SEMIC 2023
conference
Madrid 17 Oct
Pre-conference
workshops
EU23
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SEMIC conference

Legislation Editing Open Software – LEOS and its enablers

AI in digital-ready policy design and legal drafting

Martin Gritsch – Head of Unit European Commission / Secretariat-General

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Join us

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Agenda

1. Context
2. LEOS – A flagship initiative
3. Outlook

Context

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01

Drafting is part of the core business of the EC

Some 10.000 legal acts in 2022

02

The 2021 Better Regulation Communication: Joining forces to make better laws

- It is more important than ever to legislate as efficiently as possible
- Work together on high-quality EU policymaking
- Step up efforts to simplify legislation and reduce its burden

03

Uniqueness of law-making in the EU

- Complex process, a profession on its own …
- Multilingualism, multi-stakeholders …

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European Commission digital strategy - Next generation digital Commission

‘Achieving the mission of a public institution in a digital society requires more than an IT strategy to digitise and automate. It requires an improvement in the institution’s digital culture and business operations by optimising its processes, streamlining and automating workflows, and using digital technologies to increase productivity.’

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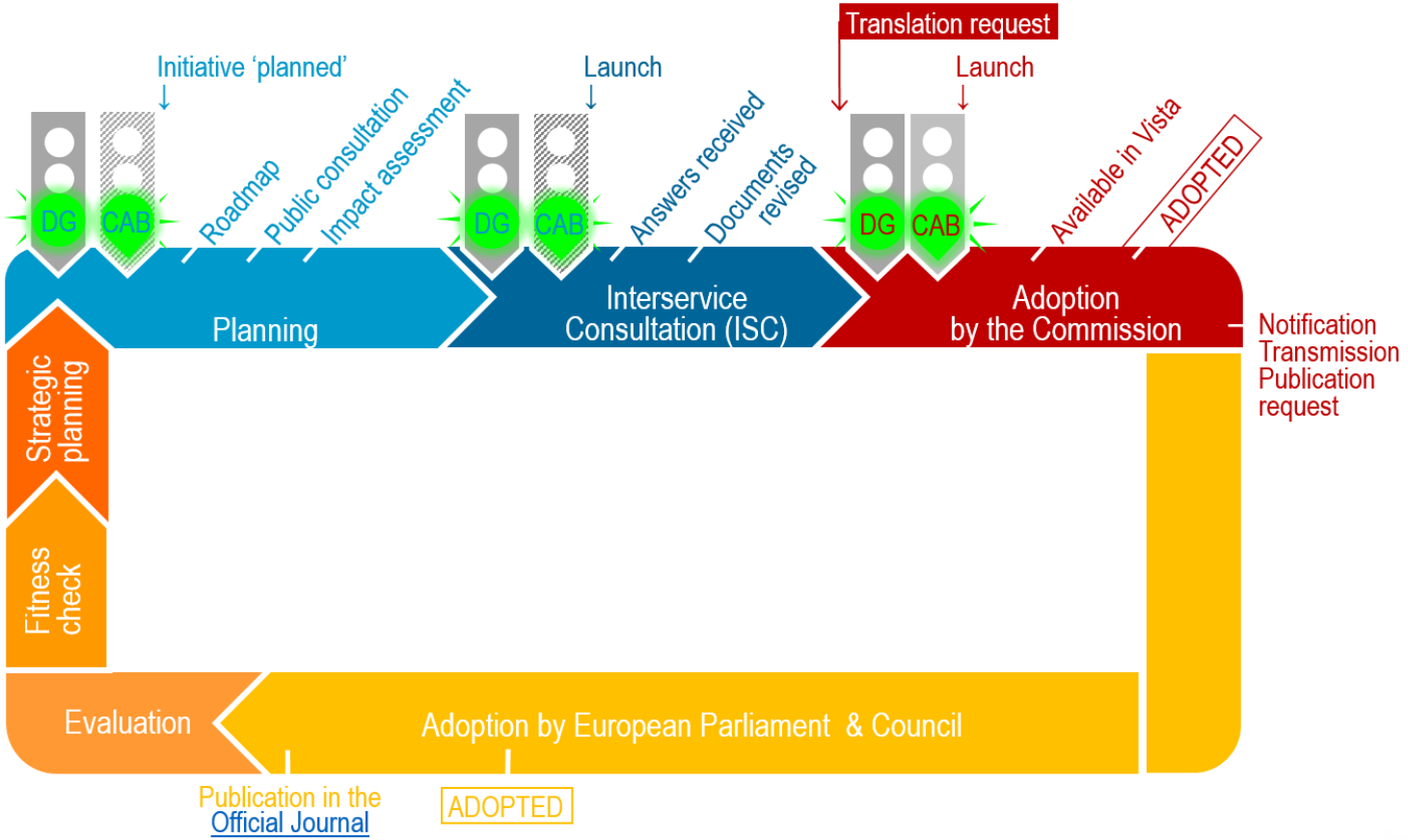
Law-making and policy development @EU



