



CEF Digital  
Connecting Europe

# Working group meeting #4

## Future of eDelivery (REST API profile and Blockchain under ISA<sup>2</sup> action)

16 December 2020  
14.00 – 16.45 CET

# Agenda

Time	Items	Speakers
14.00 - 14.10	Welcome and introduction	Maya Madrid (CEF eDelivery Business Owner, DG CNECT H4)
14.10 - 15.30	Update on REST API profile: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of early work on REST API profile</li><li>• Presentation of pilot architecture</li><li>• Timeline and next steps</li></ul>	Bogdan Dumitriu, Jerry Dimitriou, Vlad Veduta (CEF eDelivery Technical team, DIGIT D3)
15.30 - 15.50	Update on JRC's work on API guidelines for government <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation of deliverable on API management &amp; discoverability</li><li>• Summary of public sector stakeholder engagement activities</li></ul>	
15.50 - 16.00	<i>Break (10 mins)</i>	
16.00 - 16.20	Q&A on REST API profile	Monica Posada, Lorenzino Vaccari (JRC B6)
16.20 - 16.40	Update on integration with CEF EBSI (blockchain): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update on functional specifications</li><li>• Timeline and next steps</li></ul>	Bogdan Dumitriu, Vlad Veduta (CEF eDelivery Technical team, DIGIT D3)

# Future of CEF eDelivery and API guidelines for government

Overview of actions and next steps

2020 ISA<sup>2</sup> Innovative Public Services (IPS) action

Action implementers | DIGIT + JRC (oversight by DG CONNECT)

	Objective	What was done so far?	What we will be doing next?
API guidelines for government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identification of technical, legal and organizational essentials that ensure usability, stability and continuity of API-enabled digital solutions in governments.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Delivery of interim reports</b> describing API discoverability solutions and guidelines to manage API life-cycles in governments</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Delivery of interim reports</b> describing API solutions to manage security and solutions to manage privacy aspects: security (eIDAS) + traceability (GDPR)</li></ul>
REST API profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Definition of a <b>REST-based profile</b> as a candidate profile for future inclusion in CEF eDelivery, in order to support new patterns of data access and data sharing</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collection of <b>use cases</b> from WG members</li><li>• <b>Scoping Document</b> and <b>consultations</b> with WG members</li><li>• Ongoing work to <b>define the profile</b> for eDelivery REST API and <b>PoC</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Completion of the profile</b> for eDelivery REST API and <b>consultations</b> with WG members</li><li>• <b>Completion of the PoC</b> piloting the profile</li></ul>
Integration with CEF EBSI (blockchain)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Piloting the use by CEF eDelivery of <b>blockchain services</b> offered by the CEF EBSI building block</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collection of <b>suggestions for functionalities</b> from WG members</li><li>• Presentation of <b>proposed functionalities</b> and <b>draft version of functional specifications</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Complete the</b> functional specifications for the eDelivery blockchain pilot and <b>consultations</b> with WG members</li><li>• <b>Implementation</b> of features in Domibus (as pilot)</li></ul>

## Update on REST API profile:

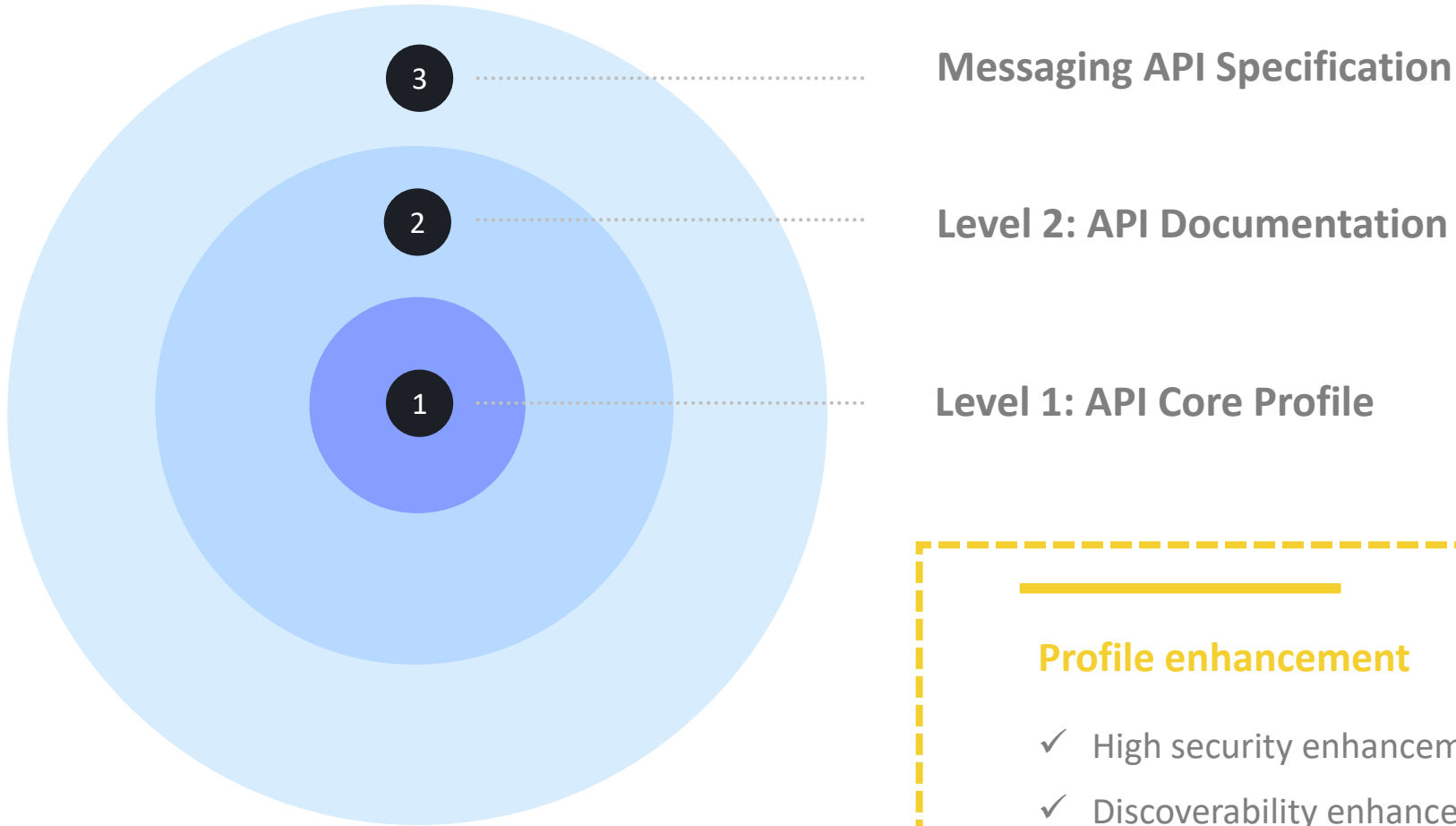
- Presentation of early work on REST API profile
- Presentation of pilot architecture
- Timeline and next steps

