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Smart Contracts for Privacy-Preserving Identity Management: Ethics, Regulatory and Technical Challenges

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Who we are

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She deals with Privacy, Data Protection and Cybersecurity within the EU R&I projects.

She obtained a Specialist Degree in Commercial and Labour Law from the Interregional Academy of Personnel Management (Kyiv).

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He deals with Software Architecture, Data and Project Management within the EU R&I projects.

He obtained a Master of Degree in Electronic Engineering from the University of Padua (Italy).



Identity Management

- Internet Access as a Human Right
 - United Nations, "The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet," July 2021.
- Defining Identity Management
 - Identities of an individual in the digital world
 - You can't spell Identity without an "I"
- Identity Management Models
 - Centralised
 - Distributed
 - Decentralised
- IMPULSE: Decentralised, Blockchain-based, GDPR-aligned.







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Ethics and Regulatory Framework

- Blockchain-based Identity Management and Regulation Gap
- The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Blockchain Applicability
- Self-Sovereign Identity (SSI) Considerations
 - You fully control your own personal data
- eIDAS 2, European Digital Identity Wallet and Electronic Ledgers: open issues and opportunities in Identity Management
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User-centric design approach

- Building on top of the Ethics and Regulatory Framework
- Adopting a **decentralised model**, where each node of the network shares and replicates copy of data
- Implementing with Blockchain, Smart Contracts and pseudonymisation mechanisms



Smart Contracts and Icons

Smart Contracts manage Consents of the Users to share their own personal data

Pseudonymisation mechanisms (hash functions) ensure legal constraints

Icons simplify privacy policy and empower users to take decisions



Conclusion and Future work

- User-centric models and approaches for Identity Management
 - Self-Sovereign Identity model, suggested in elDAS2 proposal, empowers citizens with full control on their own personal data
 - Blockchain and smart contracts, together with pseudonymisation mechanisms, play a relevant role in managing data exchange among parties respecting privacy and security constraints
 - A new **iconic approach** for privacy policies and consents is evaluated:
 - usual long text with a lot of jargons (hard to be fully understood)
 - replaced with icons, based on Italian Data Protection Authority proposal

Lesson learned: by adopting an "ethics-by-conception" and multidisciplinary approach (where SSH and STEM work together), any technology can be applied and be aligned with ethics and regulatory frameworks

Proposed solution will be adopted, updated and extended in future apps



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Grazie!

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Leave no one behind

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