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European Interoperability Architecture

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InfoPack on EIRA to the ISA Information Architecture

Working Group MS representatives

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Speech of RAUL ABRIL

DRAFT VERSION

Hello to all. Welcome to this short introduction. My name is Raul Abril. I work for the Interoperability Solutions for public Administrations unit in DIGIT. I am the official responsible for the European Interoperability Architecture action, EIA in short, and other actions as well.

It is a great pleasure for me to introduce some highlights of the European Interoperability Architecture (EIRA in short). I will give you ten key messages

First message: EIRA is an application of an Enterprise Architecture approach with a focus on Interoperability in public sector.

- What do we mean about it? It means that EIRA focusses in the MOST SALIENT BUILDING BLOCKS to be considered in order to support a truly Trans-European System, from the interoperability perspective, in the public sector. It is NOT the intention of the EIRA to provide a comprehensive end-to-end guide of all the building blocks that should be considered designing any system.

Second message: EIRA implements the European Interoperability Framework

- By that, it means that there is a full alignment between the EIRA and the European Interoperability Framework. Therefore, you will see that there is a view for each of the dimensions in the European Interoperability Framework. The EIRA is an instrument for implementing the European Interoperability Framework.

Third message: The European Interoperability Cartography is based in the EIRA

- It means that the result of performing a decomposition exercise between a set of systems

and the structure provided by the EIRA, in terms of its components (building blocks, views) and relationships among them, produces an outcome that we call "Cartography". In essence, a Cartography is a classification of the building blocks of the considered systems according to an structure, in our case, the EIRA. If the input for this decomposition exercise is a set of Trans-European systems, then, the outcome is what we call the European Interoperability Cartography. You will see that the European Interoperability Cartography is one of the use cases of the EIRA.

Fourth message: Each building block in the European Interoperability Reference Architecture is a Trans-European System

- It means that a Trans-European System is just one building block or an aggregation of other Trans-European Systems. Therefore, not all the building blocks must be considered when creating a Trans-European System.

Fifth message: The European Interoperability Reference Architecture is based in the Service Oriented Architecture style and the Archimate ontology.

- It means that EIRA benefits of these two domains in terms of the constructs "reused" in its definition

Sixth message: Each view of the European Interoperability Reference Architecture is defined in terms of the interoperability aspects that are supported.

- It means that to include a building block in a view of the EIRA it has to be consistent the view's definition.

Seventh message: Views of the European Interoperability Reference Architecture are linked through designated entry and exit building blocks following a layered approach giving supremacy to the legal view and following a well alignment principle.

- The Organizational view is aligned to the Legal view, the Semantic view is aligned to the organizational view, and finally, the Technology view is aligned to the former views.

Eighth message: The Technology View recognizes interoperability at the policy level and cross-policies.

- The Applications part of the Technology view contains building blocks supporting specific policies. We could say "a vertical interoperability". The infrastructure part of the Technology view contains building blocks supporting cross policies. We could say "a horizontal interoperability". Ideally, future developments of the EIRA should imply a migration of building blocks from the Application part to the Infrastructure part. It means that, ideally, the Applications part would become thinner and thinner and the Infrastructure view bigger and bigger because we are better developing truly cross policy building blocks.

Ninth message: The ambition of the EIRA is to provide real value to the European public administrations, both at the Member States level as to the European Institutions level.

- With this intention we have developed use cases and we expect that you adopt the EIRA in your administration

Tenth message: EIRA is a collaborative effort with member states.

- We, the European Commission, provide leadership with the development of the European Interoperability Reference Architecture and kindly expect from you your collaboration in terms of feedback and adoption. Therefore, your comments are welcome.

In addition to this Podcast, you should have access to a pdf with the slides presenting the EIRA and an Excel spreadsheet with the description of each building block.

As my director general has said, I very much hope that you all will see this as an opportunity to participate in this joint effort, and thank you in advance for your support.

Thank you.