

INTEROPERABLE EUROPE ACT

Policy brief

Weblink	https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32024R0903
Relevance	<input type="checkbox"/> National policy x EU policy <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
Briefing done by	Patricia Trinkl, FFG

Short summary of the policy

Interoperability is a core feature of a functioning Digital Single Market and contributes to the effective implementation of digital features of public policies, from justice to health to transport.

The aim of the Interoperable Europe Act is to facilitate cross-border data exchange and to accelerate the digital transformation of the public sector. The Interoperable Europe Act enables administrations to cooperate while ensuring public services function seamlessly across borders and sectoral as well as organizational boundaries. It supports the EU's digital targets for 2030 such as making key public services available online across borders. While the Act emphasizes cooperation and shared solutions it does not mandate harmonization of public administrations' fundamental workflows or the abandonment of sovereignty.

The Regulation entered into force in April 2024 and applies to Union entities and public sector bodies that regulate, provide, manage or implement trans-European digital public services. National competent authorities are appointed for each [Member State](#).

The main elements of the Interoperable Europe Act are:

- Setup of a **multi-level governance framework** to define the interoperability agenda and an ecosystem of common interoperability solutions. This framework will be steered by the Interoperable Europe Board and supported by the Interoperable Europe Community.
- Introduction of **interoperability assessments** for the interoperable-by-design public services. These assessments are mandatory before decisions on new binding requirements to support public sector bodies to explore and, where appropriate, address cross-border interoperability aspects already at the design phase. Necessary guidelines and tools are provided by the European Commission.
- The '[Interoperable Europe Portal](#)', a one-stop-shop to encourage the sharing and reuse of high quality and reliable interoperability solutions among public administrations. Apart from some exceptions, it is mandatory for Union entities or public sector bodies to make available interoperability solutions to other bodies if requested.
- Strengthened **innovation and policy support**, including training, regulatory sandboxes for policy experimentation, GovTech and policy implementation support projects, to develop, test and scale up solutions.

Main objectives of the policy

The main objective of the policy is to foster cross-border public services, in line with the EU Digital Decade goals. The policy supports the Digital Single Market and aims to have 100% of key public services online by 2030.

Other objectives are:

- Facilitate collaboration among public administrations at local, regional, national, and EU levels through joint projects
- Promote the adoption of open, sharable interoperability assets across public administrations
- Create and share interoperable digital solutions
- Support innovation, skills, and sandboxing
- Contribute to evidence-based regulatory learning
- Enhance authorities' understanding of the opportunities or barriers to cross-border interoperability of innovative interoperability solutions, including legal barriers
- Facilitate the development of an open European GovTech ecosystem, including cooperation with SMEs, research and educational institutions and start-ups

Context and relation to DEP

Digital Europe has supported the Interoperable Europe policy since the beginning. It is the main EU funding programme implementing the Interoperability Europe Act.

Under Specific Objective 5, where interoperability is one out of four dedicated work strands, Digital Europe provides funding for developing and maintaining EU public sector interoperability.

EU funding of 77 Mio EUR is foreseen in the Digital Europe Work Programme 2025-27, to support the implementation of the Interoperable Europe Act and public administrations' collaboration projects on interoperability and digital government.

Parts of the policy directly related to Specific Objectives (SO) in DEP

In general, DEP contributes to all elements of the policy. The addressed parts of the Policy depend on the scope of the specific action.

Contribution of activities in the current DEP Work Programme to the policy objectives

Topics in the DEP Work Programme 2025-27 supporting the implementation of the Interoperable Europe Act are listed under '5.1.2 Interoperable Europe – Interoperability for the public sector'¹:

- **5.1.2.1 Interoperable Europe policy support**

Type of action: Procurement | *Indicative budget:* 67 Mio EUR | *Indicative timing:* 2025-27
Objectives: Implementation of the Interoperable Europe Act and further development of some key elements. The activity contributes to a wide range of objectives of the Policy, e.g. governance and monitoring and interoperability assessments.

¹ See WP25-27, page 146ff

– **5.1.2.2.1 GovTech**

Type of Action: SGA | *Indicative budget:* 4 Mio EUR | *Indicative timing:* 2nd Call

Objectives: Interconnecting national GovTech innovation labs and further development of existing and new pilots. The activity is building on the GovTech incubator ([GovTec4All](#)) Framework Partnership Agreement and two Specific Grant Agreements (SGAs).

– **5.1.2.2.2 MCP on Innovative and Connected Public Administrations**

Type of Action: Simple Grant | *Indicative budget:* 6 Mio EUR | *Indicative timing:* 2nd Call

Objectives: Support the collaboration of Member States on an operational level to drive forward the development and testing of cross-border digital public services. The activity is building on the Coordination and Support Action for ‘Innovative and Connected Public Administrations’ under the Digital Europe Work Programme 2023-24 (see [INVEST](#)).

Match of any specific activity mentioned in the policy with concrete call topics from the current/upcoming DEP Work Programme

See above.

Further information

Interoperable Europe Portal: <https://interoperable-europe.ec.europa.eu/>

Communication from the Commission:

https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/7ad24728-71d5-4148-a6a6-2af7551726fe_en?filename=Communication%20Interoperable%20Europe%20Act

Events: <https://interoperable-europe.ec.europa.eu/interoperable-europe/events>