

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

European Legislation Identifier (ELI)

Semantic Interoperability Community (SEMIC)¹

¹ <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semantic-interoperability-community-semic/about>

1. INTRODUCTION

The present document is a summary of the assessment of the **European Legislation Identifier (ELI)** carried out by CAMSS using the CAMSS EIF assessment scenario. The purpose of this scenario is assessing the compliance of a standard or specification with the European Interoperability Framework (EIF)².

2. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

The European Legislation Identifier (ELI) is a system to make legislation available online in a standardised format, so that it can be accessed, exchanged and reused across borders. This initiative, taken jointly by EU countries and institutions, is enshrined in the Council Conclusions of 6 November 2017 on the European Legislation Identifier.

2.1. Interoperability Principles

Interoperability principles are fundamental behavioural aspects that drive interoperability actions. They are relevant to the process of establishing interoperable European public services. They describe the context in which European public services are designed and implemented.

The specification fully supports the principles setting context for EU actions on interoperability:

- **Subsidiarity and proportionality**

There is no Member State that includes ELI in their national catalogue with the National Interoperability Framework (NIF) aligned with at least 4 out of 5 sections of the European Interoperability Framework (EIF) according to the National Interoperability Framework Observatory (NIFO)³ factsheets.

The specification partially supports the principles setting context for EU actions on interoperability:

- **Openness**

ELI is an open specification publicly available for study or use. Stakeholders have the opportunity to contribute to the development of ELI. It has a significant market acceptance that demonstrates that it is mature enough for the development of products and services, including for the creation of innovative solutions. Also, ELI is licensed on a royalty-free basis.

- **Transparency**

ELI was developed to support the processing of documentary information. Besides, since it helps to classify the knowledge domains and subdomains it is helpful fostering the visibility of administrative data and supporting the decision-making process. Taking the initial purpose of the specification, it can be considered that the specification is involved in fostering the comprehensibility of Public Administrations data as well as relevant data produced for the

² https://ec.europa.eu/isa2/eif_en

³ <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/national-interoperability-framework-observatory-nifo/nifo-factsheets>

decision-making process. ELI does not help the availability of interfaces with this internal information.

- **Reusability**

ELI is a business-specific specification that is focused on the identification and definition of metadata for legal documents at the European Level. Even though it could be extended or modified to fit other business requirements, there are no implementations that evidence this fact. ELI is publicly available for implementation and use for free on ELI's webpage. Therefore, it can be reused by the organisations, administrations, open communities, etc. that developed it.

- **Technological neutrality and data portability**

The specification is independent from any software, hardware, or operating system. So it can be said that ELI is independent of any specific technology or platform. The adoption of ELI as a system to make legislation available online in a standardised format is useful and proportionate to administrations needs but also external users like citizens and businesses.

The specification does not support the principles related to generic user needs and expectations:

- **User-centricity**

The specification is not aimed to foster the implementation of the once-only principle amongst the European Institutions..

- **Inclusion and accessibility**

The purpose of ELI is not related to e-accessibility. Therefore, this criterion is considered not applicable to this specification.

- **Security and privacy**

The purpose of ELI is not related to security and privacy of the data exchange. Therefore, this criterion is not applicable to this specification.

- **Multilingualism**

By making legislation open and accessible in a machine-readable format it fosters the creation and delivery of new public services. Moreover, it established a standardised terminology to ensure that when legal text or information is translated the nature of the document is not harmed nor modified.

The specification partially supports the foundation principles for cooperation among public administrations:

- **Administrative Simplification**

The purpose of ELI is to be a system to make legislation available online in a standardised format, so that it can be accessed, exchanged and reused across borders. By allowing to make the data available to other persons or organisations, ELI Contributes to the development of eGovernment reducing the administrative burden.

- **Preservation of information**

One of the pillars of ELI is the usage of URIs templates patterns that ensure that resources are accessible in a persistent way over time. This fact fosters the long-term preservation of electronic documents ensuring their availability. Moreover, since it provides access to legal documentation in a machine-readable format, also fosters its reuse and evolution towards other formats ensuring the evolution of European Public Services.

- **Assessment of effectiveness and efficiency**

There are several success histories and implementation examples that provide visibility on the effectiveness and efficiency of implementing ELI. It allows the description of legal resources and increases the shareability across borders enhancing the cooperation amongst European Institutions removing barriers.

2.2. Interoperability Layers

The interoperability model which is applicable to all digital public services includes:

- Four layers of interoperability: legal, organisational, semantic and technical;
- A cross-cutting component of the four layers, 'integrated public service governance';
- A background layer, 'interoperability governance'.

The Specification supports the implementation of digital public services complying with the EIF interoperability model:

- **Interoperability governance**

ELI is already associated with EIRA ABBs in the European Library Of Specifications (ELIS). More specifically, OpenPM2 can define the interoperability aspects of the "Legal Authority" ABBs of the EIRA Legal View.

There are no Member States recommending ELI in their ICT National Catalogues. Despite this, the Ministry of Justice in Denmark, the Ministry of State in Luxembourg, the Office of the Attorney General in Ireland, the National Printing Office and Mint/ Imprensa Nacional-Casa da Moeda in Portugal and the State Agency for the Official State Gazette in Spain are hardly recommending ELI.