Bogdan Dumitriu, Jerry Dimitriou, Vlad Veduta - CEF eDelivery Technical team, DIGIT D3

# Comments/feedback from stakeholders on Scoping document (3)

Author	Key Comments	Reaction (by project team)
<p>Nordic Institute for Interoperability Solutions (NIIS)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideally, the profile should <b>not require adaptation</b> when used in different message/data exchange networks.</li> <li>The profile should define a framework for enabling the use of <b>different security levels</b>.</li> <li>How to carry the <b>client's identity</b>, how to facilitate its verification, how to facilitate the transformation of identities between different schemes.</li> <li>Avoid prescribing a specific format (JSON, XML) for the payload and – in general – remain <b>payload agnostic</b>. Use HTTP headers where possible.</li> <li>Recommendation to analyse 'Signing HTTP Messages' draft for <b>message signing</b>.</li> <li>Recommendation to support <b>all of 2-, 3- and 4-corner models</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most suggestions adopted either as 'will implement' or 'will analyse'.</li> <li>Clarifications in the section 'Identity' for intended authentication scope (end-user, not client).</li> <li>'Signing HTTP Messages' included in the list of standards to analyse.</li> <li>Full support for 4-corner model is not in scope.</li> </ul>
<p>Italian Digital Transformation Department</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certain <b>protocols should not be specified</b> as part of the profile (e.g., IP, TCP).</li> <li>Suggestion to reconsider definition of "<b>light context</b>" as "relation between the overall resources, the size of the workload and business goals".</li> <li>The profile should define a framework for enabling the use of <b>different security levels</b>.</li> <li>Avoid prescribing a specific format (JSON, XML) for the payload and – in general – remain <b>payload agnostic</b>. Use HTTP features where possible.</li> <li>Recommendation to analyse 'Signing HTTP Messages' and 'Signed HTTP Exchanges' drafts for <b>message signing</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removed protocols that should not be part of the REST API profile.</li> <li>"Light context" meant to capture specific scenarios that should be supported, not be limiting.</li> <li>Now stating that REST API profile should be designed to enable the use of different security levels instead of imposing a single, standard one.</li> <li>Now stating that proposed solutions will avoid constraining the payload to the largest extent possible.</li> <li>RFC 7807 included in the list of standards to analyse.</li> <li>Included suggestion to analyse message-signing approaches in addition to TLS.</li> <li>'Signing HTTP Messages' and 'Signed HTTP Exchanges' included in the list of standards to analyse.</li> </ul>
<p>ETSI Electronic Signatures and Infrastructures Technical Committee (ETSI ESI TC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is eDelivery a fully-fledged trust service as eIDAS <b>ERDS</b> or something broader?</li> <li>No coverage of <b>Evidence</b> generated by ERDS providers (ETSI EN 319 522-2)</li> <li>Recommendation to analyse XAdES and JAdES for <b>message signing</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>eDelivery aims for alignment with ERDS, but meant to cover broader scope. Relationship between REST API profile and ERDS to be defined.</li> <li>Unclear if the REST API profile can/should be tightly linked with ERDS: new section on "Use in (Q)ERDS context"</li> <li>Clarifications in the section 'Identity' for intended authentication scope (end-user, not client).</li> <li>ETSI EN 319 522-2, XAdES and JAdES included in the list of standards to analyse.</li> </ul>

## Structure of the profile



### Profile enhancement

- ✓ High security enhancement
- ✓ Discoverability enhancement

### Authentication and Authorization

#### Key aspect

- ✓ Choice on how authorization must be implemented (i.e. using OAuth 2.0)
- ✓ Specifications profiled according to security and interoperability standards/requirements

#### OAuth 2.0 profile

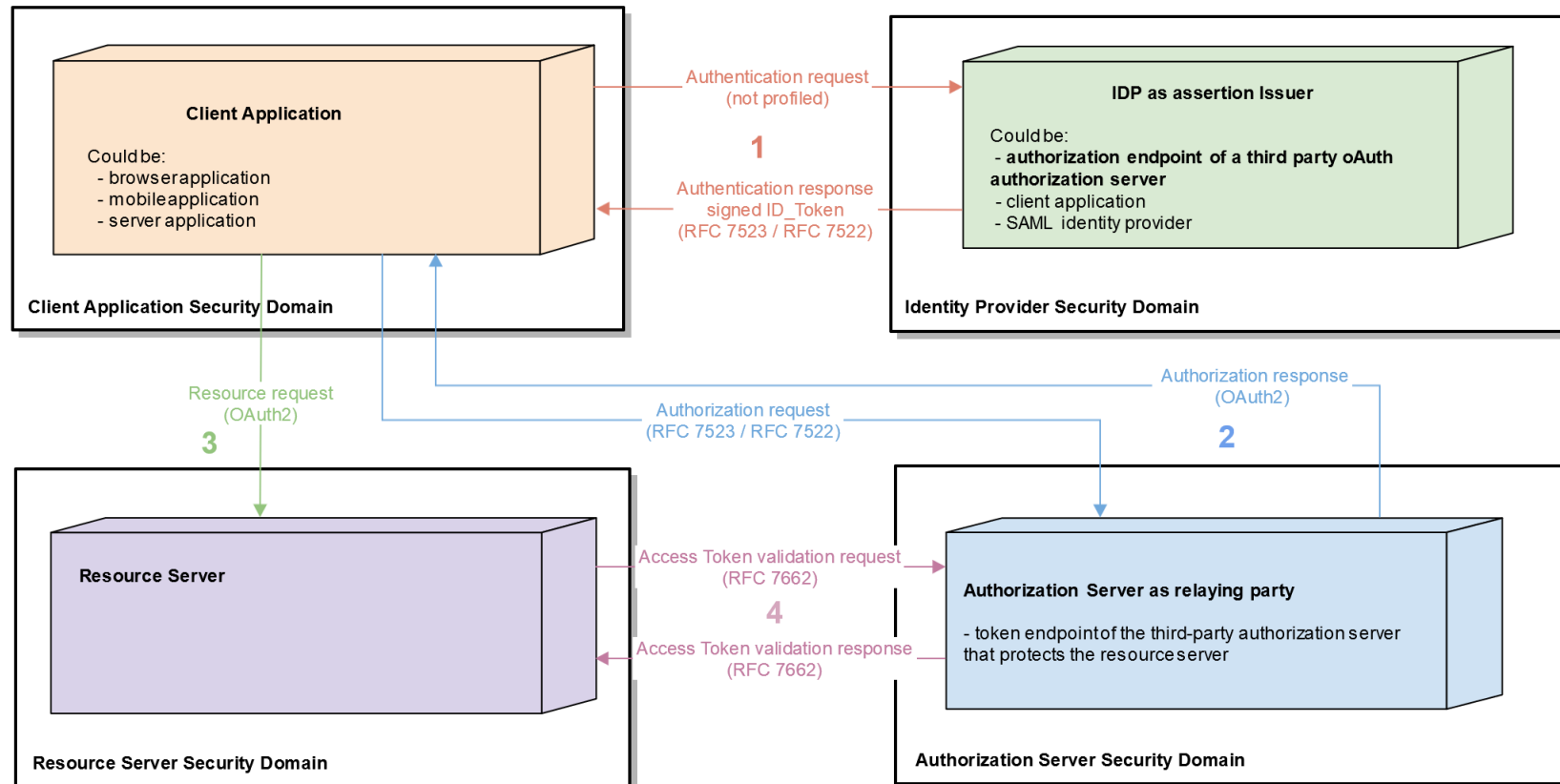
1. Overview of **actors**:
  - The Resource Owner (RO)
  - The Resource Server (RS)
  - The Client
  - The Authorisation Server (AS)
  - The Identity Provider (IdP)
2. OAuth 2.0 for **delegated authorisation** process/model
3. OpenID Connect **for authentication** process/model
4. Profiled the following aspects: **token format** (for enhanced identity assurance) and **authorisation grants** (i.e. flows)
5. **Different topologies** of authorisation and related restrictions

