



## **MINUTES**

### **THIRD JOINT MEETING OF THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE STEERING COMMITTEE AND THE SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS STEERING COMMITTEE**

**3 September 2025**

#### **I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

The Commission welcomed everyone and introduced the Commission members joining this meeting. The Commission presented the agenda, and the Committee adopted the agenda.

#### **II. OVERVIEW OF RESULTS REGARDING EU-SURVEY ON POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS**

The Commission introduced the results of the eu-Survey regarding the previously explained list of pending change requests / possible improvements of the decentralised IT system. Where more replies were received per Member State, the average of those replies per Member State was used for calculating the score for each amendment and based on those scores, the results were ranked according to priority.

As only half of the Member States replied to the eu-Survey, the Commission proposed to extend the voting until the end of September. The final result and ranking would then be presented in the October Steering Committee meeting. Committee members that believe that a specific amendment's ranking should be amended, were called upon to share their reasons with the Steering Committee either in the meetings or in writing. The question could then be raised with the Steering Committee if they agree to the amendment of the ranking.

Based on the results, the Commission would evaluate each amendment, effort necessary for its implementation and then in the order of the ranking / priority (top to bottom) include them in the release plan for the Reference Implementation (RI). The Commission explained that as the SoD & ToE system is in evolutive maintenance stage, which means that the development of amendments

will be limited to the resources that are left from planned activities such as support to the Member States.

One Committee member asked how the amendments are ranked to other features / instruments using JUDEX. The Commission explained that there is no horizontal prioritisation as such – it depends on the SoD & ToE team’s resources. Saying that, some amendments may have horizontal effects and may be also carried out by teams dealing with other EU instruments. The Commission emphasised that the amendments for SoD & ToE would be bundled together with other releases of the RI.

Another Committee member asked how existing tickets are affecting or are affected by the list. The Commission explained that the list was made up of backlogged tickets that have larger effects (on the user-interface and workflows, on the XSDs or national implementations). Where there are bugfixes, those are dealt with based on the priority and urgency that is not affected by this list and release plans. The aim is to discuss in the Steering Committee amendments that affect the users of the RI or the decentralised IT system as such. The Commission is also working on a change management process that will be discussed in the October Steering Committee meeting.

Two Committee members pointed to specific amendments where they consider that the ranking should be amended. Some tickets might be of uttermost importance for some Member States whereas for other Member States the impact isn’t that severe depending on different legal systems in the Member States. They were supported by some other Committee members. One of those Committee members questioned whether all the amendments included in the list are comparable (as some require more resources and effort in the implementation than the others) and questioned whether critical security issues and blocking bugs would also go through this change process in the future and delay the hot fixes. The Commission clarified that critical security issues and blocking bugs would be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

### **III. MEMBER STATES DEPLOYMENT STATUS UPDATE**

The Member States reported on their progress.

Compared to the previous meeting from July, 2 Member States have gone live partially, 1 of which being the first national implementation used instead of the reference implementation software. 2 Member States plan to go live partially the beginning of next week. This would bring the number of Member States fully live to 10 and 4 additional Member States being partially live.

Of the remaining, 10 Member States reported to (partially) go live by the end of September / mid-October. This would bring the number of Member States fully live to 17 and partially live to 2.

A couple Member States were unable to provide any specific timings, but at least 2 plan to go live later than October (November and February).

The Commission noted that a letter will be sent by Acting Director A of DG JUST to the Member States that aren’t live yet asking for their estimated timelines for going live in writing.

#### **IV. NEXT STEPS AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Commission explained that the technical sub-committee has decided to publish their contact details on Confluence and some members had requested that also the info regarding Steering Committee members would be published there as well. Therefore, the Commission asked committee members who do not agree to the publication of their data on Confluence to inform the Commission of their objection by 15 September. If no objection is received, the data will be published on Confluence.

The Commission also explained that despite its best efforts it will not be possible to have the user manual of the RI translated into all EU languages but called upon Member States to organise either the correction of the machine translation or the full translation of the manual to their official language, where necessary.

In addition, the Commission informed the Steering Committee about ending of the Commission's contract for PKI Certificates provision to the Member States for the RI. The contract will not be renewed after January 2026 as the Member States are mostly procuring their own certificates anyway. The PKI Certificates issued under the Commission's contract have validity of 3 years. The PKI Certificates issued already will keep their original validity after the end of the Commission's contract. The renewal of the PKI Certificates won't be possible after the end of the Commission's contract.

The next Steering Committee meetings will be on the 20 October 2025 in person in Brussels followed by 20 November and 10 December, both of which will be half day meetings held in the afternoon and online.

#### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

Commission  
Austria  
Belgium  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Czechia  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Ireland

Italy  
Lithuania  
Luxemburg  
Malta  
Netherlands  
Portugal  
Romania  
Slovakia  
Spain  
Sweden  
EUBF  
eu-LISA