

PM² Template v2.5

Webinar Meeting Minutes

Interoperability Academy

Webinar Title:	Interoperability Academy 'Bridging the digital gaps across Europe together'	Webinar Date/Time:	28/05/2020
Meeting Type:	Webinar	Webinar Location:	Microsoft Teams
Webinar Coordinator:	Georges LOBO and Victoria KALOGIROU	Issue Date:	05/06/20

Attendee Name
Barry KRUGER
Cecile GUASCH
Dimitris PANOPOULOS
Dimitrios PIKIOS
Delfina SOARES
Eva COBOS CORTINA
Felix POZO
Francesco LOSAPPPIO
Georges LOBO
Ilias KATSAGOUNOS
Johan CLEMENTE
Katarina MANOJLOVIĆ
Isa Katharina VON KALBEN
Konstantina KYRIAKOPOULOU
Costas SIMATOS
Laura VISAN
Ludovic MAYOT
Maria MICHALOPOULOU
Maximilian STROTMANN
Miguel ALVAREZ RODRIGUEZ
Michel HICK
Monika SOWINSKA
Natalia ARISTIMUNO PEREZ
Nick ACHILLEOPOULOS
Nora GANESCU
Nuno CARDOSO
Orliński RYSZARD
Pantelis NIKOLAIDIS
Paul HEARN
Pavlina FRAGKOU
Raul Mario ABRIL JIMENEZ
Pierre-Henri PAGE
Robert KRIMMER
Uuno VALLNER
Vicky MARGARITI
Victoria KALOGIROU
Yannis CHARALABIDIS
Zsafia SZIRANYI

Meeting Agenda

The European Commission supported by Trasy International organised a webinar to present the current achievements of the Interoperability (IOP) Academy and ask feedback from the audience, which includes stakeholders from a variety of national, European and International initiatives, on the completed and foreseeable work in this action. The webinar presentation can be found as embedded document.

The agenda of the webinar included:

1. Welcome Note
2. Briefing from previous Webinar
3. Policy Context
4. EU Academy and Interoperability Academy
5. Course on European Interoperability Framework
6. European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO)
7. Roadmap of the Interoperability Academy
8. A.O.B.



Interoperability
Academy Webinar pre

Document 1 - Webinar Presentation

Meeting Summary

1) Introduction

- The 'Interoperability Academy' is an action (2019.01) under the [ISA² programme](#). Its overall objective is to tackle the digital skills gap by making available eLearning resources focused on Interoperability (IOP). In other words, the action aims to provide civil servants with educational resources, related to interoperability, via an eLearning platform.
- The aim of the Webinar was twofold: highlight the importance of (digital) cooperation for the creation of the IOP Academy which was illustrated with the synergies between the EU Academy and the European Skills, Competences Qualifications and Occupations (ESCO) teams and present the first course of the IOP Academy.
- The purpose of this summary is to provide an overview of the discussions that took place during the webinar, present the feedback received from participants and provide a list of actions for the next stages of the Interoperability Academy in order to better meet expectations and needs of the users.
- For the facilitation of the questions, we used the MS Teams chat and live discussion.
- The summary contains the description of the webinar, materials developed for this purpose, as well as the summary of discussions. The summary is organised per question/topic discussed, including the main conclusions of each section.
- Further information, including materials used to support the webinar, are available in the [Interoperability Academy solution on Joinup](#).

2) Summary of Discussions (Per Question)

2.1 EU ACADEMY AND INTEROPERABILITY ACADEMY

This section contained: a presentation on the release of the IOP Academy, the announcement that the IOP Academy will be hosted in the EU Academy eLearning platform, and the vision of the EU Academy. It involved two questions aiming to collect participants' expectations on the IOP Academy partnership with EU Academy but also on essential features for the platform. The questions described below can be found in slide 25 of the Webinar presentation.

2.1.1 In your view, what is the highest potential that IOP Academy can reach in partnership with the EU Academy? What would you consider important to have in the IOP Academy (i.e. multilingualism, search menu for topics easily, find similar course, link my course with badges)?

In terms of the synergy between IOP Academy and EU Academy, participants wanted to know about:

- **Collaboration.** There were discussions in the webinar as to whether the Academies in the future would be interested in collaborating with educational platforms such as Coursera and EDx. It was explained that collaboration with other platforms will be discussed in the future, after the IOP and EU Academy are released.

In terms of important features to have in the IOP Academy, the suggestions made include:

- **Multilingualism.** Considering that courses would be provided locally at national administrations of each country, there might be a need to deploy courses in the language of each country. Participants mentioned that this could be possible either by:
 - using subtitles;
 - translating the material;
 - using the articulate 360 authoring tool. This is a SAAS collaborative solution.

It was explained that the materials produced under ISA² are free of charge and will be developed as open courses. It should be downloadable and reusable in order for the Academy to be interoperable, meaning to use open standard in order for national administrations to reuse the courses in other platforms, modify/translate the material in any compliant scrum platform.

