

EUPL v1.2



**A Free/Open
Source licence**

Georges LOBO

*European Commission
Directorate General for
Informatics (DIGIT)
Interoperability Unit*

The ISA² programme

- Programme managed by the EC
- supporting development of interoperable IT solutions & Services
- Budget: **131M €**
- Duration: **2016-2020**
- Solutions developed upon proposals of the EU countries and the EC Services
- Solutions facilitate transactions across borders and/or across sectors between public administrations, businesses and citizens
- Solutions when related to IT: open source & free of charge

The ISA² programme – The Solutions

- IT solutions covering wide range of areas:
 - [Semantics](#)
 - [Open Data](#)
 - [Geospatial solutions](#)
 - [e-Procurement / e-Invoicing](#)
 - [Decision making and legislation](#)
 - [Solutions supporting the implementation of EU policies](#)
- Overview at [ISA² website, section "solutions"](#)

The ISA² programme – The Benefits

- For public administrations:
 - Reduced time and cost for the development of own IT solutions
 - Solutions that work smoothly in cross-border and/or cross-sector context
 - High end-user satisfaction, due to more efficient bureaucratic procedures
- For businesses and citizens:
 - Quicker and cheaper administrative procedures
 - Less red tape

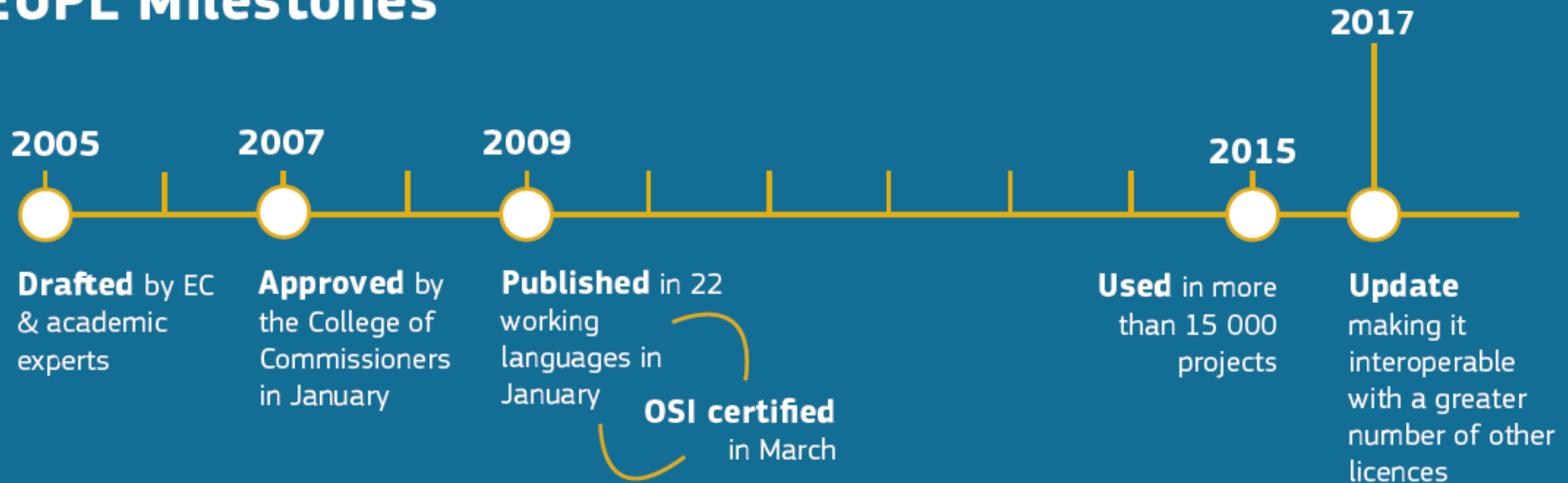


History

At the beginning, EC needed to share its e-Government applications (CIRCA, IPM etc.) with Member State administrations and other partners.

EU bodies and Member States had similar needs

EUPL Milestones



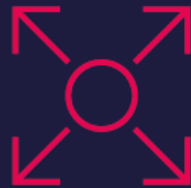


A unique instrument, that everyone can use



Accessible

It enables the EC to **distribute** its own **software for free**, with a guarantee that it will remain **available for everyone**.



