

EUROPEAN  
Higher Education Area



# Digital Solutions for the Verification of Authenticity and Quality Assurance

Public Seminar on Automatic Recognition

28 April 2023, Tirana

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Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Policy Framework



## Rome Communiqué:

“We will ensure automatic recognition of academic qualifications and periods of study within the EHEA so that students, staff and graduates are able to move freely to study, teach and do research.”

## EU Council:

By 2025 “automatic mutual recognition for the purpose of further learning without having to go through a separate recognition procedure”

## Key prerequisites



- Qualifications Framework aligned with QF-EHEA/EQF
- Quality assurance aligned with European Standards and Guidelines (ESG)
- Efficient check of authenticity of documents

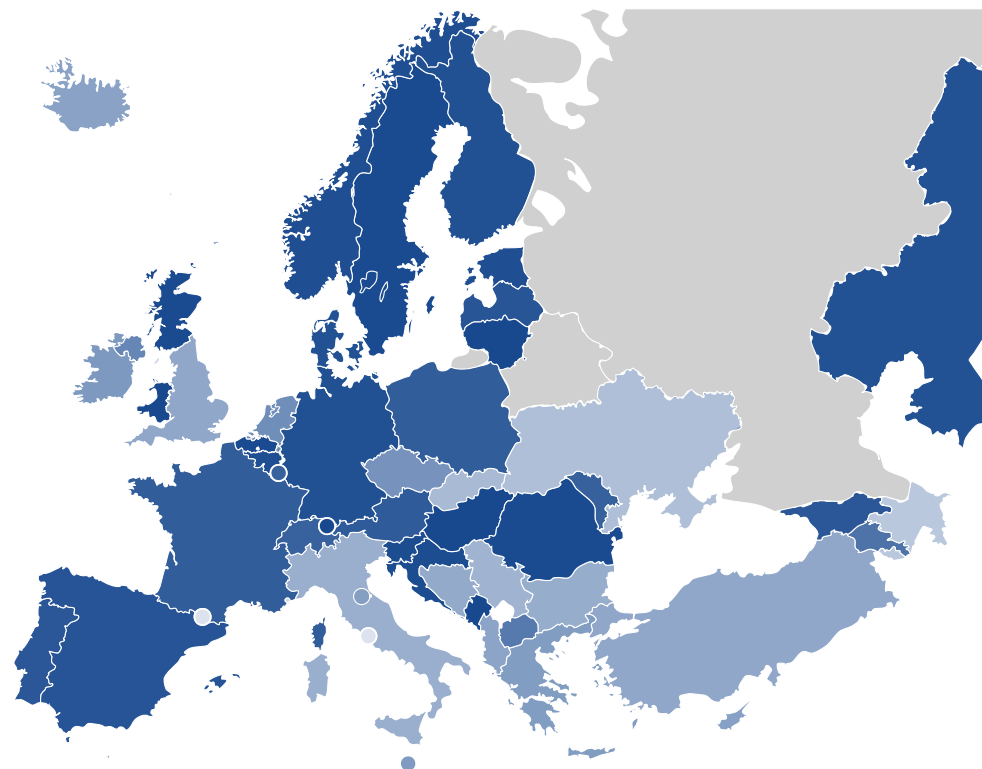
(Rome Communiqué and EU Council Recommendation)

# DEQAR: “quality at your fingertips”



<https://www.deqar.eu/>

- Launched in 2018, now:  
**87 015 reports on 3 564 HEIs**
- Easy access to **accreditation/evaluation reports** by EQAR-registered agencies
- **Uploads by EQAR-registered agencies** using API, CSV or manual
- Fully open data, public API available for integrations



No reports    10%    of HEIs in ETER/national list    100%

# Integration for recognition



- For **ENIC-NARICs** or HE institutions
- Automated lookup of data via API
- Example: CIMEA / Diplo.me
- Further DEQAR CONNECT pilots: France, Romania, Netherlands, Poland