# REST API profile

## Core profile

### Authentication and Authorization – Service Topologies

External Authorization Server with external Identity Provider





## REST API profile

# Core profile

### Security

#### Scope

- ✓ Security as part of communication between the client and the resource server
- ✓ 3 levels of security:



#### 1. Transport



#### 2. Message



#### 3. Payload (algorithms following recent security recommendations)

#### Design goals

- ✓ Confidentiality
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Audit trail
- ✓ Non-repudiation of the server-provided information
- ✓ Support lightweight context (e.g. easy configuration on the client side)

#### Non goals

- ✓ Message/Payload level encryption
- ✓ Client trust model (i.e. PKI)

## REST API profile

# Core profile

### Security analysis

- ✓ TLS 1.2 mandatory / TLS 1.3 recommended
  - TLS 1.3 mandatory in high-security profile enhancement
- ✓ Payload security using ETSI JAdES, based on JWS (IETF standard)
- ✓ No established standard for message integrity
  - Use of ETSI JAdES HttpHeaders Mechanism

Analysed and evaluated:

- Signed HTTP Messages Internet-Draft (IETF draft)
- Signed HTTP Exchanges (Google draft)
- JAdES (ETSI draft, extending the JWS standard)
- JSON Web Signature Profile for Open Banking (led by OBE and ETSI, domain standard)

## Lifecycle management

### Versioning

- ✓ Mandatory use of **semantic versioning** including
  - Definition of backwards compatible/incompatible changes
  - Specific rules for significant changes
  - Wildcard rule to allow escalation of the impact of a change from minor to major
- ✓ Choice of using **URL versioning** instead of MediaType versioning (considered safer)
- ✓ Include only **major version number** in URL

## Lifecycle management

### Deprecation and sunset of APIs

- ✓ Specific HTTP headers (Deprecation Response Header Internet-Draft and Sunset HTTP Response Header)
- ✓ OpenAPI specification property extension for capturing lifecycle events
- ✓ Property extension

OpenAPI:

...

info:

...

x-edel-lifecycle:

maturity: "deprecated"

deprecated\_at: 2020-12-01

sunset\_at: 2021-01-01

### 1. Common Payload Representations

- Promote semantic interoperability with semantics used in common repositories, such as ISA<sup>2</sup> Core Vocabularies and Schema.org
- OpenAPI mandates the use of JSON schemas
- Selected payload representations are provided as JSON-LD format
- Open question on how to move from JSON-LD to JSON

## Common Semantics

### 2. Common Semantics on Verbs and Status Codes

- Profile use of HTTP verbs
  - When to use POST vs When to use PUT
- Profile use of HTTP Status Codes (i.e. constrain via additional specifications)
  - When 204 (No content) should be returned instead of 200 (OK)

### 3. Error Messages

- Mandate of specific structure (Problem+JSON)
- Use of Problem+JSON 'type' property to add additional error codes
- Allows future creation of a registry with additional problem types

```
{  
  "type": "https://rest.edelivery.ec.europa.eu/problems/resourceNotFound"  
  "instance": "d9e35127-e9b1-4201-a211-2b52e52508df",  
  "status": 404,  
  "title": "Citizen not found",  
  "detail": "No citizen with ID number 0206731645",  
}
```

## REST API profile

# Core profile

### Documentation

#### Principles

- ✓ The API following the specification must be documented using the OpenAPI v3 standard, in the form of an OpenAPI Document
- ✓ The OpenAPI Document must be available under:
  - `https://{domain}/{baseURL}/openapi.json`
  - `https://{domain}/{baseURL}/openapi.yaml`
  - `https://{domain}/{baseURL}/v{version.major}/openapi.json`
  - `https://{domain}/{baseURL}/v{version.major}/openapi.yaml`
- ✓ The API Documentation section will provide an OpenAPI document containing a **reference template** (covering all the entities defined as part of Section A) to be used by the implementer
- ✓ The API Documentation section will also define the **possible OpenAPI specification extensions** (e.g. x-edel-lifecycle)

### Discoverability

- Provide the proper mechanisms to become discoverable both in terms of its structure and operations
- To facilitate Discoverability the API MUST Have:
  - A complete OpenAPI v3 document accessible under its base URL
  - The OpenAPI Document MUST contain information on the **servers** property, pointing to all the known deployed instances
  - Use the additional OpenAPI Info Attribute extensions as defined in the Specification that can be used as metadata by repositories (eg. **info.x-edel-publisher**)



## Objectives of the pilot

- Test and validate the draft REST API profile
- Create a **feedback loop** during the development of the profile, ensuring its feasibility and completeness
- Demonstrate an **API specification** conformant to the REST API profiled by the project (the REST API for DSD)
- Demonstrate a client for the **above API** (the Broker)
- Demonstrate an **implementation of the messaging API** provided by the REST API profile by the project (the Broker)
- Demonstrate a client for the **messaging API instantiation** (the JavaScript client)

