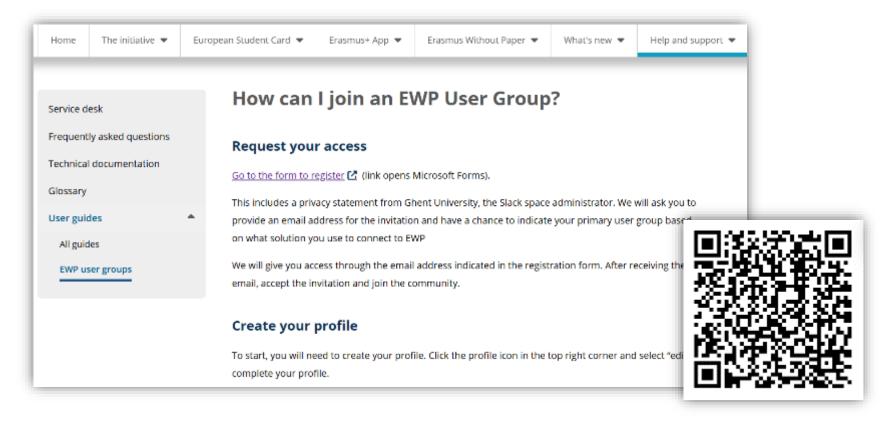
https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/document/comprehensive-user-guide-for-digital-erasmus-learning-agreements







## User groups

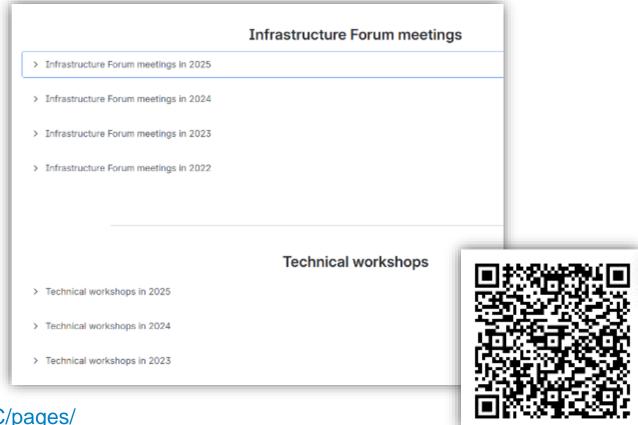


https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/european-student-card-initiative/help-support/user-guide/EWP-user-groups





### Infrastructure Forum



https://esci-sd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/ITSC/pages/ 113999873/Infrastructure+Forum+and+technical+workshops#Infrastructure-Forum-meetings





## Relationship Managers

## Erasmus Without Paper relationship managers: who they are and how they can help

The Erasmus Without Paper relationship managers support software developers and higher education institutions in implementing the Erasmus Without Paper protocols in their IT systems and in their institutions.



https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/news/erasmus-without-paper-relationship-managers-who-they-are-and-how-they-can-help





## National user groups

Powerful pathway for facilitating peer learning within a given country – e.g. Germany, Italy, Austria, Netherlands are all reporting positive results with it.

Has the possibility of creating a Spanish EWP user group been considered?





## Resources to navigate digital Learning Agreements





## Step-by-step







Understand and Prepare

Start small: Pilot with Partners

Monitor, Flag and, Improve





## Step 1: Understand and Prepare

Reference websites





#### **European Student Card Initiative**

Part of the Erasmus+ programme

#### Part of Erasmus+

Home The initiative ▼ European Student Card ▼ Erasmus+ App ▼ Erasmus Without Paper ▼ What's new ▼ Help and support ▼

You are here: Home

#### **European Student Card Initiative**

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





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

### **ESCI** Newsletter

#### **Cut through the noise**

Get key updates straight to your inbox!



