



European
Commission

EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD

EUNIS 2023, Vigo

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OBJECTIVES

1. Provide a historic perspective on the ESC
2. Explain the policy perspective around the ESC
3. Introduce the benefits of the ESC
4. Present the ESC's journey until today
5. Highlight the main objectives and advancements of the ESC as part of the ESCI

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HISTORIC AND POLICY PERSPECTIVE OF THE ESC

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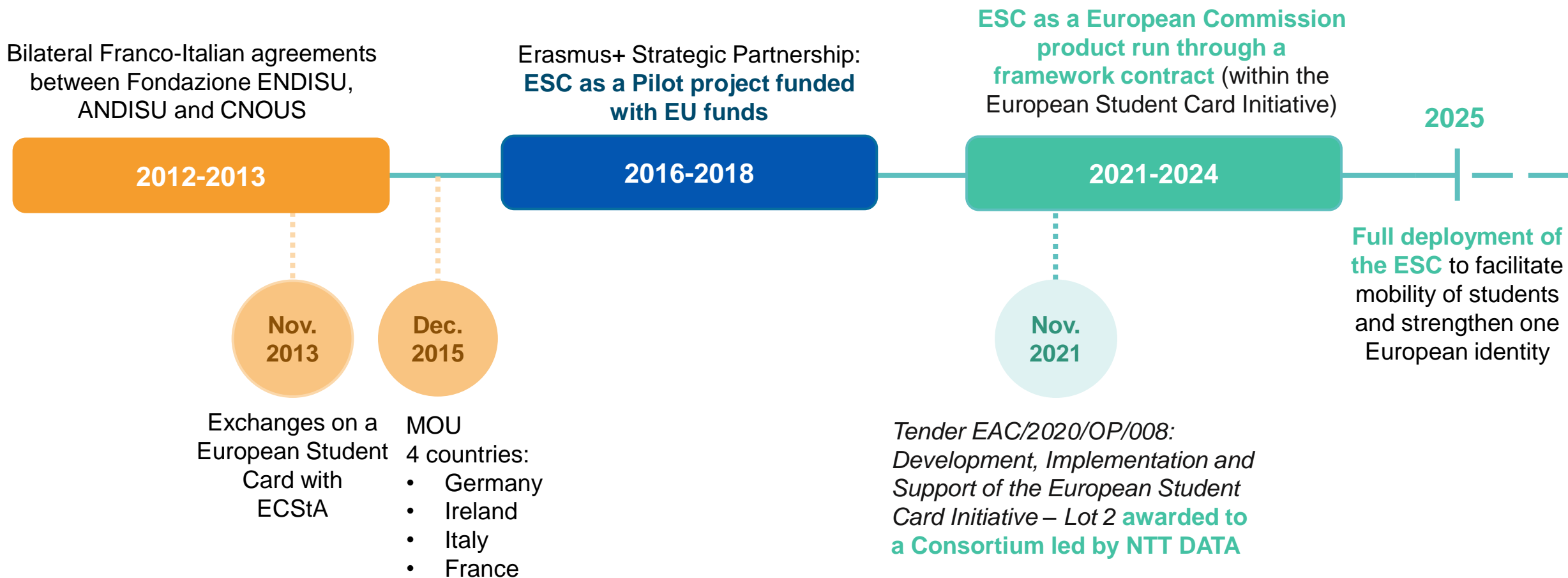
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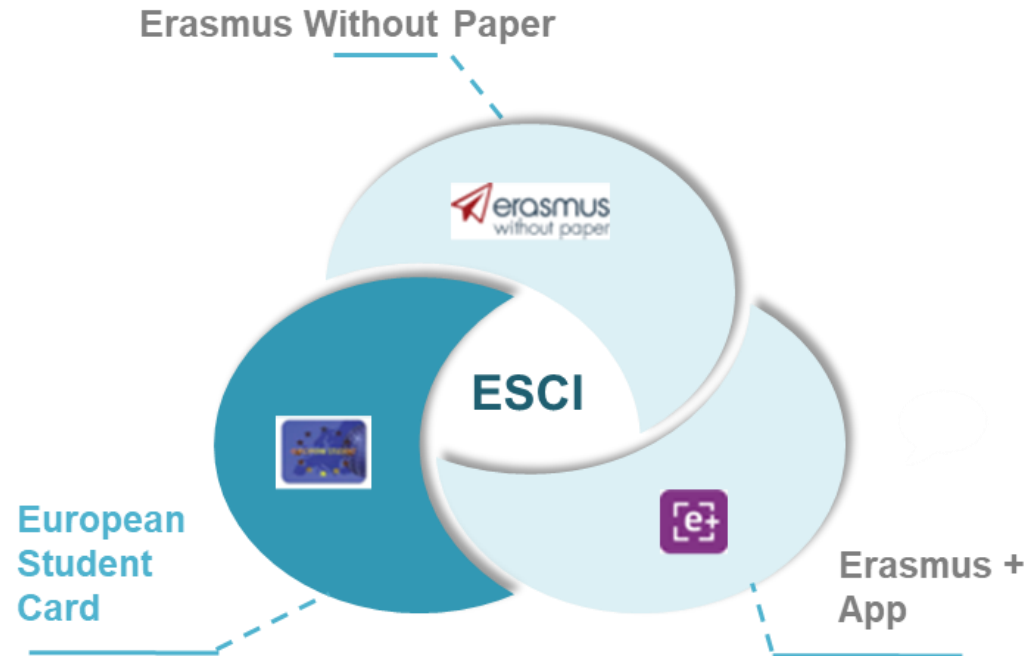
A HISTORICAL LOOK TO THE ESC