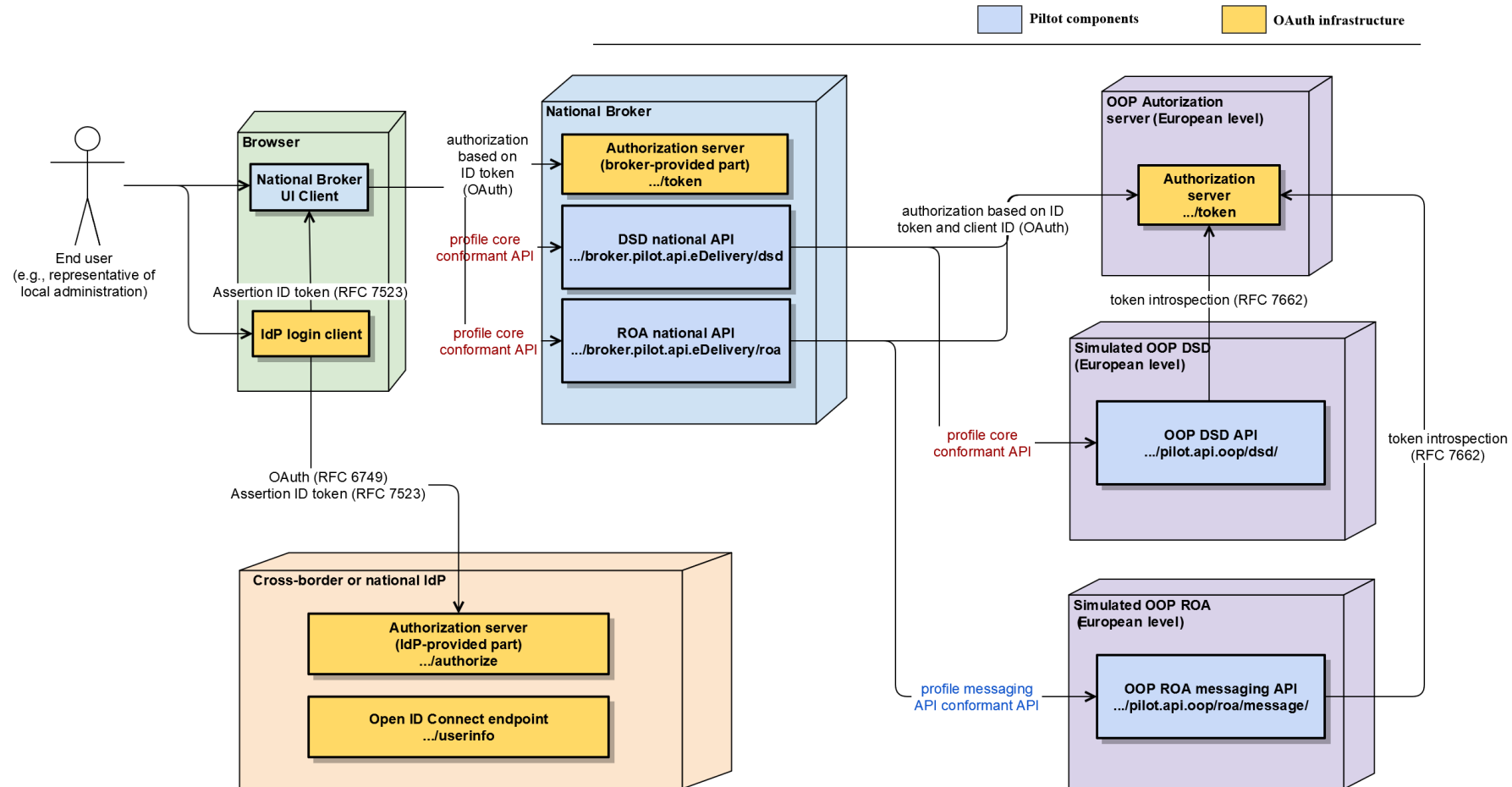
# Pilot architecture overview

## OAuth topologies:

- National Broker - Internal AS with external IdP
- DSD and ROA - External AS with external IdP

## REST API:

- Broker API conformant with the API Core Profile
- ROA API conformant with Messaging API specifications
- DSD API conformant with the API Core Profile



## Functionality of the pilot

**Story 01 – End user authenticated by a central IdP (EU Login) before being authorized to update any of the (simulated) OOP registries**

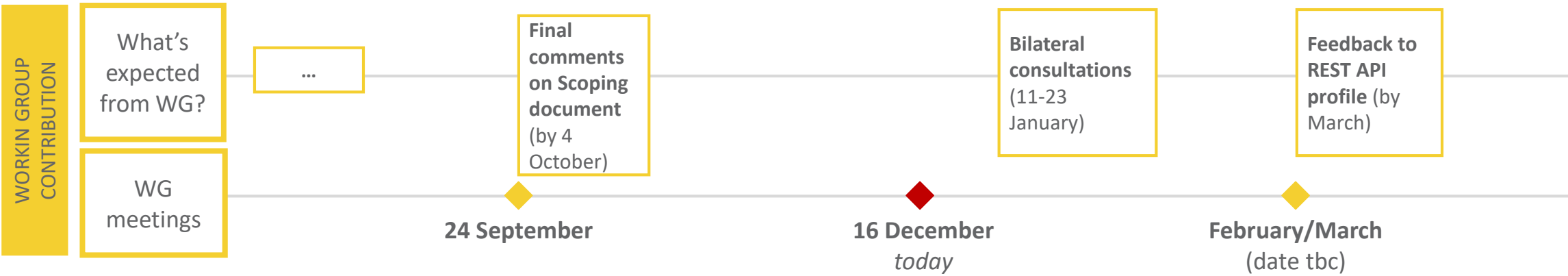
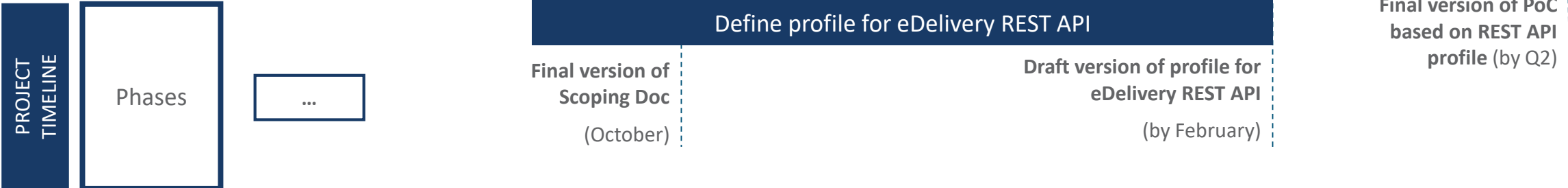
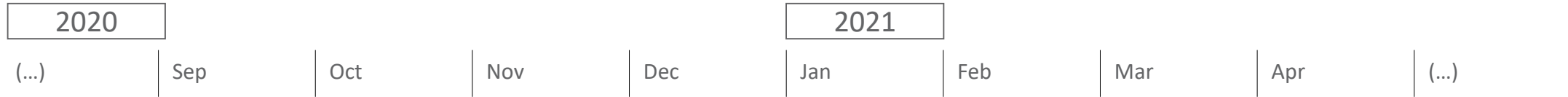
- End user accesses the login page
- End user is redirected to log in when accessing the UI application
- End user is not asked to log in if there is already a valid browser session

**Story 02 – End user uses the UI to update the (simulated) OOP registries**

- End user selects the organization (s)he represents
- End user creates a request to update a record in ROA/DSD
- End user creates a request to create a record in ROA/DSD
- End user sees the status of its requests
- The Broker application forwards the request to the targeted registry

# REST API profile for eDelivery

Indicative timeline and next steps



# Update on JRC's work on API guidelines for government

- Presentation of deliverable on API management & discoverability
- Summary of public sector stakeholder engagement activities

