

# European Self Sovereign Identity framework

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*‘We cannot build services for the post-industrial age using the identity infrastructure of the industrial age. We need a new digital identity infrastructure.’*

- David Birch





**When we think of digital identity we therefore need to see it not as a single thing. It is rather the sum total of all the attributes that exist about us in the digital realm, a constantly growing and evolving collection of data points.**

### **Definition digital identity**

EU blockchain observatory report on digital identity and blockchain

[https://www.eublockchainforum.eu/sites/default/files/report\\_identity\\_v0.9.4.pdf](https://www.eublockchainforum.eu/sites/default/files/report_identity_v0.9.4.pdf)



Challenges (digital) identity?



Meet Lisa from Spain. She just earned her Bachelor's Degree in Law at University Carlos III of Madrid and wants to do her Master studies (Economics) in University of Antwerp in Belgium





Lisa needs  
subscribe in the  
university/city of  
Antwerp and  
present her paper  
diploma and her  
Spanish identity  
card.

The university and  
city check this  
information



Lisa gets a new Belgian identity card for foreigners with a unique Belgian national registry number.



Lisa graduates at University of Antwerp as a Master in Economics and her diploma is stored in the Learning and Diploma database of the Ministry of education and attached to her Belgian ID.





Lisa wants to work in France and needs to present and proof her paper/digital diploma to the employer and link these to her different identities.

After getting hired she needs a new French identity ...

# Challenges

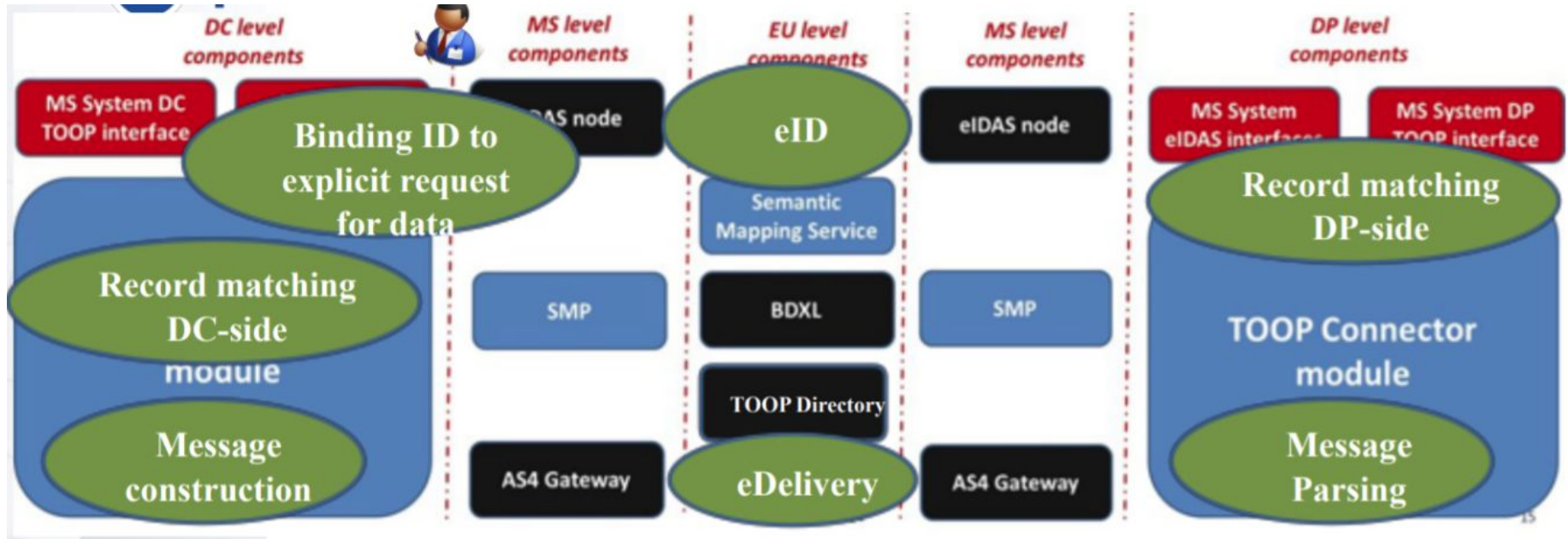
- Proof of authentication of documents and information
- Validation of information
- Managing multiple identities
- Record/identity match in different systems/countries
- Interaction by the user independent of control by systems/organisations
- Very broad and heterogeneous ecosystem
- Cross sector sharing of validated information (public-private).
- Cross border sharing of information
- Identity theft and fraud
- ...






