# UNICA EduLAB – IRO Group online Workshop

*with the support of DG EAC, Higher Education Unit*

# Digitalisation of the Erasmus+ programme: strategies and tools

## Tuesday, 14 September 2021 (10:00 – 12:30 CEST)

## CONCEPT NOTE

**Objectives**. The workshop will provide UNICA members with the opportunity to gain insights about the European Student Card initiative in its multifold aspects, to get clarifications on how the European Commission will support HEIs in this transition, and to share experiences and challenges with colleagues from the UNICA network relating to the three topics below, that participants will be invited to select in advance and will be addressed in small groups, with final reporting to the wider audience.

**Topics for the group discussion:**
1. Erasmus Without Paper & online learning agreement;
2. European Student Card & European Student eID;
3. Erasmus+ App & student centered approach to digitalisation.

The **European Student Card initiative is a key step in achieving the objectives of the European Education Area by 2025**, including significantly boosting student mobility, be it physical, virtual or blended, and promoting student participation in educational and cultural activities.

**The initiative has four core components that are closely interlinked**: The Erasmus+ Mobile App, the Erasmus Without Paper Network, the European Student Card and the European Student eID.

The digitalisation process is centred around the **Erasmus Without Paper** Network, a digital "phonebook" for higher education institutions which simplifies the management of student mobility by enabling universities to exchange electronically mobility data in a secure and streamlined manner.

Students get access to the system via redeveloped new **Erasmus+ mobile App**, which is their point of entry to the information and services they need before, during and after mobility, allowing for a much more inclusive and user-friendlier Erasmus+ programme.

In September 2021, new features of the app will be launched: allowing students to sign Online Learning Agreements directly on the app; accessing a **virtual European Student Card**; being able to in the future easily show it in order to obtain access to buildings, resources and discounts in Erasmus+ Programme Countries, just like a local student, and accessing useful information in one place in all EU languages. Universities will provide even more services online while securing efficient digital management of their student databases.

The **European Student eID** ensures the "once only principle" for mobile students when completing administrative steps, including filling in their online learning agreement, or accessing services online and onsite at the host higher education institution. With the Student eID, students will be able to authenticate themselves online using their national electronic identities when accessing services abroad. Currently, higher education institutions across the EU are deploying the European Student Identifier (ESI) that will enable this interoperability of different IT systems.

All HEIs holding an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and wishing to take part in Erasmus+ actions will be required to implement the European Student Card Initiative., At the latest by the start of mobilities in the academic year 2022/2023, HEIs participating in the Erasmus+ programme will need to use the Erasmus Without Paper network to exchange student mobility data, starting with managing online learning agreements and signing inter-institutional agreements. The next **milestone** planned for 2023 is the exchange of student nominations and acceptances and transcripts of records related to student mobility.

Participating institutions will also need to promote the use of the Erasmus+ mobile app to ensure that institutions and Erasmus+ students can benefit from increased efficiency in administrative processes. By 2025, all students in Europe should be able to enjoy the benefits of the European Student Card Initiative.


## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS & REGISTRATION

**Please note that the session "Discussion in small groups" (breakout rooms):**
- is **open to up to 3 representatives of each UNICA member university** and **registration is on a first-come, first-served basis**. In case more than three registrations per university are submitted, the UNICA Secretariat will notify the persons whose participation in the breakout rooms cannot be accepted but who are welcome to attend the plenary sessions;
- **participants from the same institution should ideally be distributed in different breakout rooms.** In case participants from the same university select the same topic, the UNICA Secretariat will contact them to propose a different distribution.


**Registration:** participants are kindly invited to fill out the registration form available at https://www.unica-network.eu/event/esci-workshop not later than **Friday, 10 September 2021, 18:00 PM CEST.**


## INFORMATION & CONTACT

Regular updates will be available at the event webpage: https://www.unica-network.eu/event/esci-workshop

**For any queries, please contact the UNICA Secretariat:**
Laura Brossico (laura.brossico@unica-network.eu) and Viki Csonka (viki.csonka@unica-network.eu).

# PROGRAMME

**Chairs: Minna Koutaniemi** (Head of the International Exchange Services and Education Cooperation, University of Helsinki, Coordinator of the UNICA IRO Group and IRO Observer to the UNICA Steering Committee) and **Romita Iucu,** President of the Board of Trustees, University of Bucharest and Coordinator of the UNICA EduLAB

| | |
|---|---|
| **10:00 – 10:15** | Welcome words by **Luciano Saso**, UNICA President<br>Welcome and introduction to the workshop by **Minna Koutaniemi**, University of Helsinki and **Romita Iucu**, University of Bucharest |
| **10:15 – 10:55** | **Keynote speech: European Student Card Initiative: way forwards**, by **Nadia Manzoni**, Team Leader, DG EAC, Higher Education Unit / Erasmus+ (10')<br>**Erasmus Without Paper and ESC: update and novelties**, by **Alexandra Licht**, Policy Assistant, DG EAC, Higher Education Unit / Erasmus+ (20')<br>**E+ App: update and novelties**, by **Oana Dumitrescu**, Policy Officer, DG EAC, Higher Education Unit / Erasmus+ (10') |
| **10:55 – 11:10** | **Q&A and open discussion** |
| **11:10 – 11:20** | **Comfort break** |
| **11:20 – 11:50** | **Discussion in groups:**<br><br>• Breakout room 1: Erasmus Without Paper;<br>Moderated by: Nadia Manzoni and Romita Iucu<br>• Breakout room 2: European Student Identifier & European Student Card;<br>Moderated by: Alexandra Licht and Vratislav Kozák, Director of International Relations, Charles University<br>• Breakout room 3: Erasmus+ App & student centered approach to digitalisation<br>Moderated by: Oana Dumitrescu and Minna Koutaniemi |
| **11:50 – 12:05** | **Reporting from the groups (5' per group)** |
| **12:05 – 12:25**<br>**12:25 – 12:30** | **Q&A and open discussion**<br>**Wrap-up and goodbye (Minna Koutaniemi, Romita Iucu)** |