



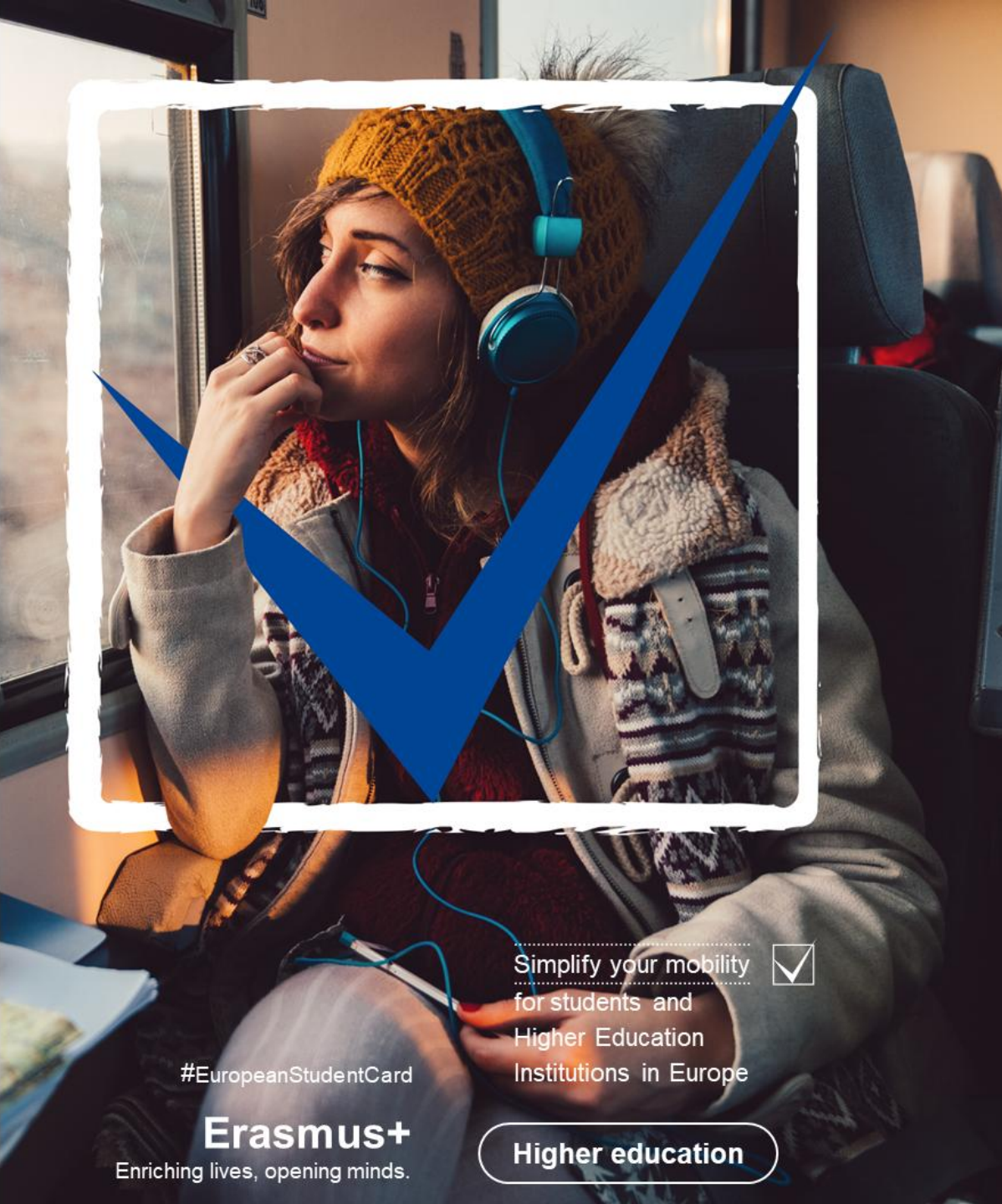
European Student Card – Latvia

18 September 2025

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

Erasmus+



Simplify your mobility
for students and
Higher Education
Institutions in Europe



#EuropeanStudentCard

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | What is the ESC? |
| 2 | How does the ESC work? |
| 3 | Level of adoption |
| 4 | Ongoing ESC developments |



A European Student Card to make it easier to be a mobile student ☒

recognise your student status
across Europe

facilitate access to student services

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

1 | What is the ESC?

WHAT IS THE ESC?

What is the European Student Card?