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LEOS - a flagship initiative

A robust tested future-proof flexible and easy to integrate solution for legal drafting

An ongoing open-source development project

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Business case

- The process is complex and involves both digital and paper versions of documents
- Many stakeholders collaborate via various tools
- Wrong application of legislative drafting rules and styles
- Deal with different versions of documents
- Different tools used by institutions with need for conversions
- Limited tools for re-use of texts

LEOS currently offers

01 **Manage the complexity** of drafting legislation and developing policies

02 **Teamwork** through efficient **online collaboration**

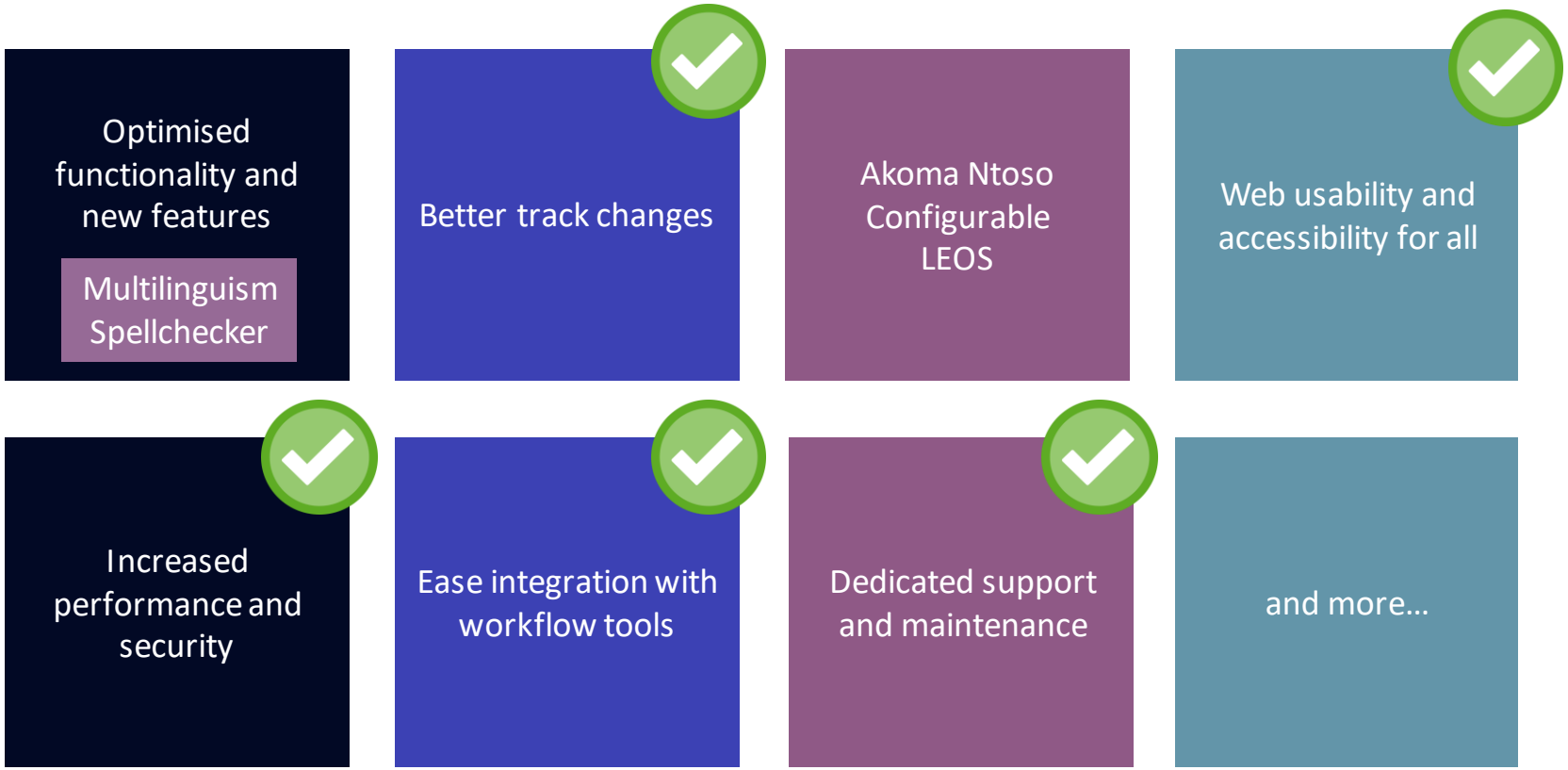
03 A solution to allow drafters to **concentrate on substance**