The journey of the ESC started as an EU funded project in 2016, and it became a **building block of the European Student Card Initiative** with the aim of fully deploying the ESC by 2025, to facilitate mobility of students and strengthen one European identity.



EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD INITIATIVE

The ESCI is composed of **three building blocks**: Erasmus Without Paper, Erasmus+ App and European Student Card.



-  **Green Erasmus+ Programme administration** through paperless workflows – from application to transcript of records;
-  **Digital Erasmus+ Programme** through once-only principle and efficiency gains for mobility management
-  **More inclusive Erasmus+ Programme** through more ready made and more targeted communication with students;
-  **Smoother mobility experience** abroad for students and a sense of a European student identity;
-  Underpinned by **Erasmus Charter Higher Education** – commitment to digitalisation of all Erasmus+ participating higher education institutions.

POLICY FRAMEWORK

The current context of the European Student Card has been shaped by several policy initiatives and EU-funded projects levels.

September 2020

Communication on achieving the EEA by 2025

Sets the foundation for the European Student Card initiative

January 2022

EC Communication on a European Strategy for Universities

Identifies ESCI as one of its 4 flagship initiatives to boost the European dimension in higher education and research



Scale-up the ESCI by starting **deploying a unique European Student Identifier to all mobile students** in 2022 and to all students in universities in Europe by mid-2024

April 2022

Council Recommendation on building bridges for effective European higher education cooperation

Recognises the potential of ESCI to make it easier for students to study and train in several institutions and encourages Member States to support the roll out of the initiative



STATE-OF-PLAY AND KEY MILESTONES OF THE ESC

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THE EUROPEAN STUDENT CARD AND ITS BENEFITS

The European Student Card establishes a **common European identity for higher education students** so that they can get their student status verified easily across Europe



Students

- **Access to on- and off-campus services** by affirming their student status recognition at other universities around the **Erasmus+ Programme Countries**



Card issuers

- **Avoid the need to issue a new student card** for mobility students
- **Validate the student status** for incoming mobility students securely



Student service providers

- **Streamline the verification process** of student status more quickly
- Gain certainty and a **wider network of users**

ESC TECHNOLOGY AND FEATURES

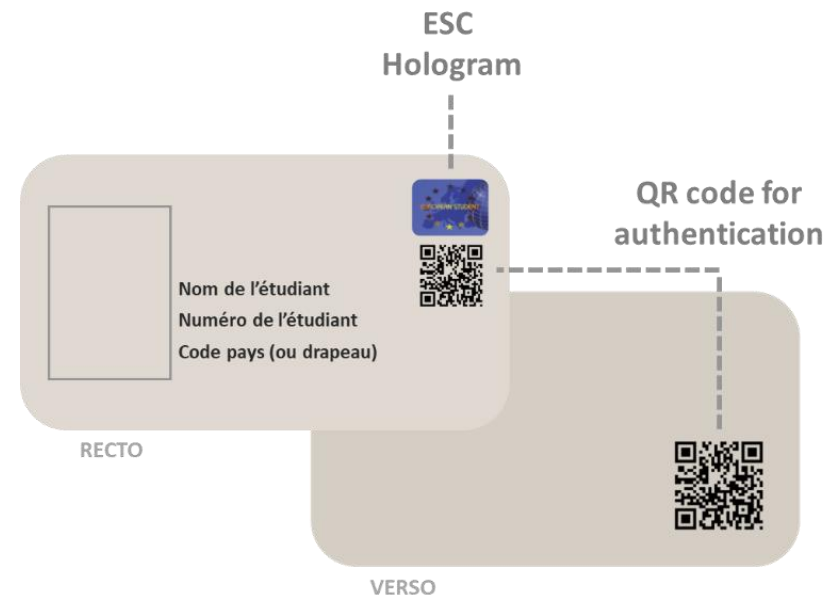
The European student Card is a **solution added to existing cards**, and implemented through a **centralised digital platform called the ESC Router** that allows participant institutions to **(1) generate student cards** and to **(2) validate student status between information systems**