Multilingual

It is now approved by the European Commission in **official languages** of the Europe Union.



Compatible

The EUPL is compatible with most **existing licences** and ensures **compliance with EU law**.

Providing more warranties to recipients

- *warranty of copyright from each contributor*
- *no total disclaimer*
- *moral rights*

Made for EU law, but

... a tool, not a goal in itself



On 19 May 2017, publication of the Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/863 updating the EUPL to further facilitate the sharing and reuse of software developed by public administrations



EUROPA > EU law and publications > EUR-Lex > EUR-Lex - 32017D0863 - EN

[Home](#) [Official Journal](#) [EU law and related documents](#) [National law](#) [Legislative procedures](#) [More](#)

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/863 of 18 May 2017 updating the open source software licence EUPL to further facilitate the sharing and reuse of software developed by public administrations

OJ L 128, 19.5.2017, p. 59-64 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)

Languages, formats and link to OJ

| | BG | ES | CS | DA | DE | ET | EL | EN | FR | GA | HR | IT | LV | LT | HU | MT | NL | PL | PT | RO | SK | SL | FI | SV |
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| HTML |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PDF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Official Journal |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |



What has changed?

- *V1.2 is interoperable with a greater number of other licences:*
 - *EUPL v1.1: GPL v2, OSL, EPL, CeCILL 2.0*
 - *EUPL v1.2: + GPL v3, AGPL, LGPL, MPL, CeCILL 2.1, LiLiQ-R & R+, CC-BY-SA for works other than software*
- *More flexibility regarding additional agreements (i.e. arbitration, applicable law, extension of compatibility)*
- *Wider coverage: the copyrighted "Work" (i.e. documentation accompanying the software)*
- *Updated terminology/Croatian language*

What is unchanged?

- *Free/open source freedoms (Open Source Definition compliant)*
- *Working value in 23 EU languages*
- *Copyleft & Interoperable*

Categorising the EUPL?

History

- Philosophical (GNU licenses)
- Academic (BSD, MIT...)
- Community based (Apache, Artistic...)
- Industrial (MPL, EPL, CDDL...)
- ✓ **Institutional** (CeCILL, EUPL, LiLiQ)

Liberty / Permissivity

- ✓ **Perennial** (copyleft)
 - Non perennial (permissive)