## European Student Card Initiative newsletter



Explore the latest news about Erasmus Without Paper, the Erasmus+ App and the European Student Card



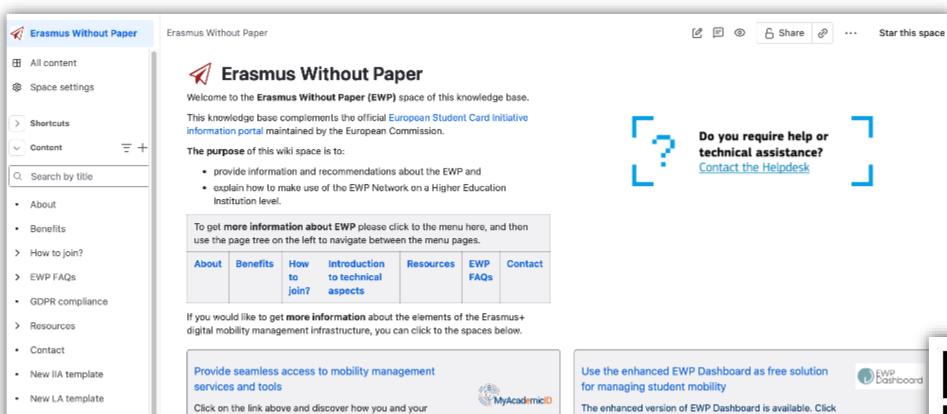




## **EWP Knowledge Base**

students can securely log in to these tools using your

academic credentials.



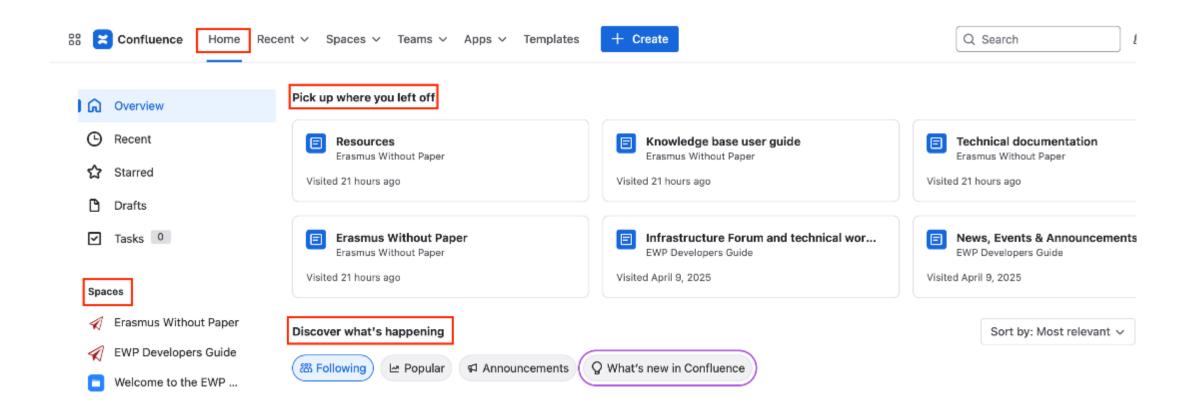


State of play APIs

+ Create



## **EWP Knowledge Base**







## EWP Knowledge Base – EWP Developers Guide

EWP Developers Guide / Technical testing and validation reports

The list below provides an overview of all providers that successfully completed the technical testing. Conversely, if a provider features in the list but you encounter issues exchanging data, we encourage you to contact the ESCI support desk.

In order to make this process as transparent as possible, the list indicating which technical tests have been successfully completed, is regularly updated.

	Provider	SCHAC	Provider	IIAs v7.0	LAs	Stats Portal
1	Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (MobiSIS)	auth.gr	in-house	19/06/2024		EWP Stats Portal
2	Be Smart s.r.l. (smart_edu)		3-rd party	27/03/2024	04/03/2022	<b>III 92334</b>
3	Brno University of Technology	vutbr.cz	in-house	27/06/2024		
4	CACI (Osiris)		3-rd party	28/02/2024	11/02/2022	

https://esci-sd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/EWP/pages/208633871/Technical+testing+and+validation



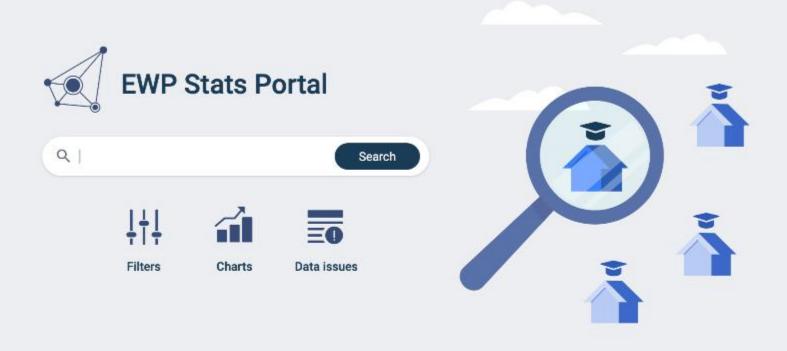


## Step 2: Pilot with partners

What is my partner' status in EWP?















