

Transform4Europe:
The European University for
Knowledge Entrepreneurs
Erasmus+ European Universities
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TRANSFORM4EUROPE:

THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY FOR

KNOWLEDGE ENTREPRENEURS

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T4EU Digital Strategy 1.0

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Work Package 1
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1. Approval

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2. Executive summary

Transform4Europe (T4EU) is committed to overcoming the significant challenges of technical, organizational, and legal interoperability in the implementation of digital services for mobile students. By addressing these barriers, T4EU aims to unlock the full potential of collaborations among diverse institutions, ensuring a seamless educational experience for students across Europe.

To achieve this vision, T4EU aims to build a cohesive and efficient digital ecosystem that supports the transition to a fully digitalized and interconnected campus environment. The key actions taken by T4EU include:

- The establishment of a Joint Digitalisation Office (JDO) to lead and coordinate the digital transformation efforts across the alliance.
- The development of a comprehensive digitalisation roadmap that aligns with T4EU's strategic objectives, ensuring the integration of digital processes across all operations and functions.

This document presents the strategic directions for T4EU's digital transition, the timeline for implementation, and the expert teams involved in the tasks. This digital strategy will be updated every six months based on the upcoming development of the project and the timeline followed by other actions related to the strategy. These updates will ensure the strategy remains aligned with the project's progress and adapt to any emerging needs or changes, fostering continuous improvement and ensuring its relevance throughout the implementation process.

3. Goals

We have divided the T4EU Alliance's digital strategy into several key Use Cases (UC), inspired by the European Higher Education Interoperability Reference Framework, which covers the core elements of a learner's journey. These UC, along with the corresponding actions to be undertaken, were selected from those proposed in the framework based on their relevance to

the T4EU alliance and their practical feasibility in the next 3 years of the project.

Each UC encompasses a set of specific goals and actions aimed at coordinating the alliance's digital transition and implementing joint digitized processes, considering the significant diversity of academic systems and the varying levels of maturity in digital teaching across institutions.

The overall goals for each of these areas are presented below.

UC1. Learner Discovery of T4EU Learning Opportunities: Improve the visibility and accessibility of T4EU learning opportunities by implementing machine-readable standards and establishing common metadata and key descriptors for the learning offerings.

UC2. Learner Enrolment: Develop a unified application and admission process for T4EU learning opportunities, streamlining the enrolment experience for students.

UC3. Access to Digital Tools: Enhance seamless student access to VLEs and essential services across T4EU institutions, fostering an integrated learning experience.

UC4. Use of Digital Resources Across T4EU Universities: Facilitate the sharing and effective use of educational resources across T4EU institutions and ensure easy access and seamless integration into various learning environments.

UC5. Learner Progress Tracking: Develop a Learning Analytics framework for student engagement and performance defining specific guidelines for aggregating and storing learning records.

UC6. Micro-credentials: Develop a unified framework for issuing, storing, and verifying digital micro-credentials. Additionally, common standards and vocabularies for T4EU micro-credentials will be established, accompanied by actionable recommendations to support adoption.

UC7. Interoperability for User Identities Across Institutions: Enhance seamless identity management across educational transitions and institutions. This involves establishing consistent user identification to support smooth academic journeys, emphasizing infrastructure interoperability.

4. Measures

UC	Measure	Description	Timeline	Body/Staff
1. Discovery of T4EU Learning Opportunities	1.1 Encourage the adoption of standards for Learning Opportunities Interoperability.	(a) Define common metadata and shared vocabularies for describing T4EU courses, and (b) explore the feasibility of implementing a common educational standard for gradual integration with existing systems.	(a) October 2024 – October 2025 (2nd Release of the platform), (b) October 2025 – October 2027	(a) JDO (b) – JDO – Academic Leaders – IT Unit of each institution. – Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5).
	1.2 Provide a Joint Learning Opportunities Catalogue (LOC).	Develop a Joint LOC and implement targeted improvements based on insights gathered from the first release. Leverage specialized technologies to enhance the	October 2024 – October 2025 (2nd Release of the platform)	– Partner company – UniTS IT Unit.

		discoverability of the T4EU course catalogue by search engines.		
2. Learner Enrolment	2.1 Provide a T4EU joint process for application submission and evaluation.	(a) Establish a unified process for submitting and evaluating applications for various learning opportunities (e.g. Bachelor Tracks, Joint Master, Joint PhD, LLL programmes, language courses, etc.). (b) Establish standardized metadata for applications tailored to various learning opportunities, with customized forms for each.	(a) (b) October 2024 – October 2025 (2nd Release of the platform)	(a) – JDO – Partner company – UniTS IT Unit. (b) – JDO – SU (opportunities for PhD students) – UCP (T4EU LLL Catalogue). – VMU (T4EU Staff Training Portfolio) – USAAR (T4EU Catalogue of Language Offers)
	2.2 Elaborate a Security and Data Protection Framework	(a) Develop a security and data protection framework, including a	(a) October 2024 – October 2025 (b) October 2025 –	– JDO – DPO of each institution.