04 Step towards a **single data space** that contains all information on a given act

05 Provide a seamless **interaction between drafting of legislation and decision-making workflows** and reduce manual interventions in the process

06 **Cover the full lifecycle** of legal drafting

LEOS – ongoing work



LEOS Foundations

Design

- User centric
- Value driven

Development

- Open-source
- Agile

Deployment

- Extensive piloting
- Deployment at scale
- Address cultural change

Open-source Commission strategy

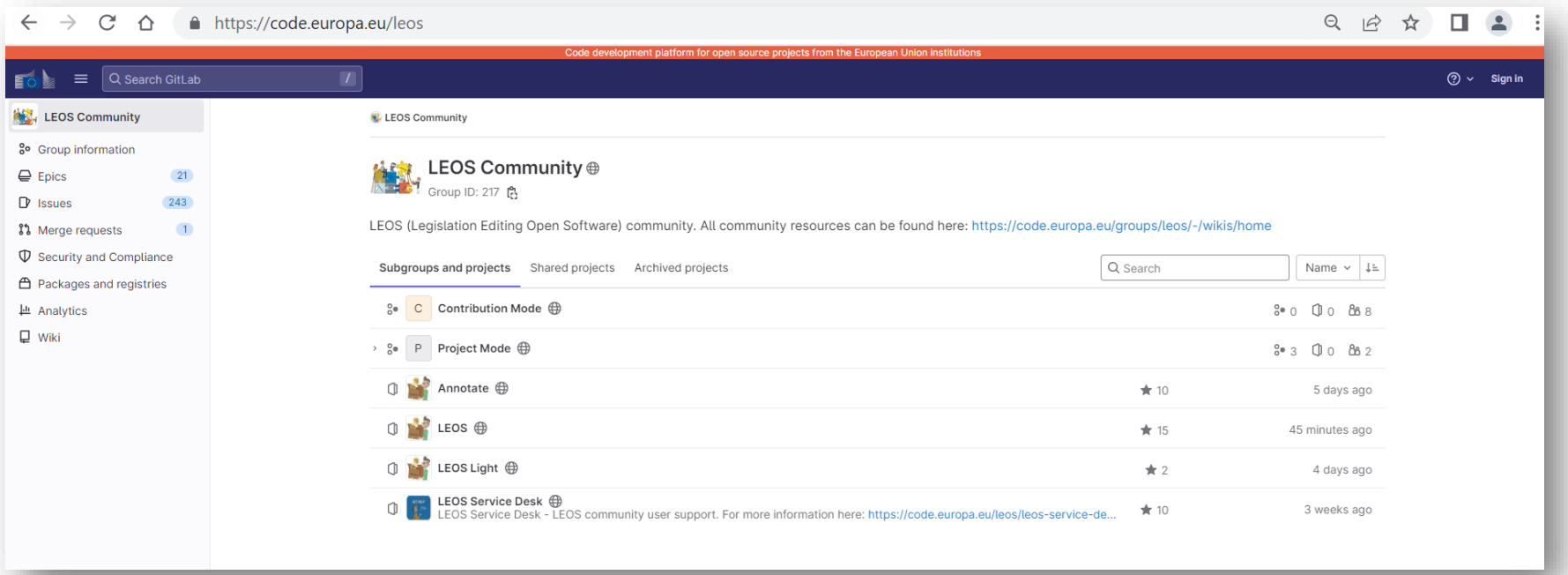
Adopted on 21 October 2020

- 'Wherever possible and appropriate, the Commission would share the source code for any computer programs where it holds the intellectual property rights on behalf of the EU'