## EWP Stats Portal – User guide for National Agencies (or any user)

https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/document/ erasmus-without-paper-stats-portal-guide-for-national-agencies



**Erasmus Without Paper Stats Portal - Guide for National Agencies** 

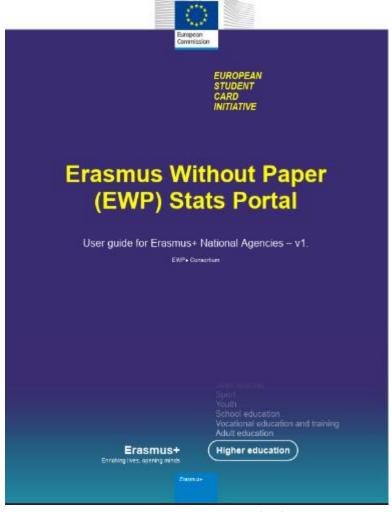
Presents digital officers in Frasmus+ National Agencies with the main features of the Frasmus Without Paper Stats Portal.

Share

Available languages (1)

English | PDF - 977.65 K8 - 17 pages - 2023-12-20

Erasmus Without Paper Stats Portal - Guide for National Agencies







## Step 3: Monitor, flag and improve

Something's not working? Get the support you need







### European Student Card Initiative



Q Search for information

#### Featured portals

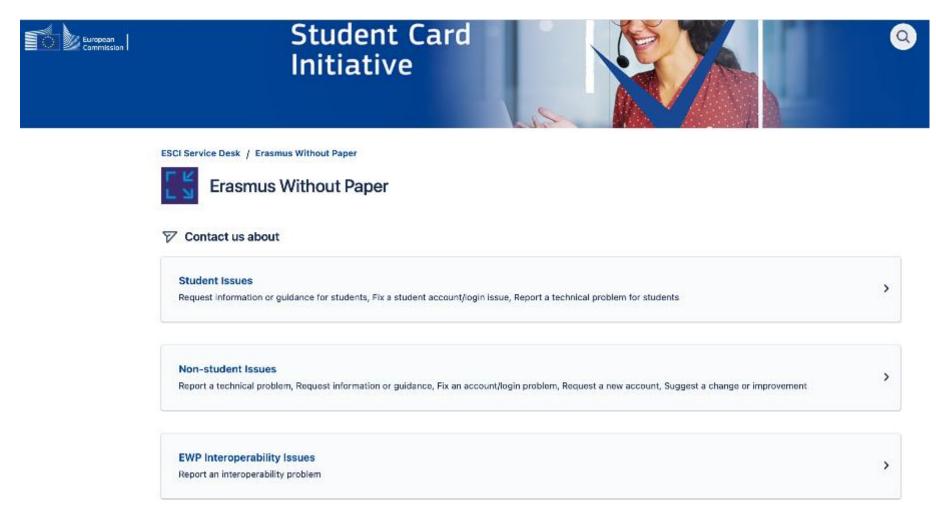








## ESCI SD – Request Types

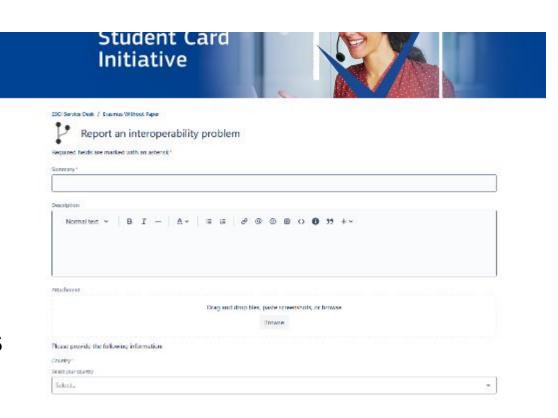






## Interoperability tickets

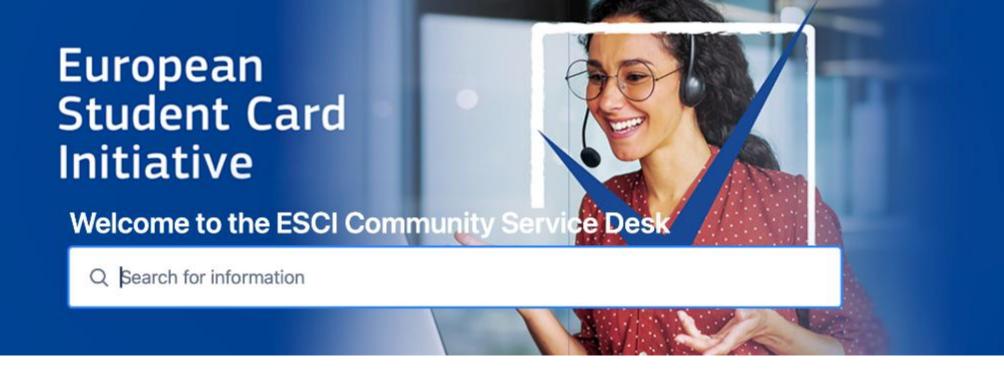
- In case of technical issues
  - o e.g. learning agreement not received
  - o e.g. approval/rejection not received
- Service Desk agents contact providers











## Together we improve – your feedback drives progress

If issues are not reported, they cannot be recognized and addressed!





## Acceptable Use Policy

#### Part of Collaboration Agreement

The AUP sets out firmer processes for following up on interoperability issues, including stricter timelines that reflect the need any such matters to be followed-up properly and timely, with a view to avoid that compliance issues affect users.



https://esci-sd.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/ITSC/pages/1086586916/Acceptable+Use+Policy





### Know issues across EWP Network nodes

#### ESCI Knowledge Base - Known issues affecting EWP data exchanges

- An overview of known errors occurring in the network that has been reported by users through the ESCI SD is publicly available for the EWP community
- The list includes the name of the provider, the related process, a short description, and since it has been reported
- When fixed it will be marked accordingly



## How to overcome issues





## Pre-EWP issues (that remain relevant)

#### Challenges

- Importance of learning agreement being signed before mobility