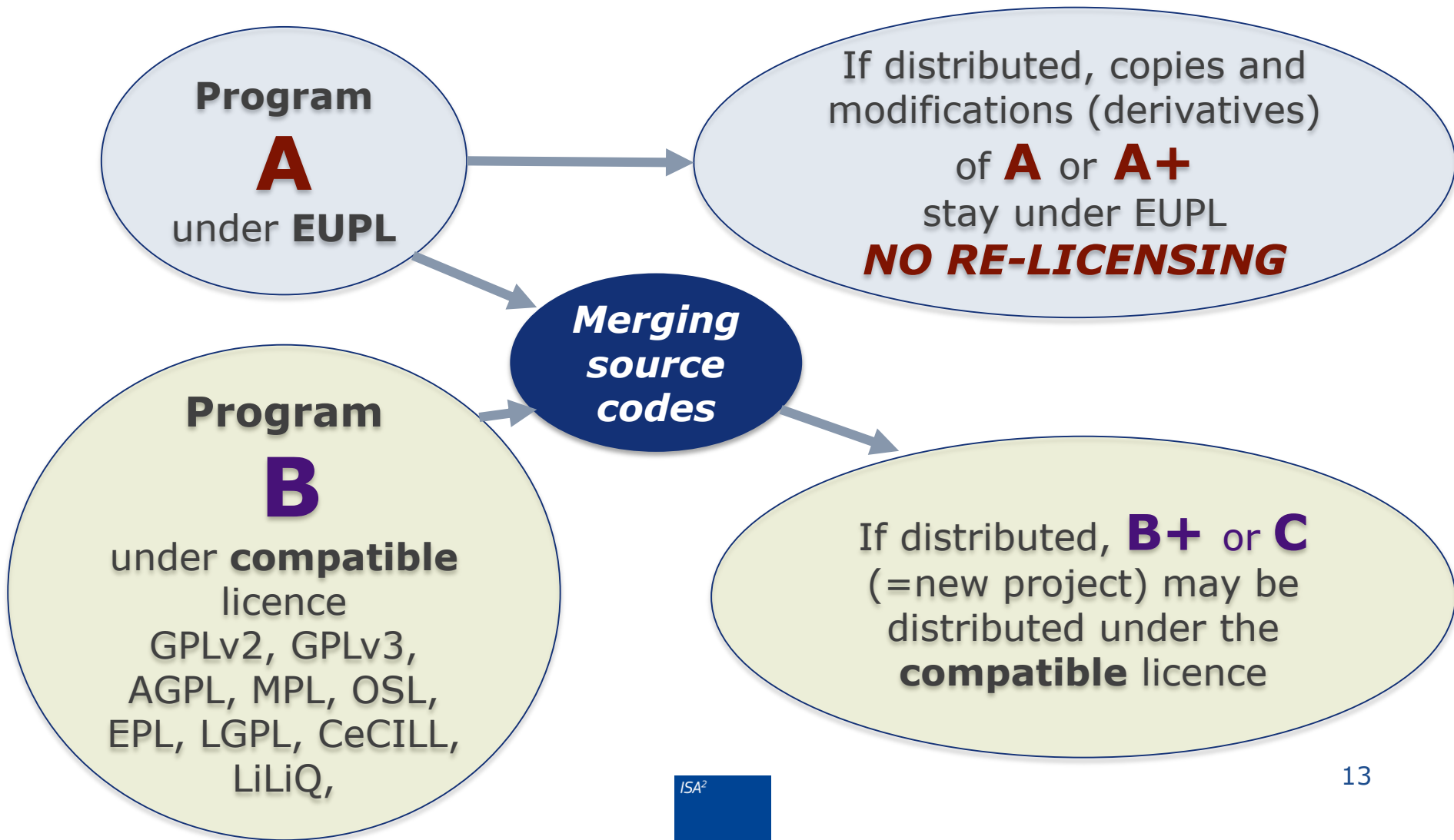
Business mind

- ✓ **Open – OSD compliant** (OSI)
 - Restrictive (i.e no redistribution, no commercial use, other limitations)

Compatibility

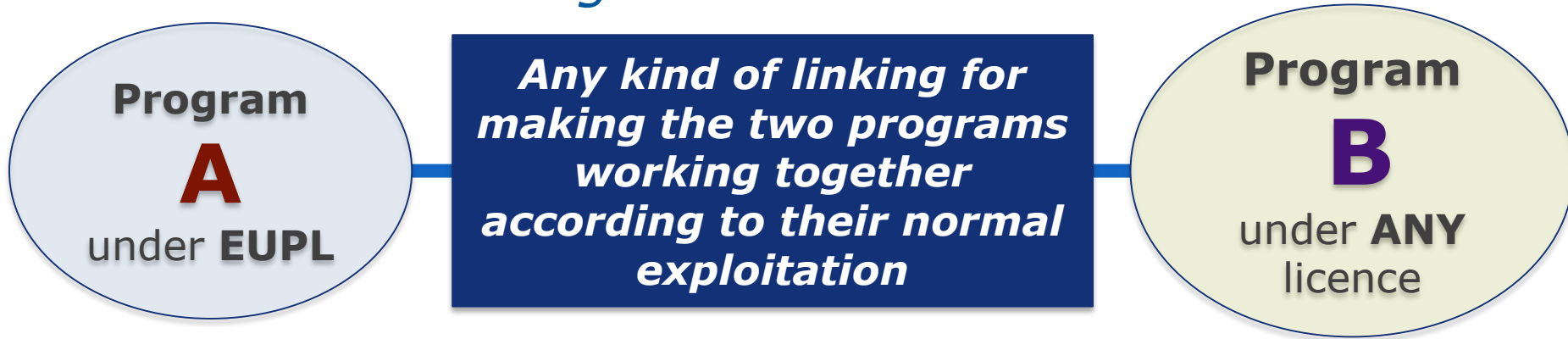
- Copyleft non-interoperable (GPL, AGPL)
- ✓ **Copyleft interoperable** (EUPL, CeCILL, LiLiQ)
 - Copyleft-compatible or “weak” (LGPL)
 - No restrictions (BSD, MIT)

How is it interoperable?