ESCN - European Student Card Number

Unique card identifier of 16 bytes that serves to link a specific card to the specific HEI who produced it and to identify a card.

ESI - European Student Identifier

A digital identifier enabling students to uniquely identify themselves when they access student mobility services online.



European Student Card QR code

Two-dimensional barcode printed on the ESC to ensure compatibility with any type of passive card and to automatically verify the data of the student's status.

European Student Card hologram

Logo on the front of the European Student Card that certifies the authenticity of the card and serves as an identifier to access services at European level.

KEY MILESTONES AND STATISTICS



1,6 M

Students with an active card*

2012

Card issuers issuing active cards



651

Card issuers registered in the ESC-R



4,4 M

Holograms requested



Data from May 2023

*When a card is active the registration process has been completed and the Institution **is issuing ESCs with both the hologram and QR code updated to the ESC-Router.**



ESC AS PART OF THE ESCI

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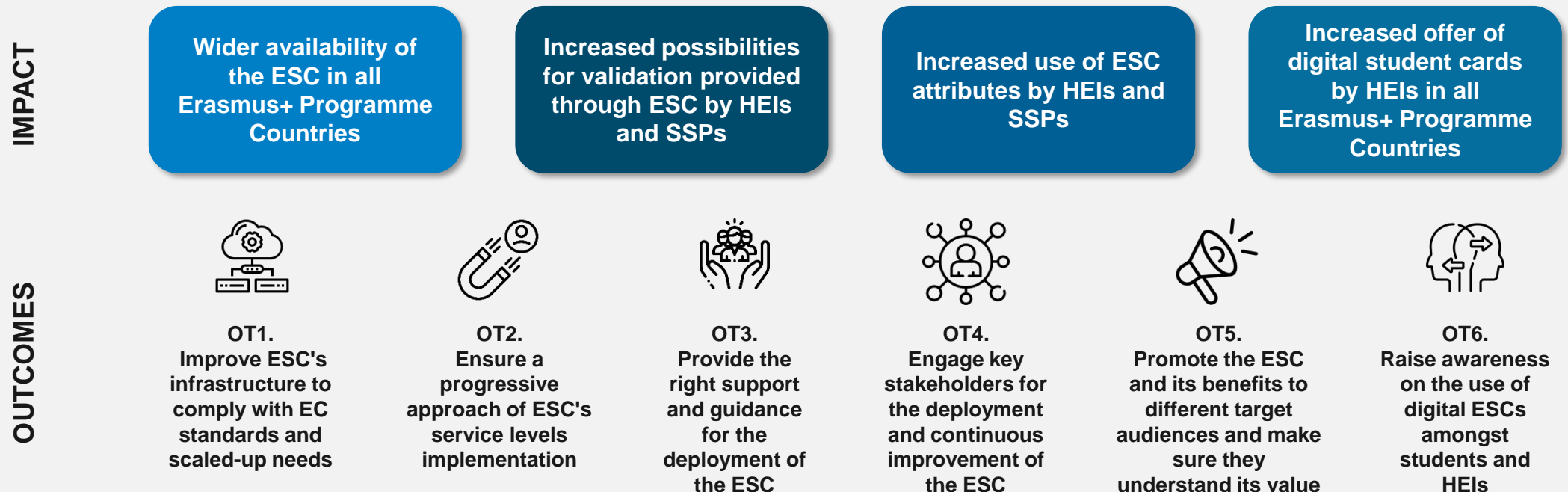
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ESC 4-YEAR PLAN

Under the ESCI, NTT DATA was awarded a framework contract by DG EAC to develop, implement and support the European Student Card (Lot 2). A 4-year plan has been designed with the purpose of **“facilitating the mobility of students and make their identification across Erasmus+ programme countries, easier more efficient and greener”**.



MAIN TASKS FOR 2023

The main objective for 2023 is to **continue the deployment and improvement of the European Student Cards**, dividing the work into 5 streams.



