

EUDI Wallet certification:

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The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

**A guide to EUDI Wallet
certification: five key questions
every Member State must
address.**

April 2026



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The EUDI Wallet deadline is fixed: by December 2026, each Member State must issue at least one certified wallet. While frameworks evolve, waiting for full clarity risks delays. Starting early enables progress despite uncertainty.



Achieving secure, interoperable, and user-centric digital identity solutions across Europe requires balancing speed, compliance, and user experience simultaneously. Early action is essential to reduce risks and build confidence.

1. Why start EUDI Wallet certification now?

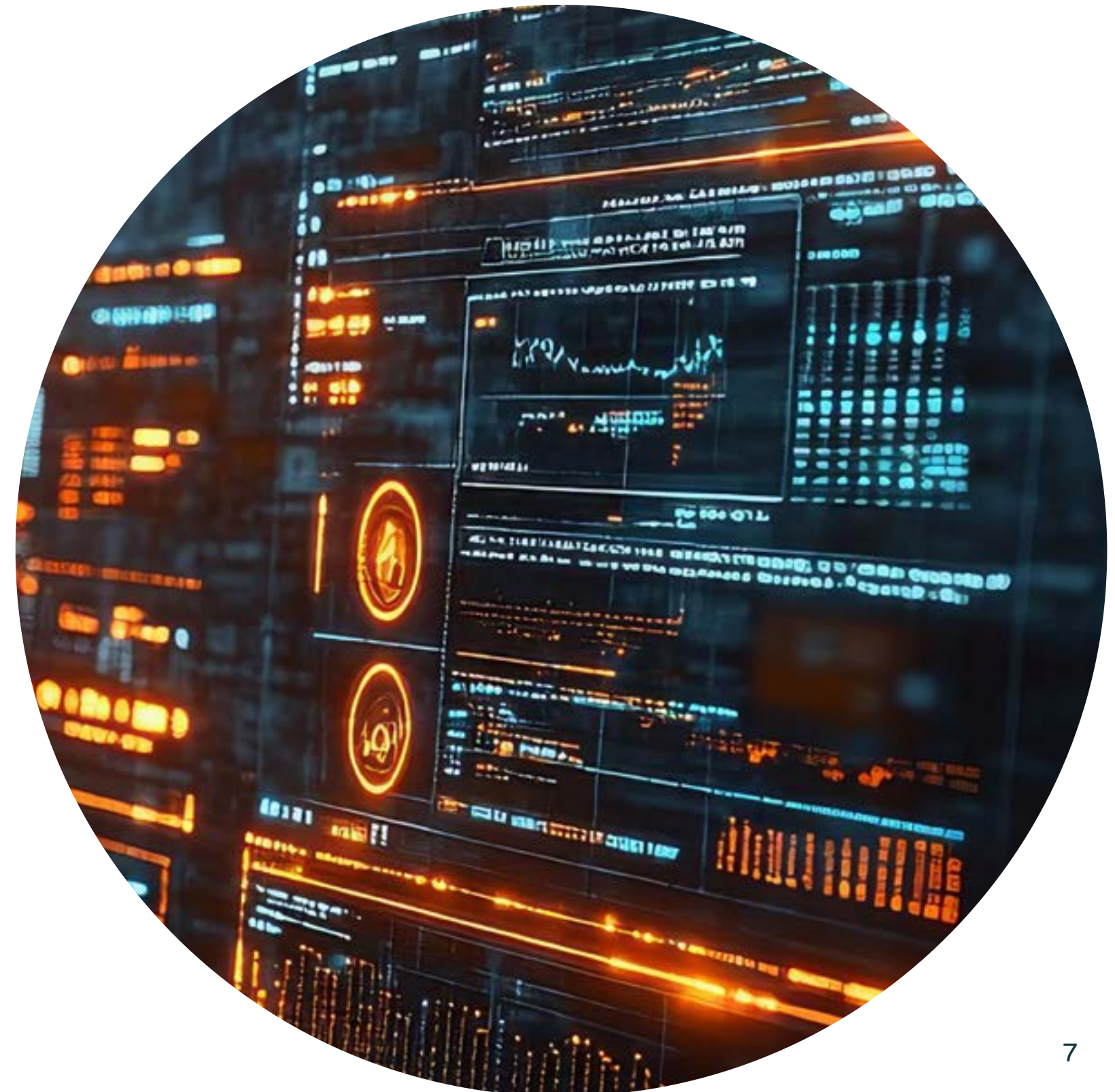
The EUDI Wallet deadline is fixed: December 2026. While frameworks evolve, waiting for clarity increases delivery risk. Delays compress implementation time and make execution more difficult.

Starting early enables progress despite uncertainty. It allows Member States to shape ecosystems, test assumptions, and build capability while standards mature.