**CERTIFICATION COMPARABILITY** [X]

Reference N. [REDACTED] Date 24-02-2021

Name of the holder [REDACTED] Date of birth [REDACTED]

Name of the qualification: Bachelor in Banking and Finance Awarding year: 2020

Issue country: Albania [v] **Awarding institution** Validate with [deqar](#)  
Awarding institution [REDACTED]

Status of institution [REDACTED] [v] Teaching institution: Teaching institution

Type of qualification [REDACTED] [v] Classification/Level: 1st cycle QF-EHEA / EQF level 6 [v]

Duration: 3 years Workload: 180 ECTS

Deqar ID [REDACTED] Clean deqarID Whed ID [REDACTED]

Access requirements: Access requirements Access to further studies: Access to further studies

**Evaluation details**

[REDACTED]

[Preview Certificate PDF](#)

**CANCEL CONFIRM Save draft**

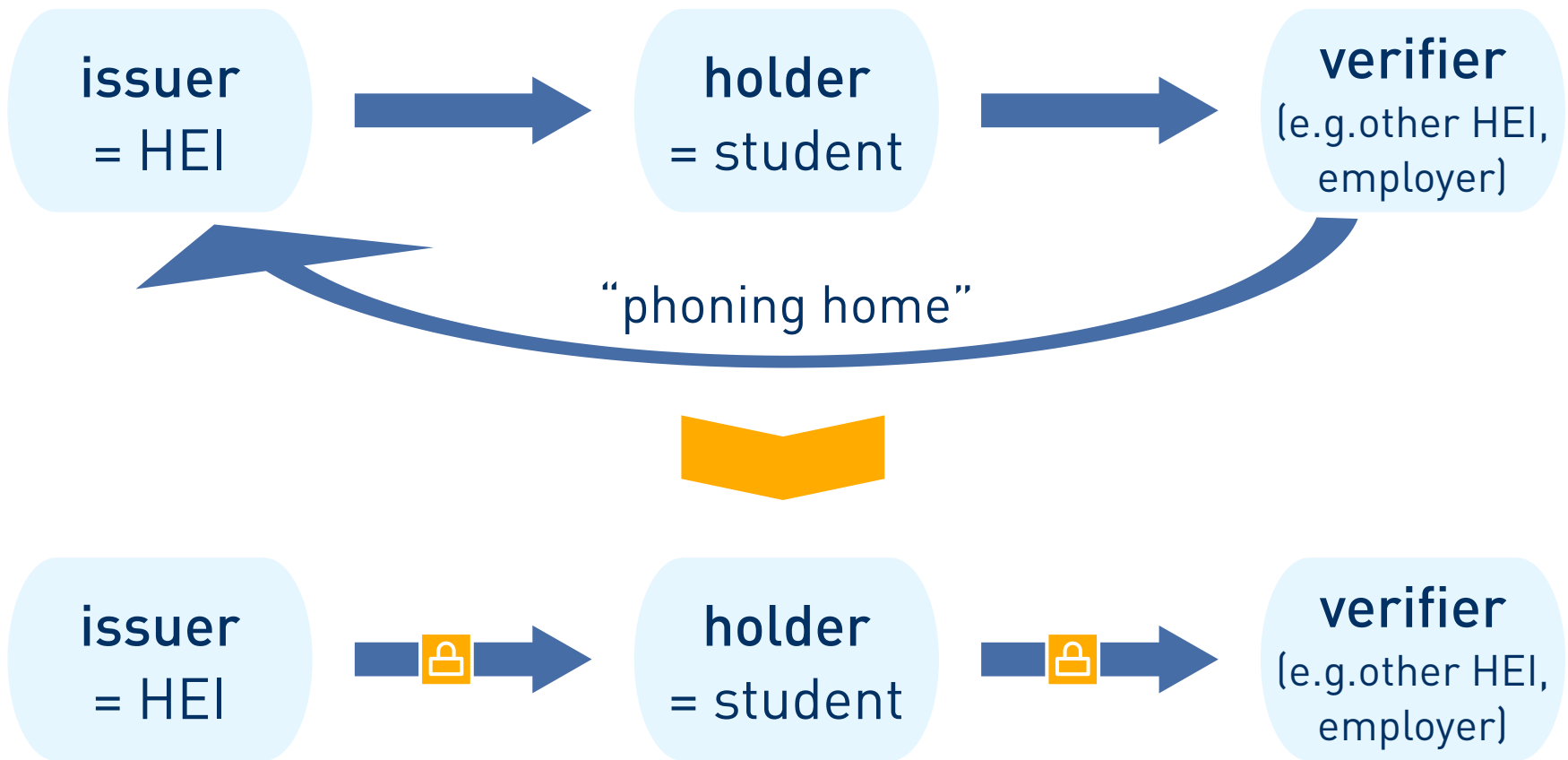
# European Digital Credentials (EDC) & European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI)