Monica Posada - JRC B6

# Q&A – REST API profile

# Update on Integration with CEF EBSI (blockchain):

- Update on functional specifications
- Timeline and next steps

Bogdan Dumitriu, Vlad Veduta - CEF eDelivery Technical team, DIGIT D3

# Scenarios analysed for the eDelivery – EBSI pilot

- 1.** Timestamp the WS-Security signature of the AS4 message (*EBSI on-chain*)  
Validate the timestamp on the receiving side
- 2.** Collect transaction data from the APs in an eDelivery network (*EBSI off-chain*)  
Query & aggregate transaction data to generate statistics
- 2.** Use the EBSI Distributed Identity Registry as *on-chain (white)list* for authenticating/authorising participants in an eDelivery network



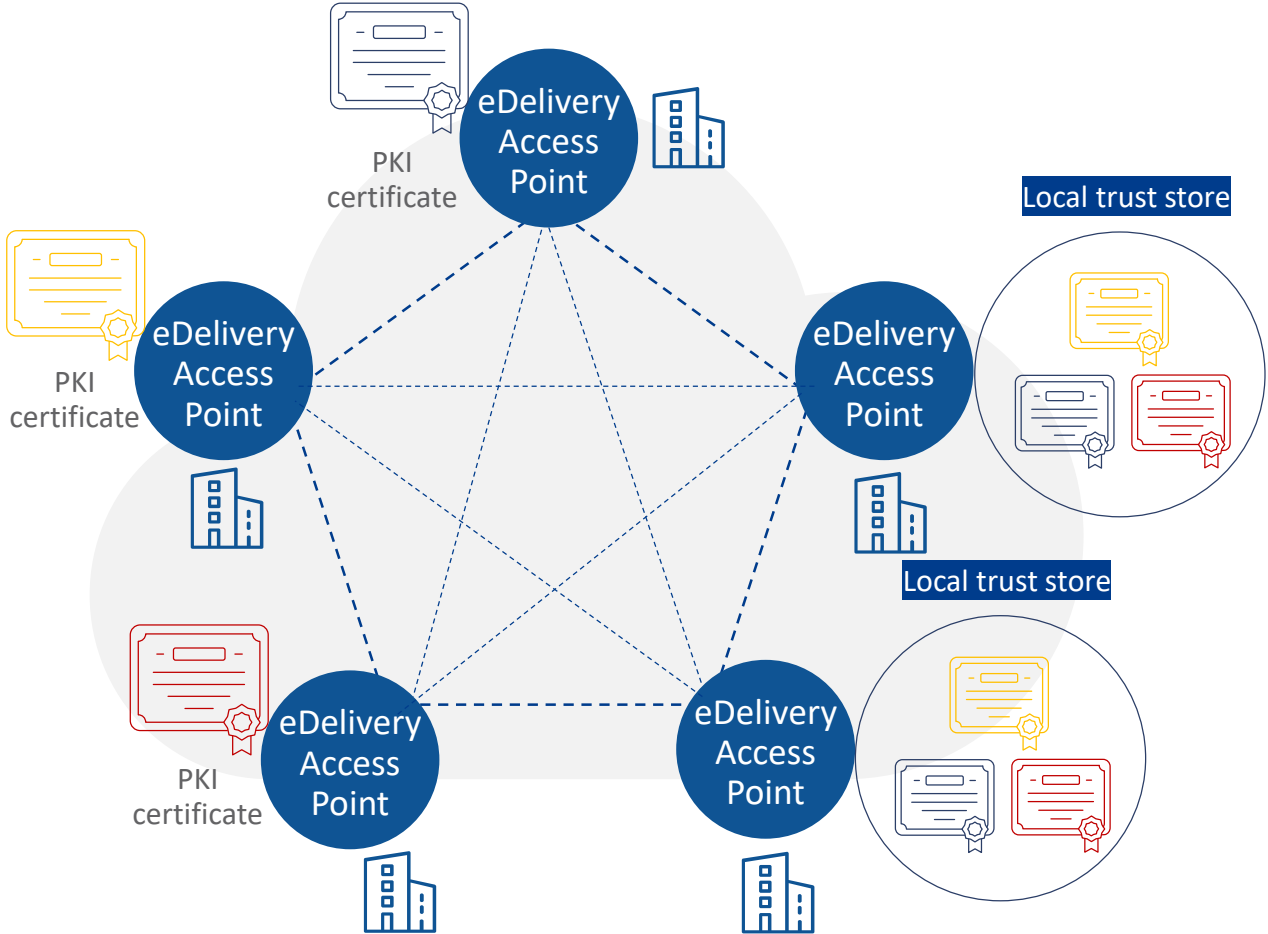
## Scenario 2 (new)

Use the EBSI Distributed Identity Registry as on-chain (white)list for authenticating/authorising participants in an eDelivery network

# eDelivery authentication/authorisation – standard scenario

Authentication of sending parties based on local trust store

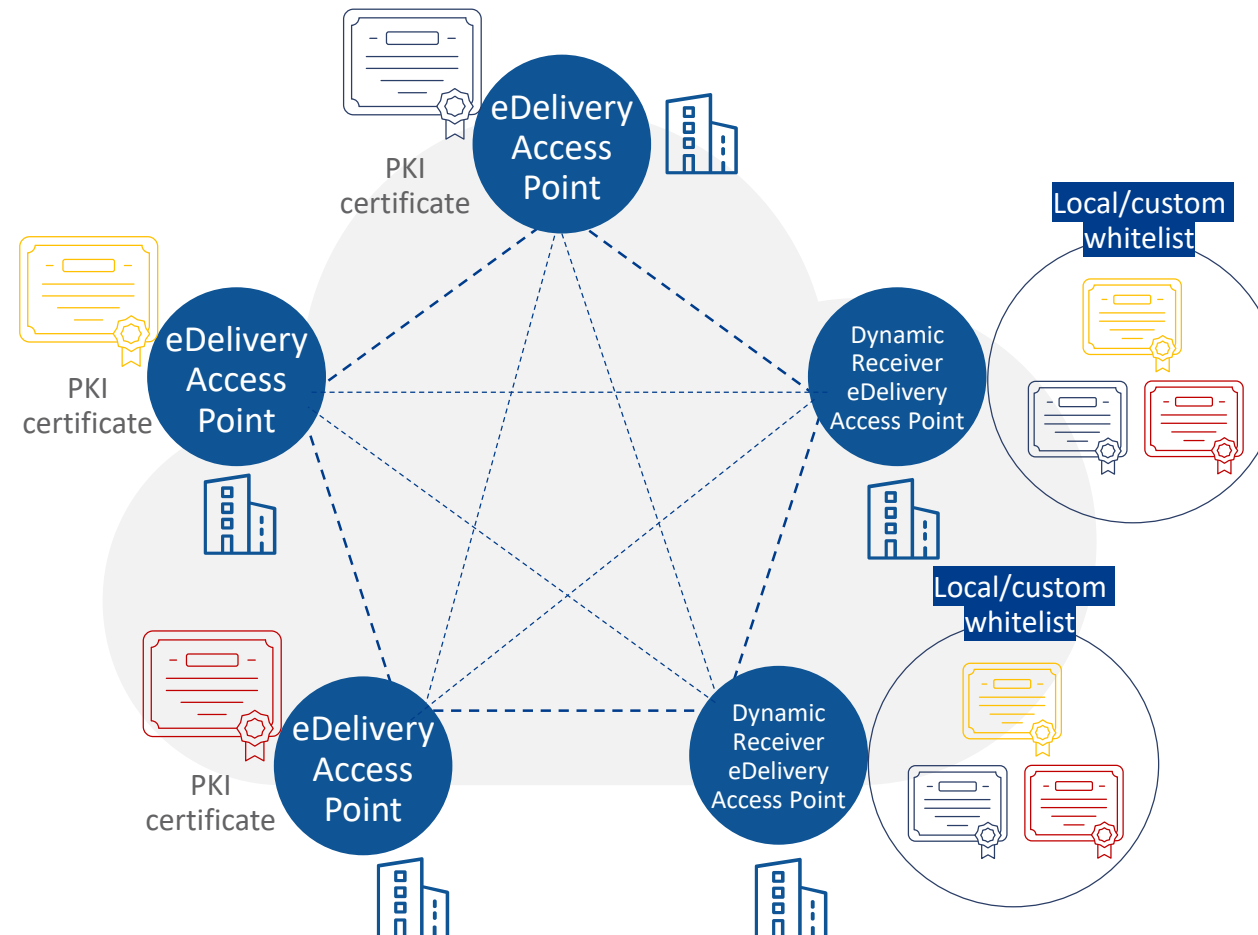
Authorisation of sending parties based on (local) PMode configuration