The European Student Card is not a new card nor an additional one, but simply each institution's current card, adapted to take on a European dimension. The goal of the ESC is to provide a European dimension to existing cards and establish a common European identity for higher education students.

With a European Student Card, a student can...



Verify their student's status
quickly and reliably anywhere
in Europe



Access physical and digital services during their mobility,
like the library or public
transport

WHAT IS THE ESC?

Main ESC components

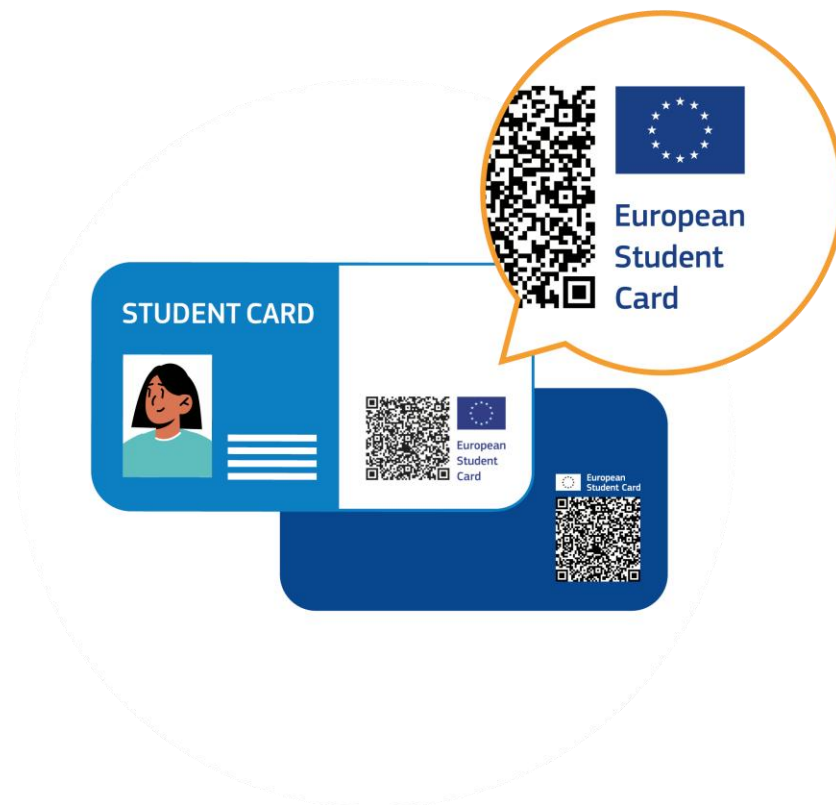
The European Student Card upgrades the student cards of higher education institutions with certain common elements.

ESI

A digital identifier used to uniquely identify students of European higher education institutions, linking them to a given ESC

European Student Card Number (ESCN)

A unique card identifier that serves to identify student cards belonging to a given institution and to validate them



European Student Card logo* / QR code

Combines the European identity (text & flag) with a QR code, certifying the card authenticity across Europe and enabling the validation of student status

* The new ESC logo replaces the previous combination of hologram + QR code (which will remain valid until 2028).



Depending on the institution issuing the card, the ESC can be in a **digital** or a **physical format** and can be integrated into student cards **with any type of technology**. The ESC can be issued **directly** by the higher education institution or **co-branded**.

WHAT IS THE ESC?

Benefits of the European Student Card

The benefits of the ESC are upheld through its **European dimension**, as well as cooperation between higher education institution under the **reciprocity principle**.

A student on mobility arrives at their host higher education institution:



Students can have their student status recognised at the host higher education institution through their ESC, and develop a stronger sense of shared European identity



The ESC is recognised by the **host higher education institution**, allowing the **student** to access various on and off-campus services



Host higher education institutions can easily and securely validate the student status of incoming mobility students



Student service providers are provided with a reliable method to verify student status, while at the same time expanding their users' network and gaining greater visibility among ESC cardholders



A European Student Card to make it easier to be a mobile student ☒

recognise your student status
across Europe

facilitate access to student services

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

2 | How does the ESC work?

HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

What is the ESC-Router (ESC-R)?

The European Student Card Router (ESC-R) is a **platform** that allows higher education institutions and other card issuers to **issue and manage ESCs**, as well as **verify student status**. The ESC-R was launched on the European Commission's cloud on **23 October 2024**.