And in case of linking?



No impact on licensing: EUPL is not "viral"

Directive 2009/24/EC on the Protection of Computer Programs

Recital 15 (exception to right-holder permission):

In the framework of a normal exploitation of programs, their legitimate holder may, without copyright infringement, reproduce code needed to achieve interoperability (APIs, data structures etc.).



EUPL in EC open source strategy 2014-2017

- *More open source procurement (reduce "Vendor lock-in")*
- *Contribution to open source software projects*
- *Providing more software developed within the Commission as open source. This software will be published on Joinup under the EUPL.*
- *Be interoperable (technical and legal interoperability) and use open technical specifications.*
- *Promote the compatibility of licences*
- *Beyond licensing: support of communities and ecosystem.*



Who uses the EUPL ?

- *European commission (various DGs)*
- *European Parliament (AT4AM, the Web-based amendment authoring tool)*
- *Projects submitted on Joinup (30% of them)*
- *Some research projects and centres (i.e. FP7, D4Science from CERN-CNR-ERCIM, projects in ICT calls H2020)*
- *Public sector agencies (i.e. Eurostat, Istat)*
- *Universities (i.e. Cagliari – Italy)*
- *Enterprises and developers (15.000 projects according to Github)*



The EUPL is tool in various interoperability frameworks

- *European Interoperability Framework (EIF)*
- *Spain (Royal Decree 4/2010 of 8 January 2010)*
- *Estonia (government software production)*
- *Austria (i.e. Modular Open Citizen Card Architecture - Mocca)*
- *Germany (i.e. Wollmux, AusweisApp2, ...)*
- *Malta (government software production)*
- *Bulgaria (2017 decision for government software production)*
- *France (various initiatives)*
- *...*



What's in it for you?

- *A supported community under the ISA² programme*
 - *Guidelines, FAQ, support on legal issues,...*
 - *Maintained compatibility list*
 - *...*
- *Use it if it fits your needs/philosophy/strategy*
 - *Commercial product*
 - *Copyleft or not*
 - *Interoperable ?*
- *It is not the solution to every problem*
 - *Some easier solutions might exists (eg. Exception list, dual licensing)*
 - *Upstream interoperability is not guaranteed*



Want to know more?

<http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/EUPL>

A screenshot of the joinup.eu website. The header is dark blue with the "joinup" logo on the left and navigation links "COLLECTIONS", "SOLUTIONS", and "KEEP UP TO DATE" in the center. A search icon and a user profile icon are on the right. The main content area has a blue background with a geometric pattern. It features a central image of a yellow sign that says "Licensing" with binary code in the background. Below the image, the text "EUPL" is displayed in large white letters. Underneath "EUPL", there is a white box containing two statistics: "Last update 0 days ago" and "102 Members 0 Solutions". At the bottom, there is a light gray section with a hamburger menu icon on the left and the text "EUPL compatible open source licences" in the center. Below the hamburger menu icon, the word "Overview" is written.



Want to know more?

<http://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/EUPL>

- *Official text of EUPL in 23 languages (to link from your source code)*
- *Guidelines*
- *Detailed compatability matrix*
- *Tips for choosing your OSS license*
- *Contact form for legal issues*



ISA² programme

You click, we link.

**Stay in touch
IPR Helpdesk booth**

ec.europa.eu/isa2

joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/eupl



@EU_isa2



georges.lobo@ec.europa.eu

Run by the Interoperability Unit at DIGIT (European Commission) with 131€M budget, the ISA² programme provides public administrations, businesses and citizens with specifications and standards, software and services to reduce administrative burdens.



Questions?