# eDelivery authentication/authorisation – dynamic receiver

Authentication of sending parties based domain rules (PKI, policies) + match From/PartyId – certificate fields

Authorisation of sending parties may use a whitelist



# EBSI DID Registry as an eDelivery (white)list

The **EBSI DID Registry** is suited to be used as a **(white)list**:

- It can be interrogated via a **public API**
- It is designed to **store and manage lists** of public key hashes
- It is secure since it is **stored on-chain**, and hence it is **immutable**
- It is editable in a **controlled and traceable way**

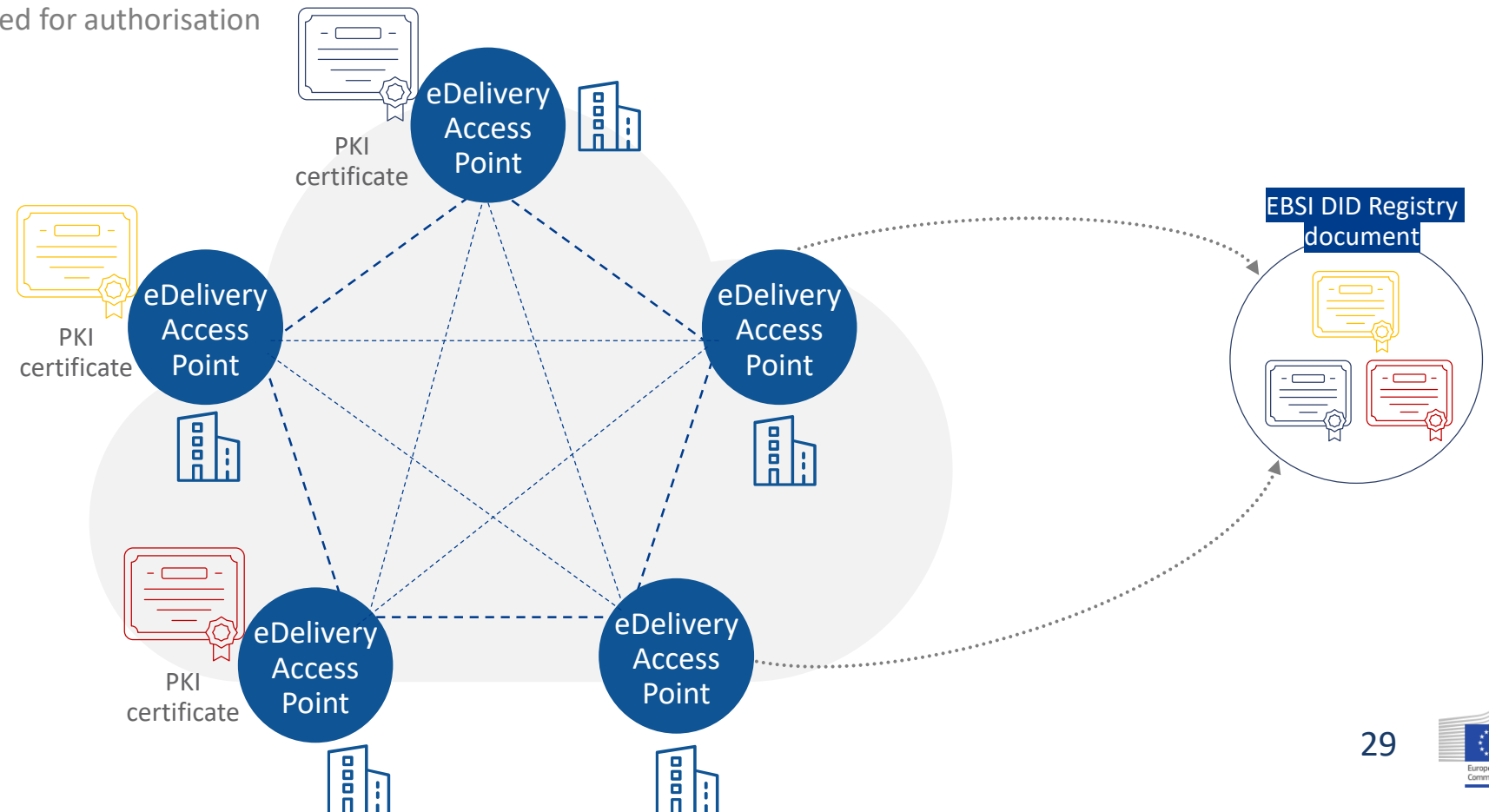
EBSI DID Registry



# EBSI DID Registry as an eDelivery authentication list

EBSI DID registry as a **certificate list** in a standard eDelivery scenario:

