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Sent: mercredi 16 juin 2021 18:15

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Subject: Usage of the EU Digital Gateway for public key exchange with third countries

Dear [redacted]

As stated today in the eHN Coordinated Actions Meeting, given that the EU Commission is leading the negotiation with third countries on mutual recognition of DCC, we believe it would be important to use the EU Gateway for the exchange of public keys with these third countries in both directions: the EU/EEA Member States' (MS') public keys are shared with third countries through the EU Gateway & the public keys used by third countries are shared with the EU/EEA MS through the EU Gateway too.

This way:

- we make sure that there is a "single source of truth", secure and validated for both EU/EEA MS and third countries, which is the EU Gateway, thus avoiding many operational risks.
- we can rely on the existing and new procedures of on-boarding for the EU Gateway for all MS.
- we can rely on centralized testing procedures.
- we avoid potential bilateral misunderstandings between third countries and EU/EEA MS.

I believe that this approach should be very clearly stated *before* including any third countries into the DGC Pilot Community meetings. If we don't this, we may end up with some third countries and some EU/EEA MS pushing for bilateral exchanges of public keys, which would make project coordination much harder and would introduce many challenges in production.

Also, I'd like to clarify something: the current approach of the EU Commission with third countries is mutual recognition, i.e. EU/EEA MS need to be able to validate the equivalent of DCCs of third countries and those third countries need to be able to validate EU/EEA MS DCCs. Correct?

Best regards,



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