- **Digital Badges.** These could act as incentive for people to attend and complete the course. However, badges recognisable to the wider market (i.e. people, institutions). Also, another feature would be to facilitate an easy link of the badges to social media (i.e. LinkedIn).
- **Structure of the courses.** The content could be divided in different categories/streams/hierarchies/levels in terms of:
 - relating the content to other disciplines such as computer science, so called anchoring;
 - covering all interoperability topics (i.e. organisational, semantic);
 - the goal of the course. Participants with diverse educational background and occupation should be able to access information on how the course will benefit them (i.e. civil servants, consultants).
- **Content of the courses.** Participants mentioned that the content of the courses should be updated continuously in order to have the most relevant theoretical and practical information available.

Section Conclusions:

- *The IOP Academy on the EU Academy will start off with the Minimum Viable Product (MVP) platform. When developing the requirements for the next releases, the suggestions made could be considered for development.*
- *To explore synergies for enabling multilingualism (i.e. translation of material/subtitles) in the IOP Academy platform. Consider to follow-up with the relevant attendees in each country.*
- *Potentially to seek feedback from webinar attendees, experts in IOP, on how to best link the course aims with the acquired skills and competencies.*
- *Regarding the synergies with Coursera and EDx, the team does not have a clear view as the platform is still in its infancy. Upon release of the IOP and EU Academies, the IOP Academy team will consider potential collaboration with other platforms.*

2.2 COURSE ON EUROPEAN INTEROPERABILITY FRAMEWORK (EIF)

This section was designed to give a snapshot of the first IOP Academy course that is currently under testing, the EIF course. The aim of this section was present the progress that has been made to date with the development of the EIF course and seek feedback from external stakeholders regarding potential future courses that could be added in the IOP Academy. The questions described below can be found in slide 33 of the Webinar presentation.

2.2.1 In your organisations, do you already have courses on interoperability and/or advanced digital skills? In the context of your strategic objectives, what courses would you like to see on the Interoperability Academy?

A number of different organisations shared information regarding the courses they currently offer. These can be seen below:

- National Digital Academy, Ministry of Digital Governance, Greece. The Academy was released on 6th of May 2020 and has incorporated more than 150 lessons on basic and advanced digital skills. The second release is expected to take place mid-June with the implementation of a self-assessment tool for all citizens. More information can be found here: <https://nationaldigitalacademy.gov.gr/>.
- University of Aegean, Greece. Undergraduate and postgraduate courses on Interoperability which are also adapted to be delivered in companies and private organisations.

2.2.3 Would you be interested to explore synergies between our initiatives and exchange expertise (i.e. course co-creation/transformation or testing?).

A number of suggestions have been made in terms of synergies with IOP Academy. A list of them can be found below:

- University of Aegean, Greece: suggested to prepare a lesson for 2021 based on the IOP Academy which can be tested in an Academic environment. Also, there is a Summer School taking place in Samos, Greece, which could be an occasion for testing IOP Academy courses with undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- National Digital Academy, Ministry of Digital Governance, Greece: eager to explore potential ways of collaboration.
- There is a group of academics in Public Administration from around the world who work on how to teach public administration in the digital age: keen to identify a channel of communication.
- Ministry of Administrative Reconstruction, Greece: suggested to help us enhance regional dimensions of IOP courses by offering to test the courses at national level in different regional public administrations and offer feedback. Also, it was suggested to co-create courses with the IOP Academy.

Section Conclusions:

- *To follow-up with interesting stakeholders in order to test the EIF course and receive feedback.*
- *To follow-up with national initiatives in order to identify synergies and work towards potential collaborations.*

3) General Conclusions

The webinar was an opportunity to emphasise digital interdependence and the need for inter-organisational collaboration in the context of the Interoperability Academy. This was achieved not only by presenting progress on the development of the EIF course and on the synergies but also by actively seeking participants' feedback on potential future course development.

- The audience contributed with their experience and expertise by responding to the questions on MS Teams but also by contributing to the live discussion.
- During the course of the webinar, it was made evident that stakeholders' experience and feedback are valuable in the development of the IOP Academy as synergies between national and European organisations is crucial.
- A general comment made was to consider an alternative approach of 'what digital interoperability/interoperable services we would like to have in 10 years'.
- In the framework of the Interoperability Academy action more events will be organised. Information about future events will be shared with all webinar attendees as soon as it is available.
- Stakeholders are encouraged to join the Joinup collection '[Digital Skills in the public sector](#)', in order to read and share the latest updates about similar initiatives across Europe and beyond, as well as more details about our current project. Also, on Joinup there is a feature "My subscriptions" which will allow interested parties to receive notifications when something new happens in a collection. As a collection member, stakeholders are welcome to go to set their preferences in the subscriptions page as follows:
 - Set their notification delivery frequency (daily, weekly, monthly);
 - View a list of the collections they are subscribed to;
 - Select which content types to receive notifications for.