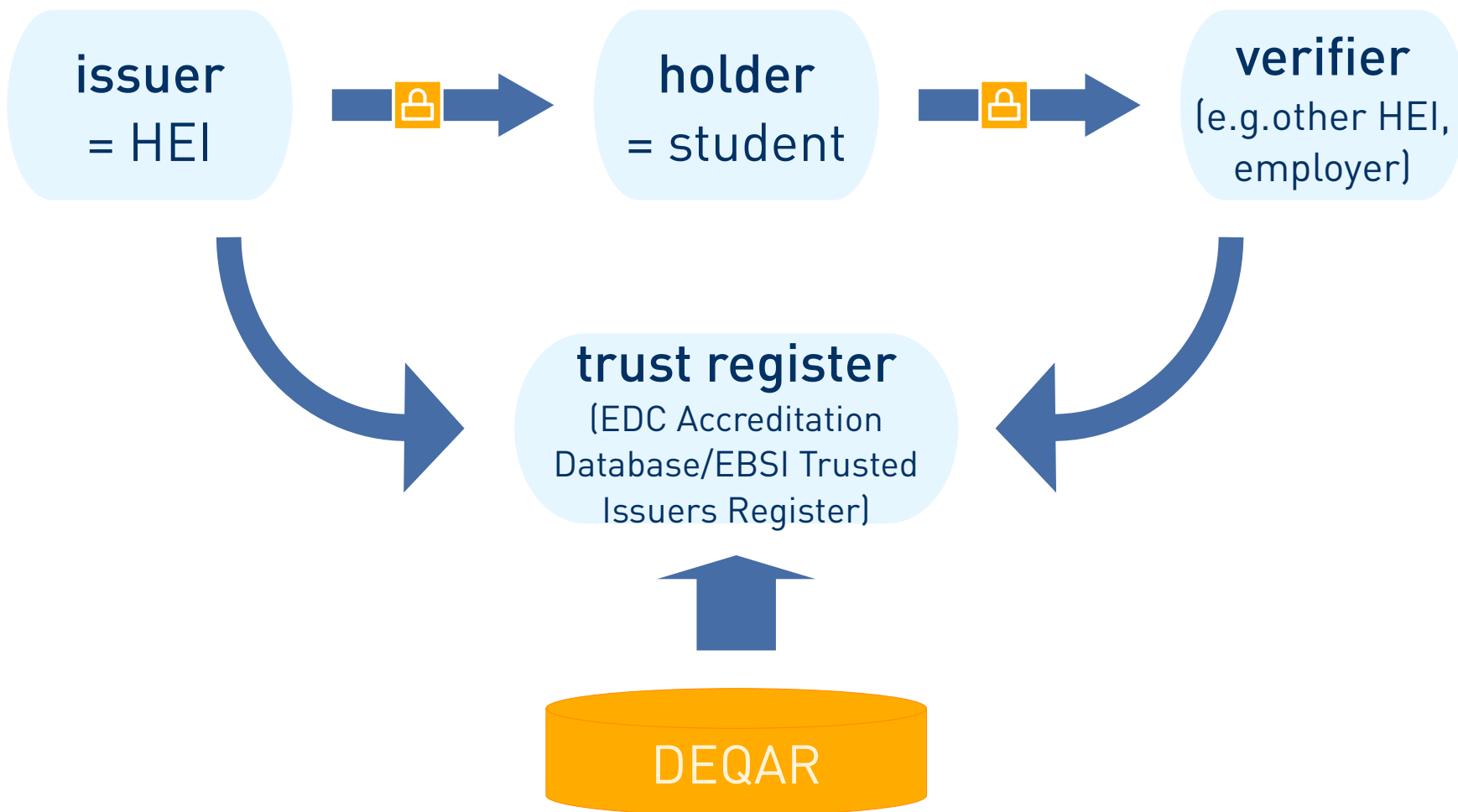
- EU initiatives for digital (education) credentials
  - EDC: specific to education & skills
  - EBSI: wider scope, all types of credentials
- Data model for both:  
European Learning Model (ELM)
- Self-sovereign: personal data  
controlled by user, no central  
database or registry
- Authenticity ensured and  
tamper-proof through  
cryptographic signatures