Control of your own Identity data?





**Our current EU 'once only' approach  
(Government-Government)**



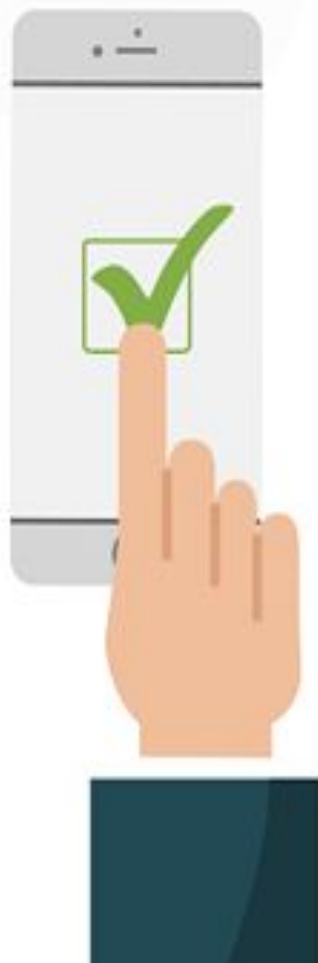


**Linking authentic  
public/private sources?**





# Explicit consent in the new **General Data Protection Regulation**





**Control of your own identity data?**



**Control of your own identity data?**



A surreal image showing two men in dark suits and hats standing on a large, fluffy white cloud. They are positioned in the center-right of the frame, looking towards the left. The man on the right is holding a cane. The background is a vast blue sky filled with scattered white clouds. The bottom of the image shows a dark, flat horizon line.

**Self sovereign identity?**



***'Self-Sovereign Identity*** is the next step beyond user-centric identity and that means it begins at the same place: the user must be central to the administration of identity.'

— **Christopher Allen**



OCT. 28 MONDAY

7:31

Brussels  
Mostly Cloudy



13°C  
14°/8°

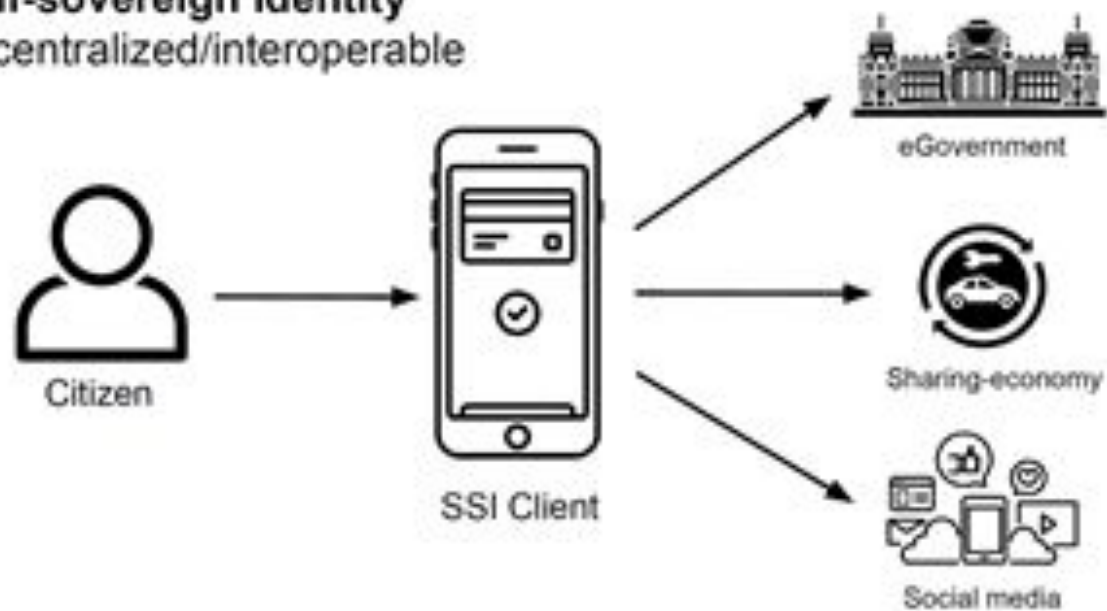


Hi Eva! Do not forget to apply to  
Rovira I Virgili University. Today  
is the deadline!

take out the trash this time!  
Thx Daddy.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2uj7fgb2Jl>