		<p>Data Protection Agreement and (b) establish a joint approach to ensure security compliance, risk management, and incident response.</p>	October 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IT Unit of each institution.
3. Access to Digital Tools	3.1 Extend federated authentication and SSO to other local academic services and explore alternative solutions to improve their accessibility	<p>Explore the possibility to extend federated access with eduGain to other academic services to enhance digital identity security and foster a compliant environment. Explore additional solutions to enhance accessibility to academic services for T4EU users, ensuring inclusivity and ease of access across institutions.</p>	October 2024 - October 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - IT Unit of each institution. - Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5).

	3.2 Adopt the European Student Card at all partner universities and offer it to the T4EU mobility students	Set the release of the European Student Card to ensure their future use to access local campus services and facilities.	October 2024 - October 2027	University of Alicante
	3.3 Enhance tools and systems integration for a comprehensive learning environment	Develop a set of recommendations for integrating educational tools and systems to support virtual, blended, and hybrid mobility experiences, ensuring a seamless and comprehensive learning environment for students.	October 2024 - October 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - T4EU Teaching Academy - IT Unit of each institution. - Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5).
	3.4 Provide a Code of Conduct	Develop and periodically update the T4EU Code of Conduct to ensure universities comply with shared legal requirements for accessing and	October 2024 - October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - UniTS IT and legal Unit (supported by UA's legal department).

		managing both digital and physical tools and services.		
4. Use of Digital Resources Across T4EU Universities	4.1 Encourage data interoperability for T4EU educational resources.	Develop recommendations on data formats (e.g. Scorm, QTI, cmi5) to promote the reuse of digital educational content across various e-learning environments.	October 2024 - October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - partners involved in the creation of digital repositories. - T4EU Teaching Academy
	4.2 Establish a framework for licensing	Establish a unified framework for licensing of educational resources shared within the alliance, ensuring compliance with copyright laws and institutional policies, in accordance with	October 2024 - October 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5). - T4EU Teaching Academy

		UNESCO's 2019 ¹ recommendations.		
5. Learner Progress Tracking	5.1 Conduct an analysis of the methods and systems used to track learner progress across each institution.	Gather detailed information on how each institution's Learning Management System (LMS) generates, stores, and displays granular data on learner activity and progress.	October 2025 – October 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – JDO – Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5). – T4EU Teaching Academy
	5.2 Establish a joint framework for tracking T4EU learners' progress	Define a common approach to collecting learner activity data such as how to monitor progression and dropout rates in online courses effectively.	October 2025 – October 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – JDO – Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5). – T4EU Teaching Academy

¹ <https://www.unesco.org/en/legal-affairs/recommendation-open-educational-resources-oer>

6. Micro-credentials	6.1 Define common approaches and standards in issuing and recognising micro-credentials	<p>Define common approaches and standards underpinning the automatic recognition of micro-credentials based on the EC Recommendations on micro-credentials and formulate corresponding recommendations.</p>	October 2025 - October 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SU - JDO - T4EU Teaching Academy - Digital transformation T-Lab (task 4.5).
7. Interoperability for User Identities Across Institutions	7.1 Define the standard and attributes for User Identities	<p>Establish a common standard for user identity and specify the minimum attributes that the Identity Provider (IDP) must supply to the Service Provider (SP) to grant role-based access to T4EU federated systems.</p>	October 2024 - October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JDO - IT Unit of each institution.



	7.2 Enhance the consistency of students' IDs throughout their careers.	Establish a persistent identifier (European Student Identifier – ESI) for the user to identify the user uniquely and unequivocally.	October 2024 - October 2026	UA
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5. Glossary

DPO: Data Protection Officer

ESI: European Student Identifier

JDO: Joint Digitalisation Office

IDP: Identity Provider

LLL: Lifelong Learning

LMS: Learning Management System

LOC: Learning Opportunities Catalogue

QTI: interoperable assessment content

SIS: Student Information Systems

SP: Service Provider

SSO: Single Sign-On

UC: Use Case

VCT: Virtual Campus Tools