EU activities in eHealth, interoperability and standardisation

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Digital Single Market
Bringing down barriers to unlock online opportunities

Commission priority

President Juncker:

• It's time to make the EU's single market fit for the digital age – tearing down regulatory walls and moving from 28 national markets to a single one. This could contribute €415 billion per year to our economy and create hundreds of thousands of new jobs.

• Watch the announcement by the President
Digital Single Market strategy

• Adopted on 6 of May 2016

• Includes a set of targeted actions to be delivered by the end of next year

• It is built on three pillars:
  
  Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe;

  Creating the right conditions and a level playing field for digital networks and innovative services to flourish;

  Maximising the growth potential of the digital economy

• Covers a wide range of areas

Creating a #DigitalSingleMarket

- e-commerce
- parcel delivery
- geo-blocking
- copyright
- VAT

- telecoms and media
- online platforms
- security and personal data

- data economy
- standards
- skills and e-government

Access
Environment
Economy and Society
Digital Single Market strategy

Telemedicine under boosting competitiveness through interoperability and standardisation

The Commission will launch an integrated standardisation plan to identify and define key priorities for standardisation with a focus on the technologies and domains that are deemed to be critical to the Digital Single Market, including essential sectoral interoperability and standards in areas such as health (telemedicine, m-health), transport (travel planning, e-freight), environment, and energy. The Commission will revise and extend the European Interoperability Framework.
Roadmap for completing the Digital Single Market // Initiatives

I. Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe

2015
- Legislative proposals for simple and effective cross-border contract rules for consumers and businesses
- Competition sector inquiry into e-commerce, relating to the online trade of goods and the online provision of services
- Legislative proposals for a reform of the copyright regime
- A wide-ranging review to prepare legislative proposals to tackle unjustified geo-blocking

2016
- Review of the Regulation on Consumer Protection Cooperation
- Measures in the area of parcel delivery
- Review of the Satellite and Cable Directive
- Legislative proposals to reduce the administrative burden on businesses arising from different VAT regimes

II. Creating the right conditions for digital networks and services to flourish

- Comprehensive analysis of the role of platforms in the market including illegal content on the internet
- Legislative proposals to reform the current telecoms rules
- Review of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive
- Establishment of a Cybersecurity contractual Public-Private Partnership

III. Maximising the growth potential of the Digital Economy

- Adoption of a Priority ICT Standards Plan and extending the European Interoperability Framework for public services
- Initiatives on data ownership, free flow of data (e.g. between cloud providers) and on a European Cloud
- New e-Government Action Plan including an initiative on the ‘Once-Only’ principle and an initiative on mandatory interconnection of business registers
Priority ICT Standardisation Plan

- open ICT standards to promote open platforms, interoperability of devices, applications, systems and services
- identify the most important standards for the digitisation of industry
- present a plan to the Council by the first half of 2016
- align the activities of the ESOs, NSB, Commission, industry, research centres and Member States
- allow the timely development of the right standards
Have your say on standards for the Digital Single Market

- The Commission has launched a public consultation on ICT Standards for the DSM
- With this consultation, the Commission aims to gather views on priorities for ICT standards
- The consultation is open until 4 January 2016

Directive on patients’ rights in cross-border healthcare

(Directive 2011/24/EU)
Headline messages

1. Patients' rights to choose care abroad increased and clarified

2. Increase in information to patients on cross-border rights and on health systems more generally

3. Minimum set of patient rights established for all treatment delivered in the EU
Cross-border healthcare not new – social security Regulations since 1970s

• Necessary care → EHIC:

• Planned care → Prior authorisation

ECJ jurisprudence 1997 – 2006 developed additional rights based on free movement

• Healthcare as a service is under the free movement of services
• Patients can choose healthcare provider abroad
• Level of reimbursement up to cost of treatment at home
• Prior authorisation is acceptable for some treatments

• Initial attempt to codify via Services Directive – separate piece of legislation required

• Contentious negotiations 2008 - 2011
Provisions of Directive 1: Patient entitlements

- Patients have right of reimbursement when they receive healthcare in another EU MS
- Level of reimbursement up to cost of treatment at home
- Quality and safety standards / legislation of MS of treatment applies
Provisions of Directive 2: prior authorisation

Prior authorisation possible for

a) overnight stay; or

b) highly specialised and cost intensive healthcare

Authorisation may be refused if no "undue delay"... ...and that decision must be "properly reasoned"
Better information to patients

Member State A
National Contact Point

Outgoing patients:
• Patients' rights;
• Reimbursements

Questions:
• Reimbursement?
• Quality?
• Service provider?
• Documents?

Member State B
National Contact Point

incoming patients:
• Quality of care / safety standards
• Complaints and redress procedure

• Treatment options
• Quality and safety;
• Right to practice;
• Liability;
• Prices;
• Prescriptions
Provisions of Directive 3
Rules of reimbursement clarified

- Same fees as for domestic patients
- Reimbursement tariffs based on cost of treatment at home from public / contracted provider
- Transparency required on reimbursement entitlements: which treatments and how much?
Provisions of Directive 4

Procedural guarantees

- **Right of appeal** on authorisation and reimbursement decisions
- **Right to transparent complaint procedure and to seek redress** (all treatment must be covered by liability insurance or similar guarantee)
- **Right to privacy**
- **Right of access to/copy of medical records**
- **Non-discrimination**: access and prices
Provisions of Directive 5
Co-operation between health systems

- European Reference Networks
- Health Technology Assessment
- eHealth
- Cross-border healthcare in border regions
- Recognition of prescriptions
eHealth Network

- Article 14 of Directive on patients' rights in cross border care
- Leads cooperation of Member States on eHealth
- Gives direction to eHealth developments
- Adopts guidelines
  - Patient summary data
  - ePrescriptions
Joint Action supporting the eHealth Network

under the 3rd Health Programme
Multiannual work plan
eHealth Network
2015-2018

Interoperability &
standardisation

Exchange of knowledge

Monitoring & assessment of
implementation

Global cooperation &
positioning

Overall Governance Structure

Defined priority areas from the eHN MWP 2015-2018
WP 5 Interoperability and standardisation

- Trusted eHealth National Contact Points
- Electronic Identification for eHealth
- Update & revision of EU eHealth Guidelines
- Alignment of standardisation activities in eHealth
- Semantic Interoperability
- CEF operational support
Thank you!