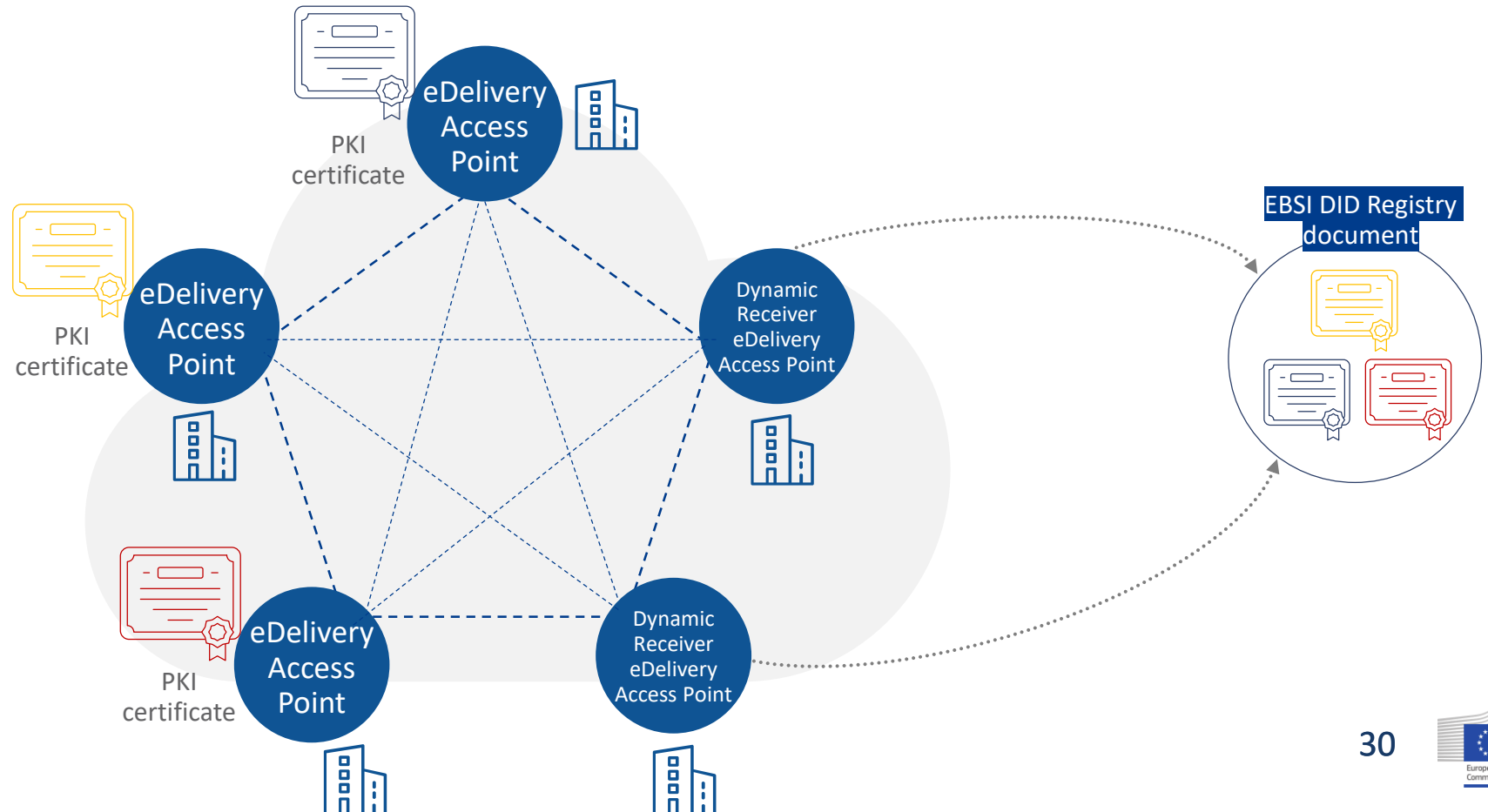
- The registry will store one DID document for **each domain**
- The document will contain the **list of the hashes** of the certificate + From/PartyId of authorised parties
  - Ensuring authentication only
- (Local) PMode configuration used for authorisation



# EBSI DID Registry as an eDelivery whitelist

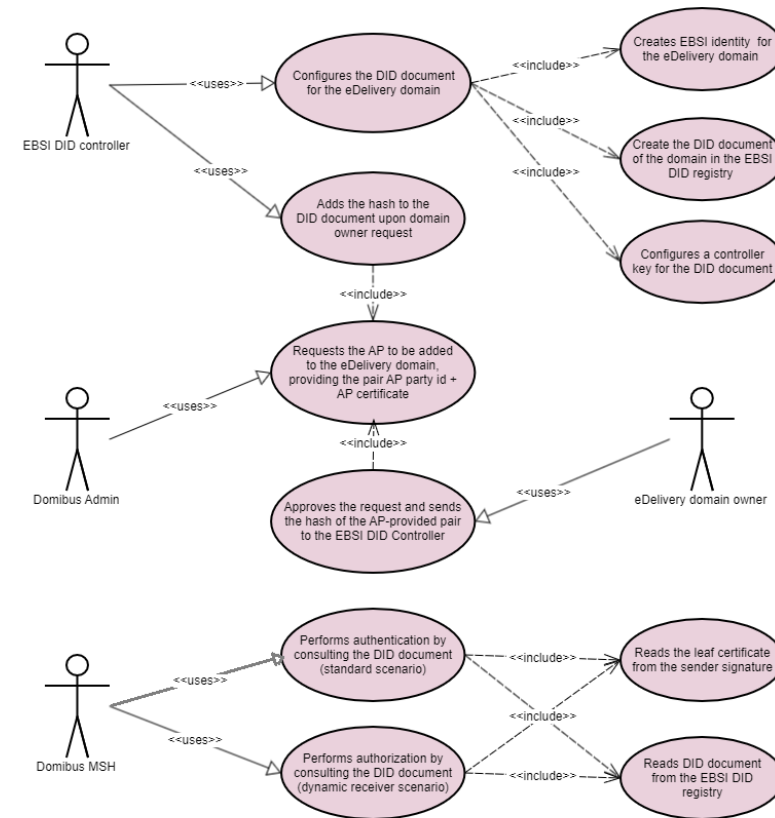
EBSI DID registry as a **whitelist** in a dynamic receiver eDelivery scenario:

- The registry will store one DID document for **each domain**
- The document will contain the **list of the hashes** of the certificate + From/PartyId of authorised parties
  - Ensuring authentication and authorisation



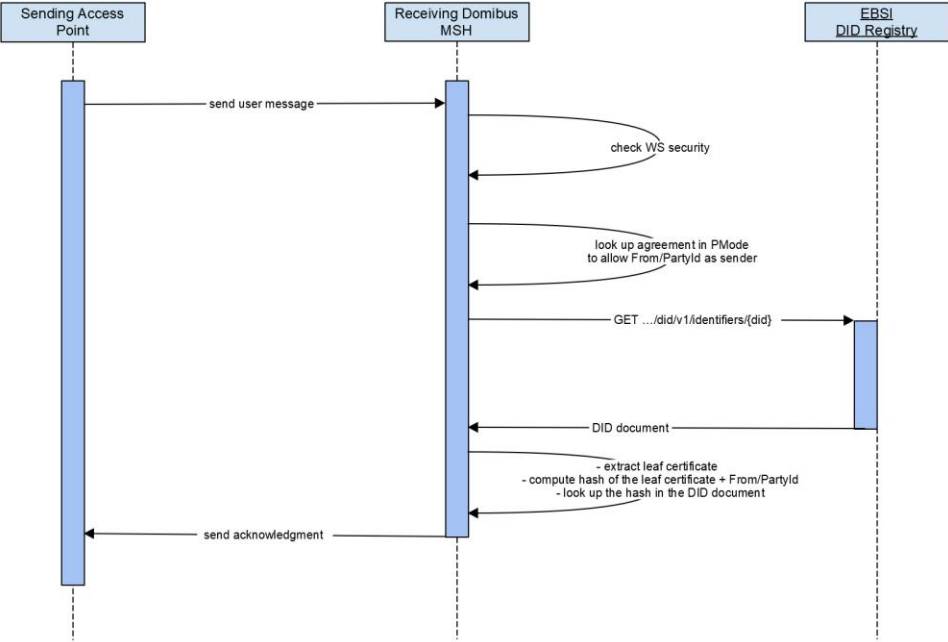
# Story 4: Using the EBSI DID registry for authentication/authorisation

