

Introducing DigiLink

Recognition statements as structured data & verifiable credentials

Evelien Willems

TPG-LRC CoRE project: PLA on digital solutions for the recognition agenda - output phase

7 December 2023

Nuffic
meet the world



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Erasmus+ KA3 projects on digitalisation

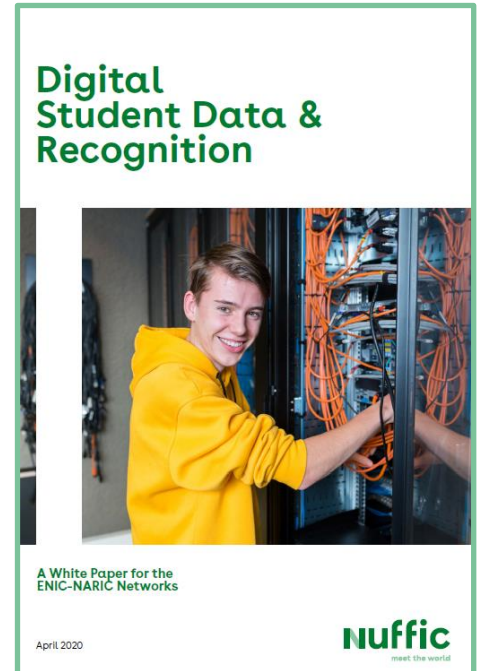
DigiRec (2018 – 2020)

→ relationship between digital learner data and credential evaluation



DigiNet (2020 – 2023)

→ implementation of LRC-compliant digital solutions



DigiLink (2023 – 2025)

→ digital maturity and interoperability of recognition data



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

data integrity &
verification

data ownership &
control

secure & privacy-
proof delivery

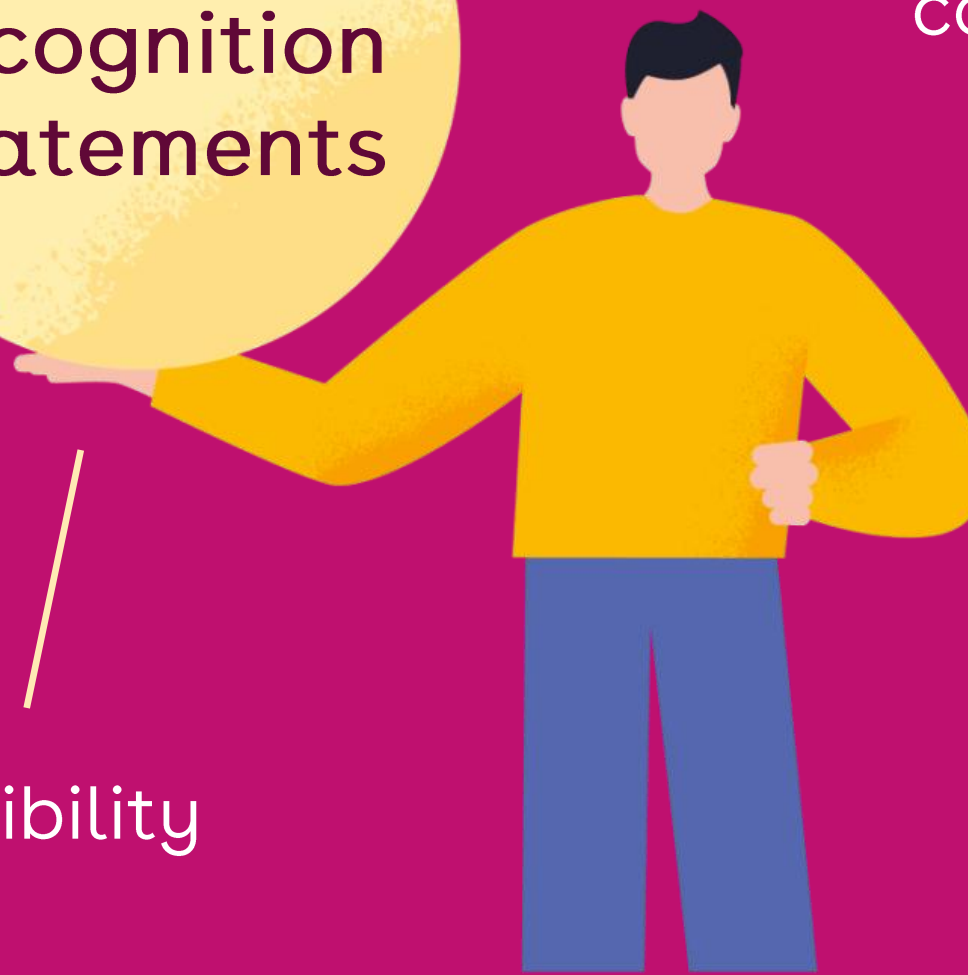
legal
compliance

digitising
recognition
statements

stakeholder
acceptance

interoperability

accessibility



DigiLink - background

Current trends and developments affecting digital recognition statements:

- **Self-sovereign identity:** individuals control their own personal data and credentials
- **EU & national digital identities and wallets:** platforms that enable individuals to access public and private services using their e-identities
- **Linked data:** connecting data using common standards and formats



Co-funded by
the European Union

nuffic

DigiLink - background

Opportunities identified in the DigiNet project:

- enhancing the **data maturity** and **(semantic) interoperability** of recognition statements
- pilot with **European Digital Credentials for Learning**
 - EU infrastructure for verifiable credentials
 - based on European Learning Model v3
 - aligned with familiar EU frameworks and instruments



Co-funded by
the European Union



DigiLink – objectives & activities

- identify the minimum requirements for recognition statements to be issued as standardised European Digital Credentials for Learning (EDC)
 - analysis of common data elements on recognition statements
 - creation of a (flexible) template or datamodel
 - semantic mapping against ELM v3
- develop a practical guide for ENIC-NARICs based on the results (early 2025)



Co-funded by
the European Union

nuffic

DigiLink consortium

Project team

ENIC-NARICs of:

- Estonia
- France
- Germany
- Italy
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Sweden

Steering Group

Experts from:

- ENIC Canada
- EMREX
- Groningen Declaration Network



Co-funded by
the European Union

nuffic

Thank you!

If you have any questions or feedback, please get in touch:

Project webpage:
[DigiLink \(2023 – 2025\) | Nuffic](#)

Evelien Willems
ewillems@nuffic.nl



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.



Co-funded by
the European Union

nuffic

Readings and references:

- DigiNet paper 2023: *Digitalisation of Credential Evaluation Workflows* - [link](#)
- DigiRec White Paper 2020: *Digital Student Data & Recognition* - [link](#)
- Nordic Council of Ministers policy paper 2020: *Digitalisation in recognition* - [link](#)
- UNESCO 2018 (Chakroun/Keavy): *Digital Credentialing – Implications for the recognition of learning across borders* - [link](#)



Co-funded by
the European Union

nuffic