- **Integrated public service governance & Legal Interoperability**

Since the specification has been developed by European Institutions for its implementation across borders to increase interoperability, it can be considered that is legally compliant.

- **Organisational interoperability**

The purpose of ELI is not related to the modelling of business processes. Moreover, the Council Conclusion where ELI is defined sets out conclusions involving how Member States are called on to implement ELI to properly allow other administrations, business and citizens access the legal documentation.

- **Semantic Interoperability**

The specification does not define a cross-sector reusable data model. ELI is a system to make legislation available online in a standardised format, so that it can be accessed, exchanged and reused across borders. Its use can be extended to external users and improves the searchability of information, but it is not a data model. ELI is used for the EUR-Lex, the site where EU Institutions publish their datasets for their reuse. In there, is also used the classification of ELI in order to improve the shareability, researchability and interoperability when processing the data. It helps to link data under knowledge domains.

- **Technical interoperability**

This technical interoperability layer is covered by the core interoperability principle "Openness".

3. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

This section presents an overview of the results of the CAMSS assessments for **ELI**. The CAMSS “Strength” indicator measures the reliability of the assessment by calculating the number of answered (applicable) criteria. On the other hand, the number of favourable answers and the number of unfavourable ones are used to calculate the “Automated Score” per category and an “Overall Score”.

Category	Automated Score	Assessment Strength	# Favourable	# Unfavourable	# Not Applicable
Principle setting the context for EU actions on interoperability	0%	100%	0	1	0
Core interoperability principles	83%	95%	15	3	1
Principles related to generic user needs and expectations	100%	25%	1	0	3
Foundation principles for cooperation among public administrations	100%	100%	3	0	0
Interoperability layers*	81%	95%	17	4	1
Overall Score	79%	87%	27	7	5

*The technical interoperability layer is covered by the criteria corresponding to the core interoperability principle "Openness".

With a 87% of assessment strength, this assessment can be considered representative of the specification compliance with the EIF principles and recommendations.

The Overall Automated Score of 79% demonstrates that the specification supports the European Interoperability Framework in the domains where it applies.

INTEROPERABILITY PRINCIPLES

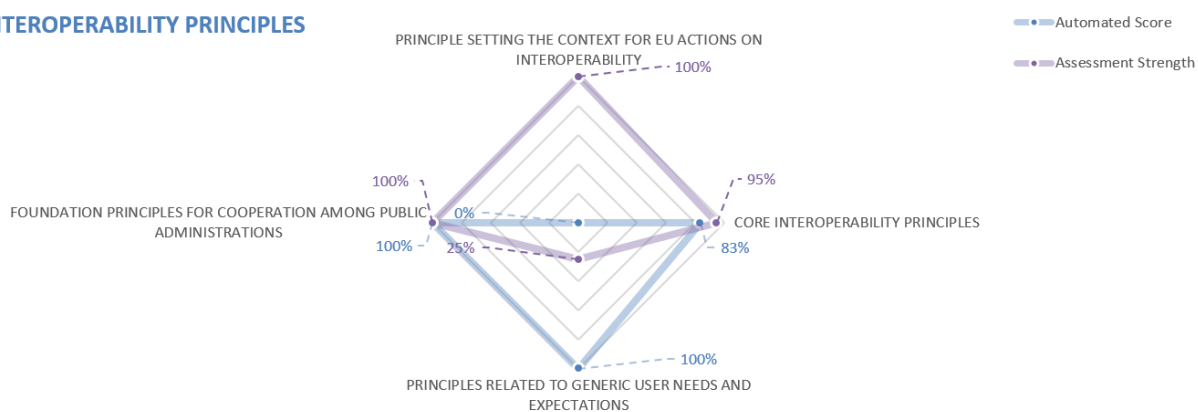


Figure 1 Interoperability principles Results

INTEROPERABILITY LAYERS

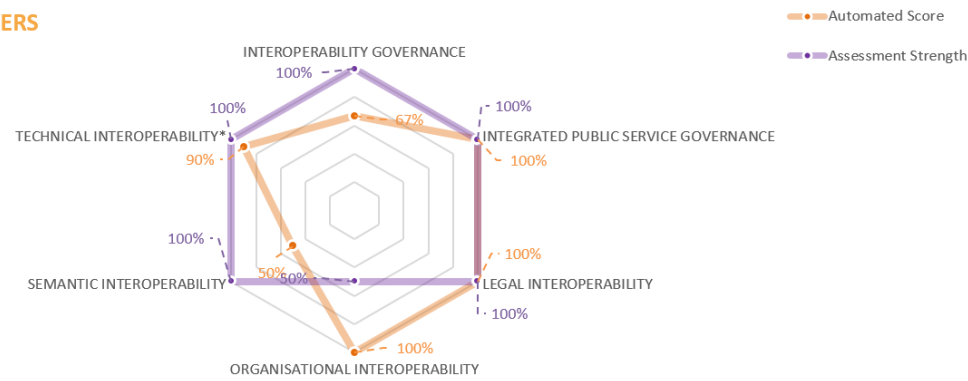


Figure 2 Interoperability layers Results