

EUROPEAN COUNCIL & PARLIAMENT STRIKE A DEAL FOR MORE EFFICIENT DIGITAL PUBLIC

INTEROPERABLE EUROPE ACT

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USPA NEWS - With a view to creating a network of interconnected digital public administrations and accelerating the digital transformation of Europe's public sector, the Council presidency and the European Parliament negotiators reached a provisional agreement on the proposed legislation regarding measures on a high level of public sector interoperability across the EU (Interoperable Europe act).

"Today's agreement advances our commitment towards the EU's digital transformation. The new law will enable public administrations across Europe to cooperate more effectively, thus saving time and costs for our citizens and businesses." Nadia Calviño, acting Spanish first vice-president and minister for economy and digitalisation

MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE REGULATION

The regulation aims to set up a new cooperation framework for EU public administrations to ensure the seamless delivery of public services across borders, and to provide for support measures promoting innovation and enhancing skills and knowledge exchange. The new law will establish an interoperability governance structure with a view to creating an ecosystem of shared interoperability solutions for the EU's public sector. This way, public administrations in the EU can contribute to and re-use such solutions, innovate together and create added value.

MAIN ELEMENTS RETAINED FROM THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL

The provisional agreement maintains the general thrust of the Commission's proposal, namely as regards:

- rules ensuring a structured EU cooperation where public administrations come together in the framework of projects co-owned by member states, as well as regions and cities
- a multi-level governance framework steered by the 'Interoperable Europe Board'
- the sharing and reuse of interoperability solutions, powered by a one-stop-shop for solutions and community cooperation ('Interoperable Europe portal') and supported by measures to promote innovation, and enhance skills and knowledge exchange

THE CO-LEGISLATORS AMENDMENTS

The co-legislators amended various parts of the Commission's proposal. The main changes include:

- a clearer definition of the scope of the proposed legislation, including the concept and definition of 'trans-European digital public services'
- clarifications concerning the objectives and the conditions of the mandatory interoperability assessment with a view to complying with the principle of proportionality to avoid overburdening national and local administrations
- consistency with the provisions of the artificial intelligence act (AIA) and of the general data protection regulation (GDPR), with regard to the establishment of and participation to interoperability regulatory sandboxes
- a stronger role for the Interoperable Europe Board, which stands at the core of the new governance structure set up by the regulation

Source: European Council

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