
Trust services and electronic identification

Trust services and electronic identification are key enablers for secure cross-border transactions.



The Regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market (eIDAS Regulation) is a milestone towards providing a predictable regulatory environment for secure and seamless electronic interactions between businesses, citizens and public authorities.

The eIDAS Regulation:

- ensures that people and businesses can use their own national electronic identification schemes (eIDs) to access public services available online in other EU countries.
- creates an European internal market for trust services by ensuring that they will work across borders and have the same legal status as their traditional paper based equivalents.

Only by providing certainty on the legal validity of these services will businesses and citizens use digital interactions naturally.

Review of the eIDAS regulatory framework

The European Commission is currently evaluating this regulatory framework and ran an open consultation from 24 July to 2 October 2020. The aim of the consultation was to collect feedback on drivers and barriers to the development and uptake of trust services and eID in Europe and on the impacts of the options for delivering an EU digital identity.

The Commission will assess to what extent the eIDAS framework remains fit for purpose, i.e., to deliver the intended outcomes, results and impacts. It will also consider whether it is appropriate to modify the scope of the Regulation or its specific provisions, taking into account the experience gained in the application, as well as technological, market and legal developments.

Benefits of eIDAS

The eIDAS regulation brings benefits to European businesses, citizens and government services. Consult the infographics below to explore how eIDAS can benefit you.

- eIDAS solutions for citizens (pdf)
 - eIDAS - for filing taxes (pdf)
 - eIDAS - for the 'once only' principle (pdf)
 - eIDAS - for student mobility (pdf)
 - eIDAS - for opening bank accounts (pdf)
- eIDAS solutions for SMEs (pdf)
 - eIDAS in professional services (pdf)
 - eIDAS in the transport sector (pdf)
 - eIDAS in online retail (pdf)
 - eIDAS in financial services (pdf)
- eIDAS checklist for businesses (pdf)

With eIDAS, the EU has managed to lay down the right foundations and a predictable legal framework for people, companies and public administrations to safely access services and carry out transactions online in just "one click". Indeed, rolling out eIDAS means higher security and more convenience for any online activity such submitting tax declarations, enrolling in a foreign university, remotely opening a bank account, setting up a business in another Member State, authenticating for internet payments, bidding to on line call for tender, and more.

Building trusted digital identity (pdf)

Q&A: eIDAS

Trusted list of service providers (browser)

Trusted list of service providers (xml, machine readable)

eIDAS Regulation

eIDAS for SMEs

Related Content

Big Picture

Trust Services

The EU has introduced rules to strengthen trust services and ensure our online activity is secure across the EU.

See Also

EU trust mark

The EU trust mark tells users that they can trust a certain service online to carry out their online transactions in a safe, convenient and secure way.

Source URL: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/trust-services-and-eid>