Delivering digital identity requires balancing speed, compliance, and user experience. These priorities are interconnected, and decisions in one area affect the others. Achieving this balance becomes harder under compressed timelines.

Early action spreads effort over time, reduces risk, and builds stakeholder confidence. This is essential for adoption and long-term success.





Member States face pressure to act while frameworks remain incomplete. This creates a difficult environment where decisions must be made with partial information. The challenge is to move forward without waiting for perfect clarity.

Some countries are already advancing, gaining experience through testing and iteration, and refining their approaches.



Delaying action risks compressed timelines and misalignment.

Dependencies may only emerge late, when they are harder to resolve. This can lead to rework and inefficiencies at scale.

Starting early is not about perfection but momentum, identifying gaps and reducing uncertainty step by step.

Incremental progress builds clarity and stakeholder alignment. It allows continuous refinement instead of large-scale last-minute delivery. This improves both quality and coordination across actors.

Early certification frameworks provide structure and reduce fragmentation even as specifications evolve.



Early action is a strategic advantage. It enables smoother adaptation to change and reduces redesign costs. It also improves the ability to respond to evolving regulatory expectations.

Early movers are better positioned for interoperability, alignment, and scalable deployment.



2. What makes the EUDI Wallet ecosystem so complex?

The EUDI Wallet is a full ecosystem, not a single application. It involves multiple stakeholders, technologies, and governance layers. This interconnectedness increases both opportunity and complexity.

These include issuers, relying parties, vendors, regulators, and device manufacturers, all with interconnected roles.



Legal, policy, and technical frameworks must align to ensure successful adoption. Standards define implementation, while regulation defines requirements. Misalignment between the two can slow progress significantly.

Despite complexity, users expect simple, seamless experiences that hide this underlying system.





Fragmentation can occur due to differing interpretations of requirements or security models. This creates inconsistency across implementations. Even small differences can impact interoperability at scale.

Clear roles, responsibilities, and assurance levels are essential to maintaining trust and consistency.

Cross-border interoperability adds further complexity. Wallets must function both nationally and across the EU.

This requires strong coordination and governance across institutions and stakeholders.



3. What can we learn from mature DI ecosystems?

Successful ecosystems are built through continuous improvement, not perfect launches. Over-engineering early slows progress.

Clear rules provide a stable foundation and reduce ambiguity across participants.





Iterative development with feedback loops allows ecosystems to evolve and improve over time. This ensures that real-world experience shapes system evolution. It also helps avoid scaling early design flaws.

Strong governance ensures consistency, alignment, and controlled evolution.

Transparency supports adoption by helping developers and partners understand expectations clearly. This reduces friction and accelerates integration. It also increases trust in the ecosystem. Cross-sector adoption increases value by embedding digital identity into everyday services.

Starting early improves decision-making and reveals dependencies sooner. It also allows time for correction before issues become structural problems. This reduces long-term risk.

Key principles include pragmatism, collaboration, and continuous improvement.



4. Why is certification the foundation of success?

Certification defines the rules for consistent and secure participation in the ecosystem. It ensures that all actors operate within a common framework. This consistency is essential for trust.

It clarifies roles and responsibilities, reducing ambiguity across stakeholders.



It sets assurance levels and conformance requirements that underpin trust and security. These requirements ensure predictable behavior across implementations. They also support cross-border reliability.

Technical and organizational controls ensure system integrity and compliance.





Onboarding and offboarding processes ensure controlled participation in the ecosystem. This helps maintain security throughout the lifecycle of participants. It also supports accountability.

Governance mechanisms provide oversight and support continuous improvement.

Clear guardrails reduce ambiguity and enable informed decisions across stakeholders.

A flexible certification scheme allows adaptation to evolving EU requirements without disruption.



5. How should Member States move forward?



Success requires systems that operate at population scale with high reliability. Performance and resilience become critical at this level of adoption. Systems must be designed accordingly from the start.

Inclusive onboarding ensures all citizens can access digital identity services.

Multiple wallet implementations support innovation while maintaining compliance through certification. This encourages a healthy and competitive ecosystem. It also reduces dependency on single providers.

Interoperability must be built in from the start, supported by evolving governance structures.



The path forward: start now, engage stakeholders, build frameworks, and iterate through testing and real-world use cases. By establishing certification early and evolving it over time, Member States can build resilient, scalable ecosystems and deliver trusted digital identity services with confidence.

Fime's accredited testing laboratory and Consult Hyperion's consulting expertise offer a comprehensive service that helps EU Member States and ecosystem participants navigate the complexities of the EUDI wallet landscape, assess their readiness, and prepare for and achieve certification, so they can fully embrace the digital future with confidence.

Need help understanding the ecosystem, assessing your readiness or becoming certified? [Let's talk.](#)



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