

About SEMIC

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Semantic Interoperability Community (SEMIC)

Stakeholder(s):

Semantic Interoperability Practitioners

Semantic Interoperability Experts

European Public Administrations :

The Semantic Interoperability Community develops solutions to help European public administrations perform seamless and meaningful cross-border and cross-domain data exchanges.

EU Countries :

The provision of digital cross-border public services requires the exchange of data between public administrations of different EU countries. Semantic interoperability is a fundamental enabler of such exchanges. It is crucial to agree on the use of common semantic standards, promote transparent and

well-documented metadata policies and increase the visibility and reuse of existing semantic interoperability solutions. Since its inception, SEMIC has contributed to the simplification of the environment in which EU countries exchange data for the delivery of electronic public services, addressing the issues and barriers related to semantic interoperability in the EU.

ISA² Programme :

The Semantic Interoperability Community is supported by the Action on Promoting semantic interoperability amongst the European Union Member States of the Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA²) Programme. The SEMIC team facilitates the SEMIC community and coordinates the design and development of technical solutions enabling semantic interoperability.

Mission

To provide a forum enabling semantic interoperability practitioners and experts

Values

Semantic Interoperability: What are the benefits of the Semantic Interoperability Community and its solutions?

Community: A community of practitioners that supports the adoption of semantic interoperability standards through collaborative efforts and the sharing of knowledge and good practices.

Access: Free access to an European repository of reusable semantic interoperability assets, including technical specifications and knowledge on the domain of semantic interoperability.

Sharing: A central point of reference for collecting, organising, storing and making available semantic interoperability assets created by various EU entities.

Practical Support: Practical support and expert advice to the implementation of semantic interoperability solutions through the execution of pilots that implement ISA² specifications.

Expert Advice

1. Semantics

Align and agree on common definitions and specifications at the semantic layer for public administrations in the Member States and the EU institutions.

Stakeholder(s)

Public Administrations

EU Institutions

EU Member States

1.1. Data Specifications

Develop and promote data specifications.

The Semantic Interoperability Community develops and maintains the following semantic solutions:

- e-Government Core Vocabularies
- DCAT Application Profile for Data Portals in Europe (DCAT-AP)
- Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS)

Stakeholder(s):

SEMIC Working Groups :

The community has established Working Groups for the development and maintenance of data specifications, e.g. e-Government Core Vocabularies or DCAT-AP. These Working Groups are open to the participation of everyone interested in semantic solution working for public administrations in the Mem-

ber States or in EU institutions. The Working Groups are consulted during the public review of ISA² specifications. By sharing their comments, they actively contribute to improving the quality and usefulness of the data specifications.

2. Promotion

Promote the use of ISA² specifications, such as e-Government Core Vocabularies, Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS) and DCAT Application Profile for Data Portals in Europe (DCAT-AP) at the European, national and local level and, thereby, increase the visibility of existing data standards.

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3. Data Models

Capture and identify needs for developing new common data models.

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4. Pilots

Explore, deploy and implement semantic specifications by participating in the execution of pilots.

4.1. Connections

Connect semantic interoperability practitioners from public administrations in Member States or EU institutions.

The set up of pilots using ISA² specifications provide a good opportunity for connecting semantic interoperability practitioners from public administrations in Member States or EU institutions. Pilots usually involve participants from more than one Member State co-creating solutions for the implementation of ISA² specifications.

Stakeholder(s):

Semantic Interoperability Practitioners

5. Learning & Best Practices

Share best practices, experiences and lessons learnt in the area of semantic interoperability.

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6. Metadata & Interoperability

Raise awareness on the importance of semantic interoperability and appropriate metadata management policies.

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7. Trends, Views & Insights

Discuss latest technological and policy trends and exchange views and insights at events organised by the community.

7.1. Knowledge Forum

Provide a forum for creating and sharing knowledge.

Knowledge creation and sharing on semantic interoperability topics — The Semantic Interoperability Community provides a forum for creating and sharing knowledge in different formats:

7.1.1. Publications

Develop methodologies and guidelines to guide and facilitate the development and use of data specifications by public administrations.

The SEMIC action with the participation of the community develops methodologies and guidelines to guide and facilitate the development and use of data specifications by public administrations. One example is the Handbook for Core Vocabularies. Moreover, studies are published, too, that cover a variety of topics and can be more or less technical, such as on GDPR or the benefits and use cases for ISA² specifications

7.1.2. Webinars & Workshops

Conduct webinars and workshops on technological trends, expert views, good practices and insights from public administrations in Member States.

Finally, there are webinars and workshops to discuss the latest technological trends, present expert views on semantic interoperability topics or share the experience, good practices and insights from public administrations in Member States. For example, the webinar on artificial intelligence and public administrations explored the potential of artificial intelligence for public services, with a particular focus on a 'semantics' perspective.

7.1.3. Viewpoints

Illustrate the use of SEMIC solutions, reflect on semantic interoperability topics, and engage in dialogue with other practitioners.

Our point of views illustrate the use of SEMIC solutions, share a reflection on a semantic interoperability topic and open the dialogue with other practitioners. In the SEMIC point of views, you can discover, for example, the link between Core Vocabularies and the new GDPR rules or how artificial intelligence can help public administrations make sense out of their data. Partners and members of the SEMIC community are invited to bring their perspective on semantic interoperability topics, such as on linked data (Danish Digitisation Agency) or DCAT-AP and the EU Open Data Portal (Publications Office of the EU).

7.1.4. Conferences

Bring together experts and decision makers with a common interest in semantic interoperability for public administrations.

SEMIC conference — The SEMIC community’s key event is the SEMIC conference organised under the ISA² programme by the European Commission. Since its first edition in 2011, this annual international event brings together around 200 experts and decision makers from European public administrations, EU institutions and agencies and the private sector with a common interest in topics related to semantic interoperability for public administrations. For example, “Linked Digital Public Administrations” was the topic in the spotlight of the SEMIC 2018 conference.

Stakeholder(s):

Experts

Decision Makers

European Public Administrations

EU Institutions

EU Agencies

Private Sector

Administrative Information

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