A screenshot of a digital credential interface. The title is "Graduate University Study of Civil Engineering". Below the title, it shows "Valid from: 20/09/2019 00:00 GMT +0200" and "Type: Mandated Issue". There are three buttons: "Credential Preview", "Export", and "Upload another credential". Below this is a list of details for the holder, "Ana Andromeda", including "Sveučilište u Splitu", "Master of Science in Civil Engineering", "Applied mathematics Study visit", "Applied mathematics course", "Recognition for credit", "Civil engineer", and "Postgraduate doctoral study". To the right is a preview of the credential document, which features the "europass" logo and the text "Graduate University Study of Civil Engineering". It states "Sveučilište u Splitu certifies that Ana Andromeda has achieved an overall Diploma grade of 4 - Very good." and includes the "Date and place of issue: Split, 21/10/2021 11:57 GMT +0200".

# Quality assurance and digital credentials



# Quality assurance and digital credentials





# DEQAR integration with EDC & EBSI



- Make use of existing QA arrangements
- Export all DEQAR data to EDC/EBSI
- Allow easy uptake by HE institutions with ESG-aligned QA

## Example EDC Issuer & Verifier:

The screenshot displays the EDC Issuer & Verifier interface. On the left, the 'Edit organisation' form is visible, with the 'Accreditation' field highlighted in red. The form includes fields for Title (JAMK UAS), Legal Name (JAMK University of Applied Sciences), Legal Identifier (10065502), and VAT Number (FI 10065502). The accreditation URL is <https://data.deqar.eu/report/48198>. A yellow arrow points from the accreditation field to the 'Accreditation' section of the 'Authentication and Verification Check' on the right.

The 'Authentication and Verification Check' section shows the following status:

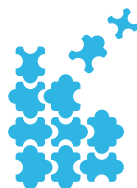
- ✓ **FORMAT**: This credential is technically valid.
- ✓ **SEAL**: [Blurred]
- **REVOCATION**: Verification step skipped
- ✓ **ACCREDITATION**: University of Split is Accredited by the Croatian Agency for Quality Assurance. (This item is circled in red)
- ✓ **VALIDITY**: The credential is still valid.
- 🏆 **VERIFIED**

The central part of the screenshot shows a sample diploma for 'Graduate University Study of Civil Engineering' issued by 'Sveučilište u Splitu' to 'Ana Andromeda'. The diploma text includes: 'Sveučilište u Splitu certifies that Ana Andromeda has achieved an overall diploma grade of 4 - Very good'. The date and place of issue are Split, 21/10/2021 11:57 GMT +0200.

# More on these topics?



- Peer-Learning Activities on Digital Tools in Recognition
  - Input – 19 September 2023
  - Throughput – 19 October 2023
  - Output – 21 November 2023
- Organised online by CIMEA, Nuffic & EQAR within the TPG-LRC CoRE project



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Thank you

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