Strategic Planning and Governance

including activities of strategic and organisational nature for the European Student Card functioning



IT Infrastructure

including activities related to the development of IT infrastructure



Training and Support

including activities related to facilitate the deployment of the ESC to the different stakeholders



Innovative Technologies and Foresight

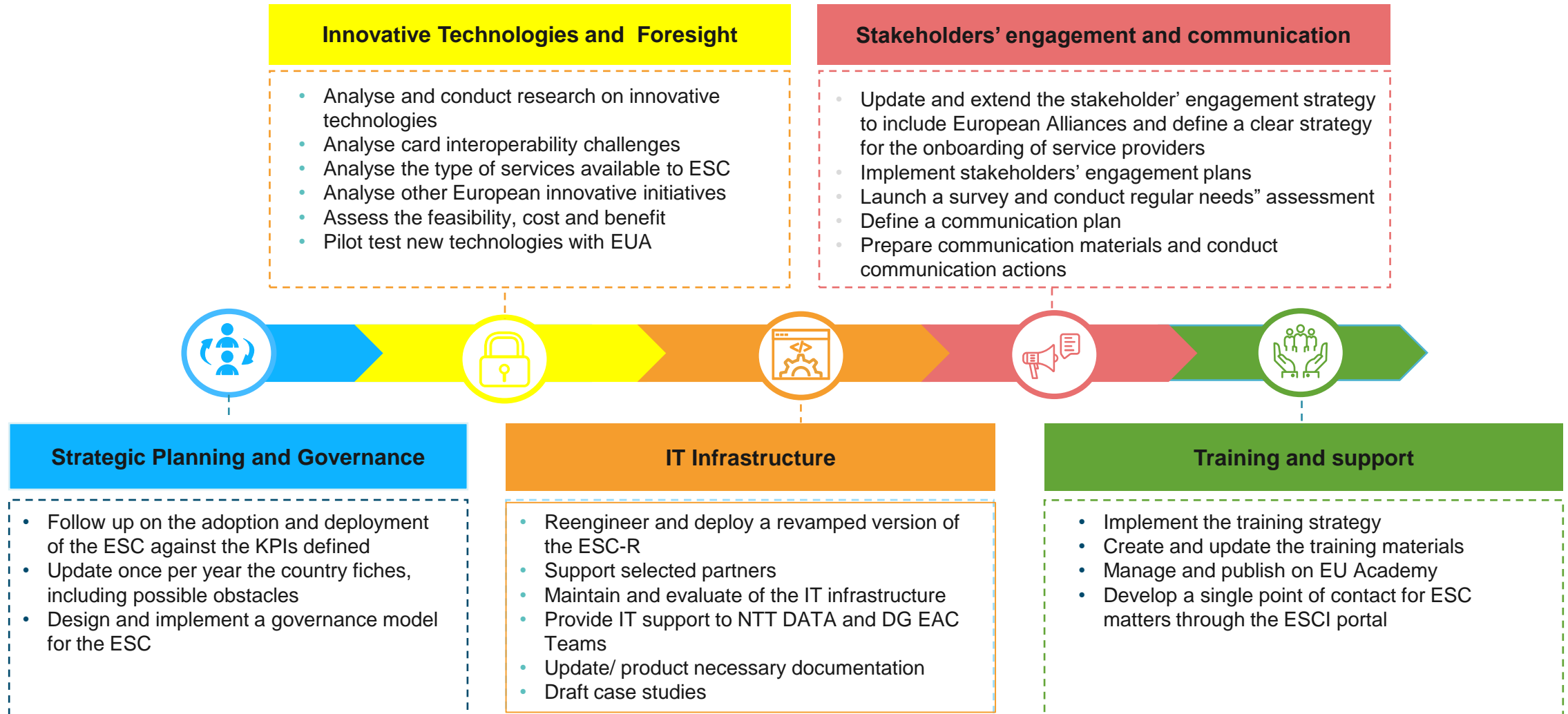
including activities for the use of new technologies in the further improvement of the ESC