  - Ease of OLA/DLA an important step in the right direction
- Timing (and quality) of course catalogues
  - New course data API will however put us several steps closer to notify students if selected courses become unavailable
- HEIs deviate from Erasmus+ rules and specifications (i.e. multiple LA signatures)





## "Human interoperability"

#### Challenges

- Lack of common understanding of the process
- Need to adapt to digital workflows

#### Solutions

- Engage leadership and key-role colleagues
- Comprehensive user guides
- ESCI portal & FAQ





## Wrong contacts

#### Challenges

- Often reason why LA is rejected
- But against detailed digital LA guidelines issued by EC

#### Solutions being explored

- Making contacts optional in future update
- Introduction of digital EWP nomination





## Partner not connected/not exchanging

#### Challenges

Serves as a blocking factor

#### Solutions

- Followed up by DG EAC and Digital Officers with institutions concerned
- Check in the EWP Stats Portal
- Add ticket to ESCI Service Desk





## LA rejected for "wrong reasons"

## "Minor changes" (no new version and approvals)

- Nationality, gender, email
- ISCED code, EQF level
- Admin contact person details
- Receiving academic year, start date, end date,
- OUNit, learning outcomes URL, provisions URL, language

#### Major changes (new version and approvals)

- Last name, first name, date of birth, ESI
- LA Type
- All fields in table A-B-C-D-E-A2-B2-C2





## Improve quality of data on LA forms

#### Challenges

Manual input of course titles and codes is error prone

#### **Solutions**

- A new EWP standard for enabling exchange of course data will be available soon
- EWP Dashboard also will deploy a solution for HEis which lack capability to depoy APIs





## Summary and key takeaways





## Key takeaways

- Get all institutions exchanging digital IIAs and LAs
- Improve our common understanding of the digital process
- Contact ESCI SD if you encounter data exchange issues
- Increased uptake in Spain will drive Europe toward 95%
- Next step: when all LAs are digitalised, explore digital nominations via EWP









