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# Modernising Europass Summer Update

## A new website about the NEW Europass

The new Europass is a set of web-based tools and information to support individuals in managing the different stages of their career and learning. These tools and information will be made available on a new online platform that is being developed by the European Commission.



The main work strands of the new Europass are set out in four pillars:

The <u>new Europass</u> will be a free tool usable by anyone who is interested to use its services. It is a system built with an inherent need for co-operation so the services cannot be monopolised or misused.

It is being developed at European Union level with a goal to be adaptable to all national level systems and mechanisms.

e-Portfolo Information Provision Interoperability Digital-signed credentials

The Europass e-portfolio will enable users to display, document and share their skills, qualifications and experience gathered in the course of every stage of their life.

The format of the e-Portfolio includes three parts of My Europass; Work in Europe and Learn in Europe. It will be a hub that offers the web-based tools that the new Europass will offer its users such as the:

- Europass profile;
- Online editor:
- Skills profiler;
- Skills matchmaker;
- Aspirations manager; and
- Applications tracker.

### Information Provision

A user-oriented approach developing, structuring and connecting content will be provided to meet user information needs. The provision of information using the new Europass platform will ensure that topics listed in Article 3(2) of the EU Decision on Europass are covered.

#### These include:

- learning opportunities
- qualifications and qualifications frameworks or systems;
- opportunities for validation of non-formal and informal learning;
- recognition practices and relevant legislation in different countries, including third
- countries; and
- services offering guidance for transnational learning mobility and career management;

Interoperability is the ability of any system to work with other products or systems without any restrictions or limitations. It is a system that can connect and communicate across platforms where information can be exchanged and reused.

Organisations that maintain CV databases, that operate IT systems where end-users fill in a profile, that process candidate applications or that provide databases of information to be published on Europass, benefit from interoperability with the new Europass offers. Interoperability aims to achieve these goals by providing the means to share and exchange the services while ensuring data protection and a secure process.

With Europass interoperability, users can:

- Share their Europass with other platforms instead of re-filling all their data into online forms:
- Use their Europass to apply online for jobs or further training;
- Find the opportunities that are relevant for them;
- Always control the personal data in their profile, with whom it is shared and how it is used.

A key feature of the new Europass will be the inclusion of digitally signed credentials.

Digitally-signed credentials are electronic records given to a person to certify the learning they have received. Such learning includes formal education, a training, an online course, a volunteering experience and more. They can for example be awarded by a university, a school, an employer or a vocational training institute. Degrees, diplomas and certificates of participation can be provided as digitally-signed credentials. They provide recognition to learning outcomes achieved throughout an individual's life.

Integration of digitally-signed qualifications will be a key feature in the new Europass (<u>Action three of the Digital Education Action plan</u>) and the <u>EU Decision 2018/646</u> takes it further in Article 4(6) by specifying that the "Europass shall support authentication services for any digital documents or representations of information on skills and qualifications".

# Updates on developments and where are we now?

The Europass team is actively progressing on development of content, consulting and meeting with potential stakeholders, and moving ahead in different aspects of development of the new platform. It is envisioned that stakeholders will be involved in the user testing phase.

The New Platform is scheduled for launch and that it will launch in 2 phases – Feb 2020 for Phase 1 and the end of 2020 for Phase 2

Keep up with developments in this area by visiting the <u>new Europass platform</u> for regular updates can also be followed at *Latest News* 

We continue our work as members of the Europass Advisory Group (EAG) and are responsible for the provision of regular feedback on design, content and approaches in development.

If you have specific feedback on any of the above, please contact us at info@europass.ie