Stakeholders' engagement and communication

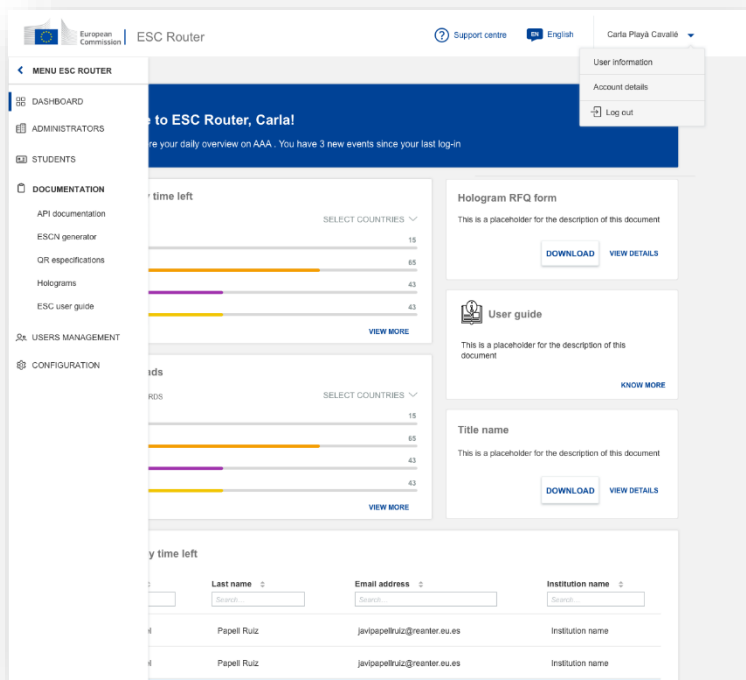
including activities related to engaging card issuers and Student Service Providers as well as communicating the benefits of the ESC with target audiences

MAIN TASKS FOR 2023



ESC-ROUTER MIGRATION

The current ESC-Router will be migrated to European Commission's cloud and a new improved version of the Router is foreseen.



European Student Card Router as a EU official tool.

Objectives

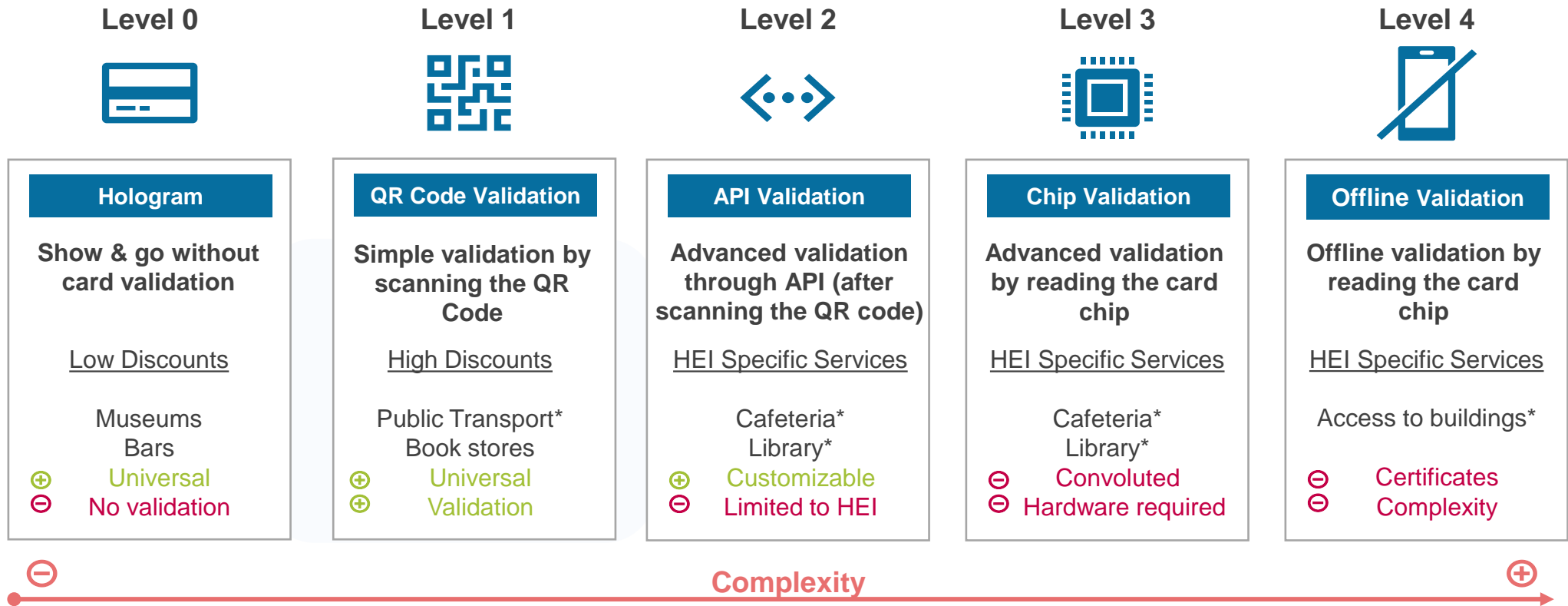
- Design and implement a **scalable data model** based on EU standards.
- Design a **new User Interface** following EU design guidelines.
- Development of the **ESC-R software components** and business logic.
- Joint efforts with DIGI DIGIT to **host the new ESC-R** in the cloud.



