



Resolution: European Union wide a common framework for Electronic Signatures

Adopted at the YEPP Council Meeting in Tirana on 07/02/13- 09/02/13

Recognizing

- On December 13th 1999, Directive 1999/93/EC on a Community framework for electronic signatures was adopted
- That the European Union wide common framework for eSignatures can make business-creating significantly easier and bring eagerly anticipated economic growth across the EU.

Acknowledging

- Every EU country currently holds its own eSignature system that cannot be put into practice outside its national borders.
- Legally recognized within the Member States and easy-to-use electronic signatures can help towards boosting the development of EU wide eGovernment services that bring people closer to decision making processes.
- The European Union wide common framework for eSignatures would be a significant step towards the European digital single market, by helping businesses operate in all EU Member States
- That a common and harmonized framework could increase co-operation regarding cyber security issues
- That a common and harmonized framework could add credibility to all public and private services, currently operating on the national level.
- That in some EU Member States electronic voting is already functioning with the use of eSignatures and that a common framework could open the discussion for the implementation of electronic voting on an EU-wide scale.

YEPP calls on:

- The European Commission to update the Directive 1999/93/EC, following the technological advents of the last decade, and taking into consideration the already existing national frameworks on electronic signatures.
- The EU Institutions to establish a set of criteria, which will form the basis for a common framework, and the EU-wide legal recognition of electronic signatures.
- The European Parliament to ensure the proper functioning of the Internal Market by setting a harmonized legal framework for the use of electronic signatures.
- The European Commission to establish without delay a legal framework for the European digital single market before 2015 when the issue is originally planned to be processed.