1. EBSI DID Controller **configures** the DID document for the eDelivery domain
2. Domibus Admin **requests** the AP to be added to the eDelivery domain, providing the pair AP party id + AP certificate
3. eDelivery Domain Owner **approves** the request and **sends the hash** of the AP-provided pair to the EBSI DID Controller
4. EBSI DID Controller **adds the hash** to the DID document upon domain owner request
5. MSH **performs authentication** by consulting the DID document (standard scenario)
6. MSH **performs authorization** by consulting the DID document (dynamic receiver scenario).

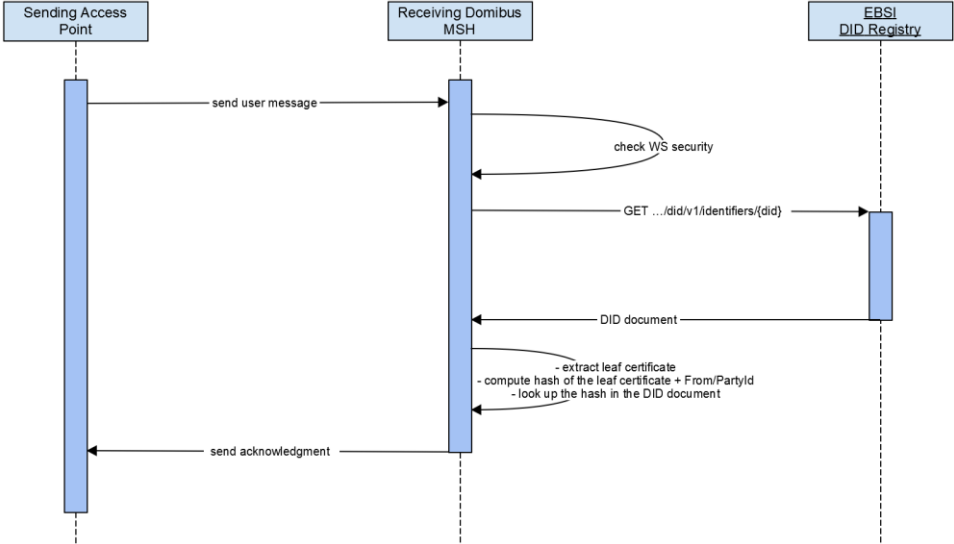


# MSH performs authorisation by consulting the EBSI DID Registry document

## Process for authorisation



Authentication via DID document, authorisation via (local) PMode configuration

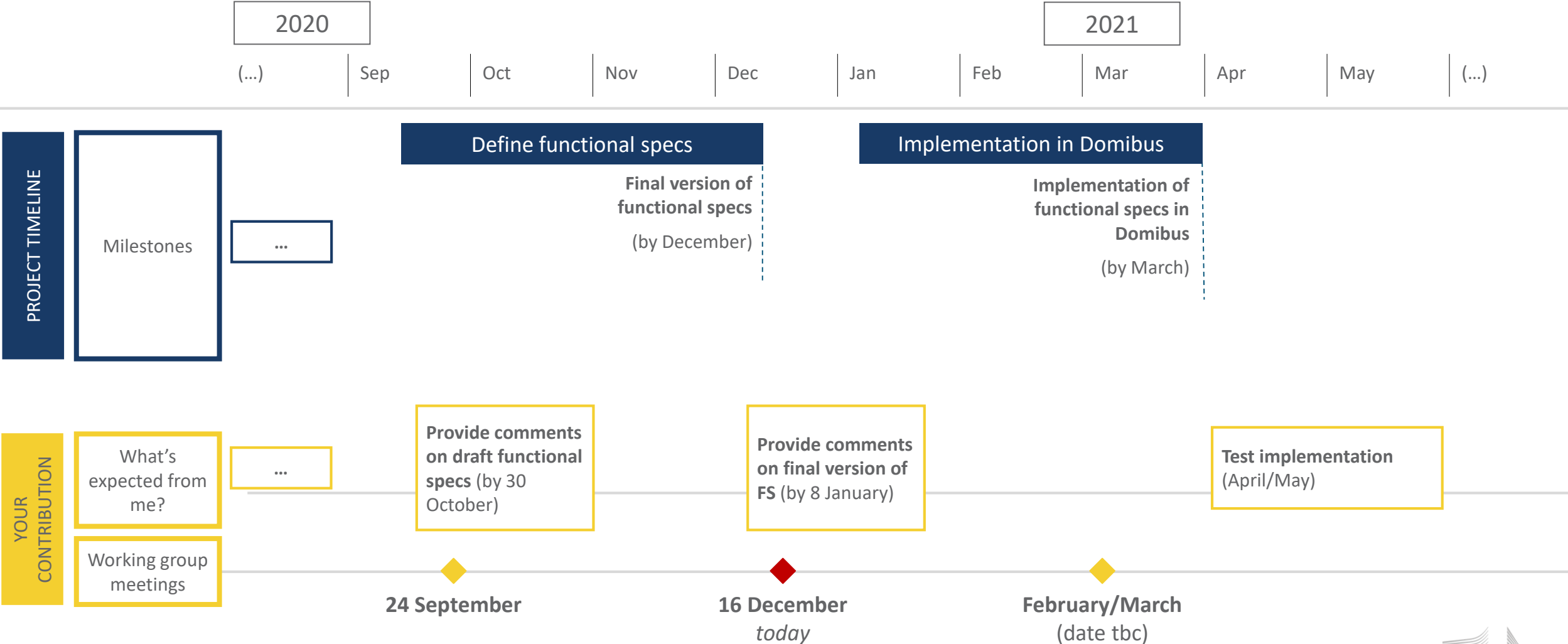


Authentication & authorisation via DID document



# Functional specifications for eDelivery / Blockchain integration

Indicative timeline



# Thank you!

[ec.europa.eu/cefdigital](https://ec.europa.eu/cefdigital)

[CEF-BUILDING-BLOCKS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:CEF-BUILDING-BLOCKS@ec.europa.eu)