New European Student Card Router expected to be **launched** during **the beginning of fourth quarter of 2023**

ESC-ROUTER MIGRATION

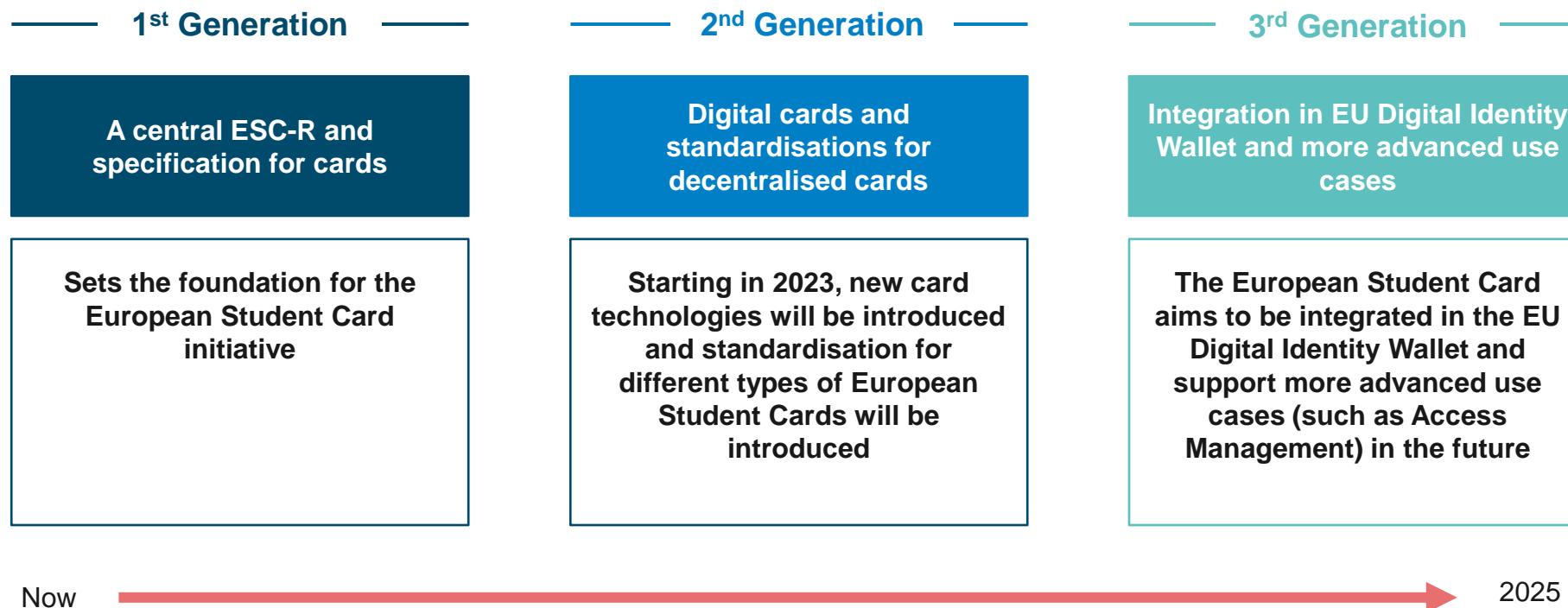
The functional objectives of the migrated ESC-R will be the validation of student status and enabling services through building blocks. Different levels of validation will be foreseen in the ESC-R. In the first migrated version there will be only level 0 to 2 validation schemes.



*Depending on the HEI

FUTURE CARDS

The ESC-R currently under development is just the first iteration of a European Student Card. Future work aims to diversify card technologies and introduce additional card types.



ESC ANNUAL ONLINE SURVEY

This is the **official online survey** that is conducted **yearly** with the aim to **validate the main project outputs** with potential target users and their representatives to ensure that they are **tailored to their needs** (i.e. potential expansion to online services).



The main objectives of the survey are to:

- Keep a **yearly track** of the evolution of **what students and higher education institution want out of the European Student Card**
- Understand the stakeholders' **view on the use of student cards**
- Assess the **experience with the current ESC**

Four **main audiences** are targeted in the online survey:



STUDENTS



MANAGEMENT STAFF



IT OFFICERS



IROS

ESC SURVEY RESULTS 2022

 **5.703**
responses received



31
Erasmus+ Programme countries covered



81% (4619)

STUDENTS



13% (717)

IROS



4% (241)

MANAGEMENT



2% (125)

IT OFFICERS



964 responses



706 responses



540 responses

ESC FEEDBACK SURVEY

A short feedback email was set up to inform the users of the ESC-R about the migration and to understand their experience through a short questionnaire on 17/04. The survey will be open until 02/05.