**Self-sovereign Identity**  
decentralized/interoperable



## Recognized ESSIF Issuer



*Governmental agency  
Financial Institution  
Insurance company  
University  
Notary  
...*



**EU Citizen / Entity  
ESSIF Wallet**

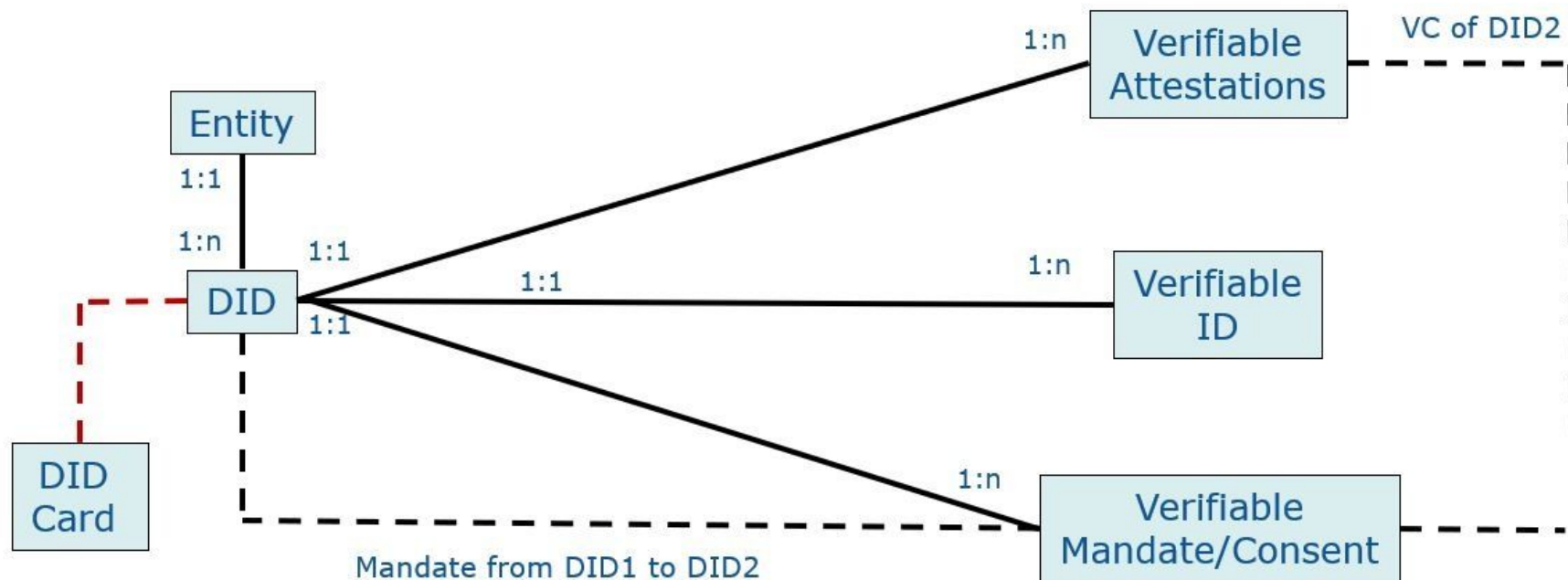


## Relying party / Verifier



*Financial Institution  
Employer  
Government Agency  
....*

# High-Level Datamodel



A surrealist painting of two men in dark suits and hats standing on a large, white, fluffy cloud. They are facing each other, with one man holding a cane. The background is a vast blue sky filled with many other white clouds. The bottom of the image shows a dark, flat horizon line.

# SSI-use cases



**Authenticity diploma?**





**Identity refugees?**



**Know your customer?**



ENTER

Checking your age?

I'M OVER 18

GO BACK

PROFILES | GROUPS | PHOTOS | VIDEOS | LIVE | MORE



Customer experience?



# A kaart

Goesting in 't stad

# A kaart

Goesting in 't stad



## Local identity?





**Moving to a new house?**



ESSIF





# European Blockchain Partnership (EBP)

Collaborate to let EU take the lead in blockchain



# ESSIF (European Self Sovereign Identity Framework)

- How to collaborate in on the many cross border challenges of Self Sovereign identity in Europe?
- Initiative launched in EBP by **Germany**/ Nordrhein-Westfalen with help of **Netherlands** and **Belgium**.
- Use case and project in the European Blockchain Service Infrastructure (28 member states involved)
- Belgium and Spain project-convenors



