

Enhancing Researcher Mobility and Transparency: HRS4R Support through Verifiable Credentials

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Keywords

Researcher Mobility, Verifiable Credentials, Transparency, Trust, Inclusion, Security, Interoperability

Main Research Objective

The research cluster titled "Enhancing Researcher Mobility and Transparency: HRS4R Support through Verifiable Credentials" seeks to advance researcher mobility and transparency within the ERUA Research Cluster Initiative, aligned with the principles of the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R). The focus is on exploring how digital technologies, particularly verifiable credentials, can revolutionize the way researchers' qualifications and career progressions are recognized across institutions. This interdisciplinary initiative brings together expertise from fields such as human resource management, information technology, identity management, data security, inclusion and gender equality, as well as education and research policy. The primary objective is to develop an architectural framework for a system that issues verifiable digital credentials, representing researchers' career stages (R1 to R4) as outlined in their contractual agreements with universities. The project aims to address key research questions while leveraging emerging technologies to align with the HRS4R goals, ultimately striving to build a more transparent, inclusive, and equitable research environment.

Main Research Outcome

The proposed framework is designed to empower researchers by enabling the maintenance of a digital portfolio that securely reflects their professional achievements and contractual engagements. By enhancing transparency and facilitating recognition of these credentials, the framework aims to support professional development and career progression. Furthermore, it will promote researcher mobility and collaboration, ensuring fair recognition of experience and qualifications across institutions, while streamlining recruitment processes. These improvements are expected to contribute to a more inclusive and transparent academic and research environment, fostering equitable opportunities and fair compensation practices. By supporting these advancements, the system will contribute to the creation of a more competitive and cohesive European research landscape, ultimately ensuring the sustainability of this collaborative effort within the ERUA and beyond.

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