The main objectives of the questionnaire were to:

- Assess the ESC issuance (i.e. issuance of active cards, cards with holograms)
- Ensure the new version of the ESC-R meet the expectations and needs of the current users
- Enable the participation to the open webinars and ESC Champions initiative

The target audience were:



Current USERS of the ESC-R
(i.e. registered organisations)

146 responses out of **645** registered card issuers

The 3 countries with more responses are...



France

60 responses



Spain

24 responses



Italy

13 responses

The numbers are explained by the high number of users registered to the ESC-R from these countries

ESC FEEDBACK SURVEY

The results of the survey are the following:



146
responses



28%
Of respondents Issuing
cards with holograms



36%
Of respondents
Issuing active cards

79 users stated obstacles on the issuance of active cards, including

- Lack of required systems and technical structure (e.g. adaptation of printing systems of cards with ESC features)
- Working on the other ESCI related matters (EWP)
- Few mobility activities conducted at the institution

90% of the users would like to join the open webinar



132 respondents
would like to join the open webinar

23% of the users would like to be part of the ESC Champions initiative



34 respondents
would like to be part of the ESC
Champions

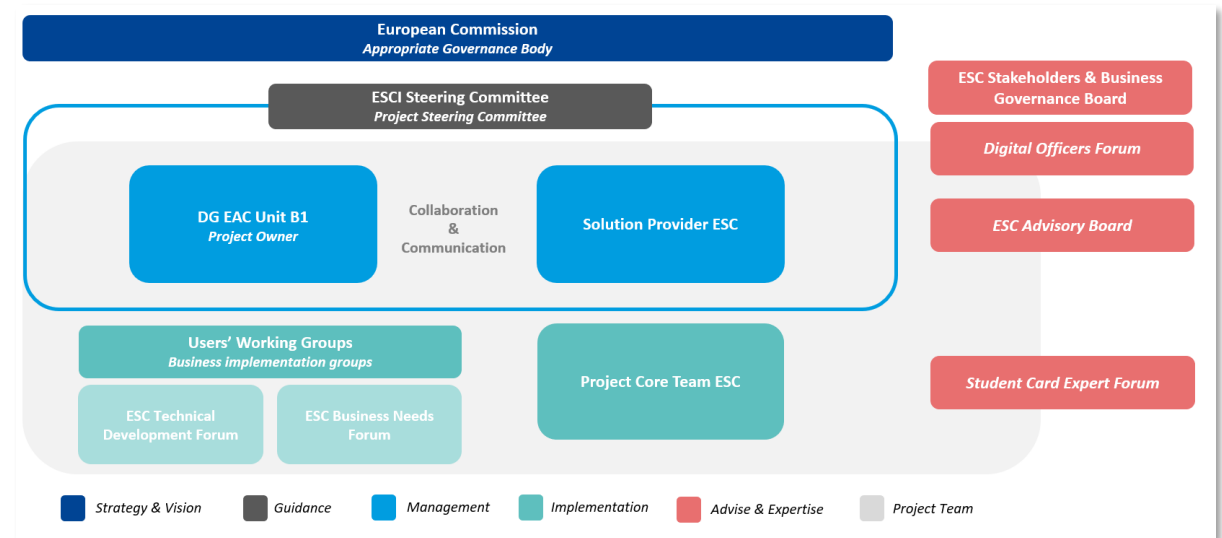
Monitoring date: 02/05/2023

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The ESC Governance model aims to ensure a **swift coordination and communication** within the three ESCI building blocks; support the **decision-making and follow-up on ESC adoption needs**; and involve the **key stakeholders to be consulted** to gather relevant insights on the deployment, usage, needs and further development of the ESC.