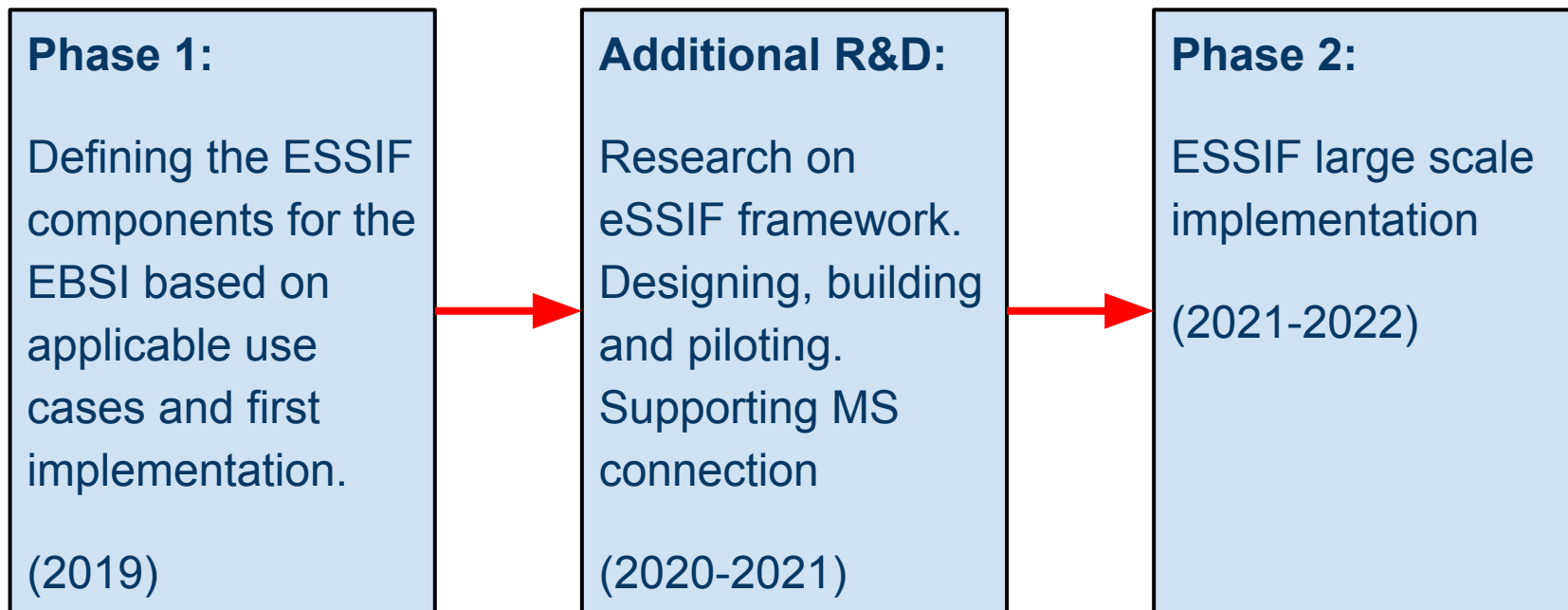
# Scope ESSIF

- How to facilitate cross-border interaction with SSI.
- How to make/keep national SSI projects interoperable.
- How to integrate/align existing building blocks such as eIDAS, e-delivery, once-only with SSI.
- Stimulate the SSI-transformation of public services
- How to conceptualize and build an identity layer in the new European Blockchain Services Infrastructure.
- How to preserve European/democratic values in the implementation of Self Sovereign identity.
- Stimulate SSI development and standardisation on global level.

# Out of scope of ESSIF

- The interpretations of the data (semantics) and the necessary standardizations and business logic is however outside the scope of ESSIF.
- ESSIF will provide in its first instance support for other EBSI use cases (like diploma and notarization)
- ESSIF will not build and maintain an SSI wallet for all European citizens and interfere in this way with the emerging market of SSI solutions and personal data storage.
- Academic research on SSI is out of scope of the EBSI use case ESSIF.

# The roadmap and project landscape ESSIF



**ESSIF as a new 'once only' principle/approach**





A painting featuring two figures from the chest up, facing each other. They are wearing white, draped head coverings that obscure their faces. The figure on the left is wearing a red garment, while the figure on the right is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white shirt and a dark tie. The background is a solid blue color, and a portion of a red wall is visible on the right side. The overall style is realistic with soft lighting and visible brushstrokes.

**Freedom is control  
in your own life.**

**- Willie Nelson -**



**Thank you for your attention**

(and thanks to Rene Margritte)