Framework for distributing open-source software

- The default open-source license should be the European Union Public License (EUPL)
- The steps to open-source distribution include
  - Software identification process
  - Intellectual Property clearance
  - Vulnerability assessment

LEOS on code.europa.eu



*It is the **code development platform for open-source software projects for which European Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies hold the intellectual property rights**.*

Code.europa.eu was created following Commission Decision of 8 December 2021 on the open-source licensing and reuse of Commission software 2021/C 495 I/01, which you can read here. It is one of the outcomes of the Commission Open-Source Software Strategy C (2020) 7149 final. You can find the strategy and more information about open-source at the Commission here.

Outlook

Digital transformation of law-making

Now

- Drafting & Translation & Publication
- Quality & Interoperability
- Syntax & Standards
- Agile and open-source software development

Being studied

- Semantics & Standards
- Existing technologies: Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning …

To be explored

- Open data space & Standards
- Emerging technologies: Large Language Models …

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LEOS powered by interoperable europe

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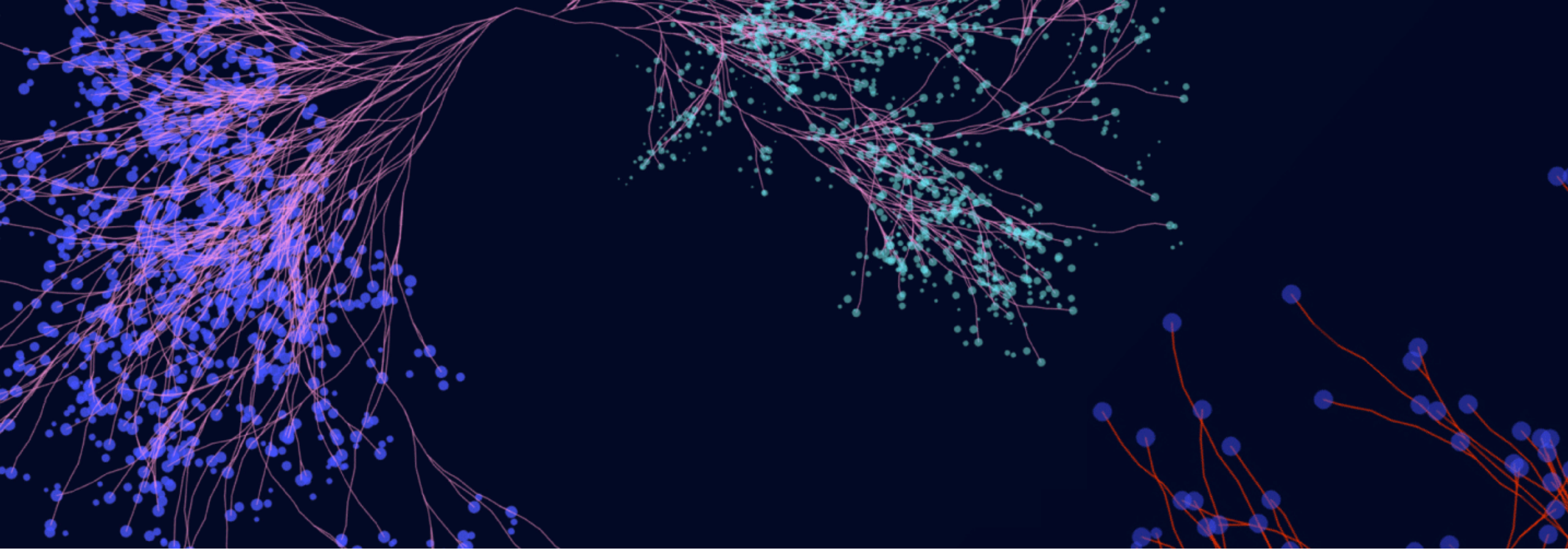

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