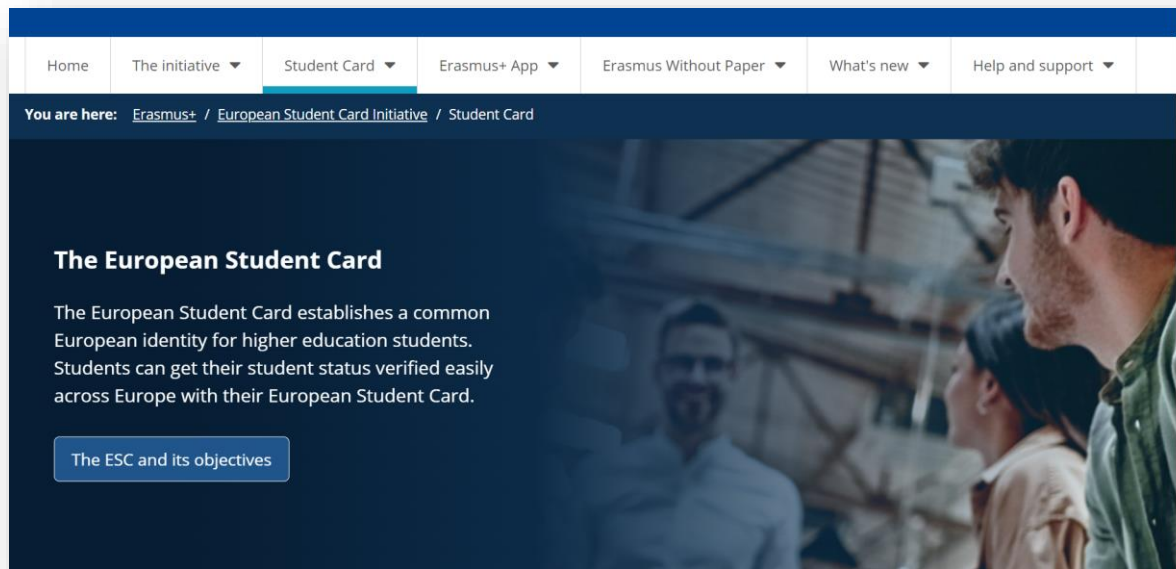
What has the **ESC Governance** achieved so far?

- ✓ The **ESCI website** is an **entry point for stakeholders** interested in finding out about the ESC
- ✓ **Identified** the main **contact points** and **contact details**
- ✓ **Contacted** the main **reference points** per body
- ✓ **Scheduling and organising meetings** with the contact points



ESCI WEBSITE

The ESCI website was launched on 07/10 acting as **an entry point for stakeholders** interested in finding out about the European Student Card.



What can be found in the ESCI website?

- **Policy and historical context** information of the European Student Card Initiative,
- **Practical information on the different building blocks** (what are their benefits, how do they work, how can students and institutions make use of them, etc.),
- **Latest news and events** related to ESCI and its building blocks, and
- **Help and support**, including building blocks helpdesks, FAQs and a glossary of terms related to ESCI.



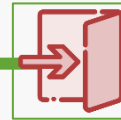
Scan this QR code to access to the website!

ESCI WEBSITE STATISTICS

The statistics covering the period from 1 January to 31 March 2023.



34.378
Total page views



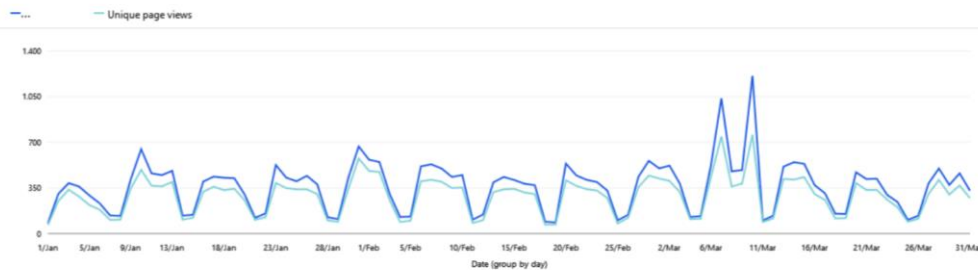
16.239
entries



62.39%
bounce rate



57s
average time on page



Page views for the period January - March 2023

The website had a **fairly even consultation** during the monitoring period.

ESC TRAINING & SUPPORT

A helpdesk, guidance materials and a training strategy have been developed, through: **informal training sessions, different materials, and continuous support via the helpdesk are available in a training space in the ESCI website.**

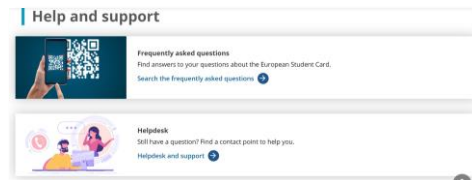
Guidance Materials

The guidance materials will be **available on the ESCI sub-site**



FAQs

FAQs are also available under the ESCI Website



Training

Webinar session is the first element to the current training strategy

Ambassador concept



Helpdesk

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



ESC.support@nttdata.com





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For any further questions and support,
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THANK YOU!