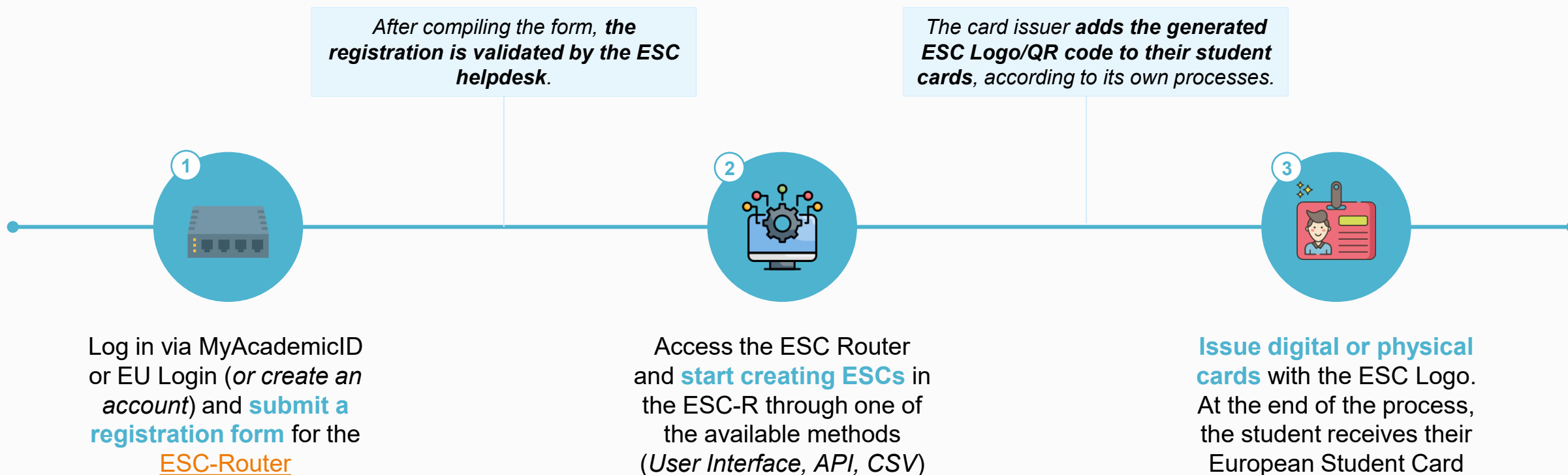
The screenshot displays the 'Organisations' page in the ESC Router. The page features a sidebar on the left with navigation options: HOME, EUROPEAN STUDENT CARDS (with sub-links for Cardholders, Card Management, and Import Cards), ORGANISATIONS (highlighted), CARD VALIDATION, DOCUMENTATION (with sub-links for Backwards Compatibility and Current Version), ADMINISTRATIVE USERS, and LOG OUT. The main content area is titled 'Organisations' and includes a '+ New' button. Below the title is a table with columns: Name, Identifier, Country, Organisation type, Active, and Actions. The table contains several rows of data, including 'Anonymous org 1' through 'Anonymous org 106'. Each row has icons for viewing, editing, and deleting. The top right corner shows the user 'esc super admin'.

Name	Identifier	Country	Organisation type	Active	Actions
Anonymous org 1		(FR) - France	Higher education institution	Yes	
Anonymous org 10		(DE) - Germany	Higher education institution	No	
Anonymous org 101		(FR) - France	Higher education institution	Yes	
Anonymous org 102		(FR) - France	Higher education institution	Yes	
Anonymous org 103		(CZ) - Czechia	Higher education institution	No	
Anonymous org 104		(FR) - France	Higher education institution	No	
Anonymous org 105		(FR) - France	Higher education institution	No	
Anonymous org 106		(BE) - Belgium	Higher education institution	No	

The **user categories** in the ESC Router include (1) **higher education institutions**, (2) **public authorities** (both of which can issue European Student Cards directly), and (3) **third-party processors** (i.e. delegated third parties acting on behalf of the institution or public authority).

HOW DOES THE ESC WORK?

How to issue ESCs through the ESC-R



More detailed information on how to implement the ESC is provided within the General specifications (including comprehensive explanations on the ESC and its main business processes) and Technical specifications (including clear guidelines for implementation).



A European Student Card to make it easier to be a mobile student ☒

recognise your student status
across Europe

facilitate access to student services

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

3 | Level of adoption

LEVEL OF ADOPTION

State-of-play in Europe



4.0 M

ESCs issued to date*

1.9 M

Currently active ESCs



471

Organisations that have issued ESCs*

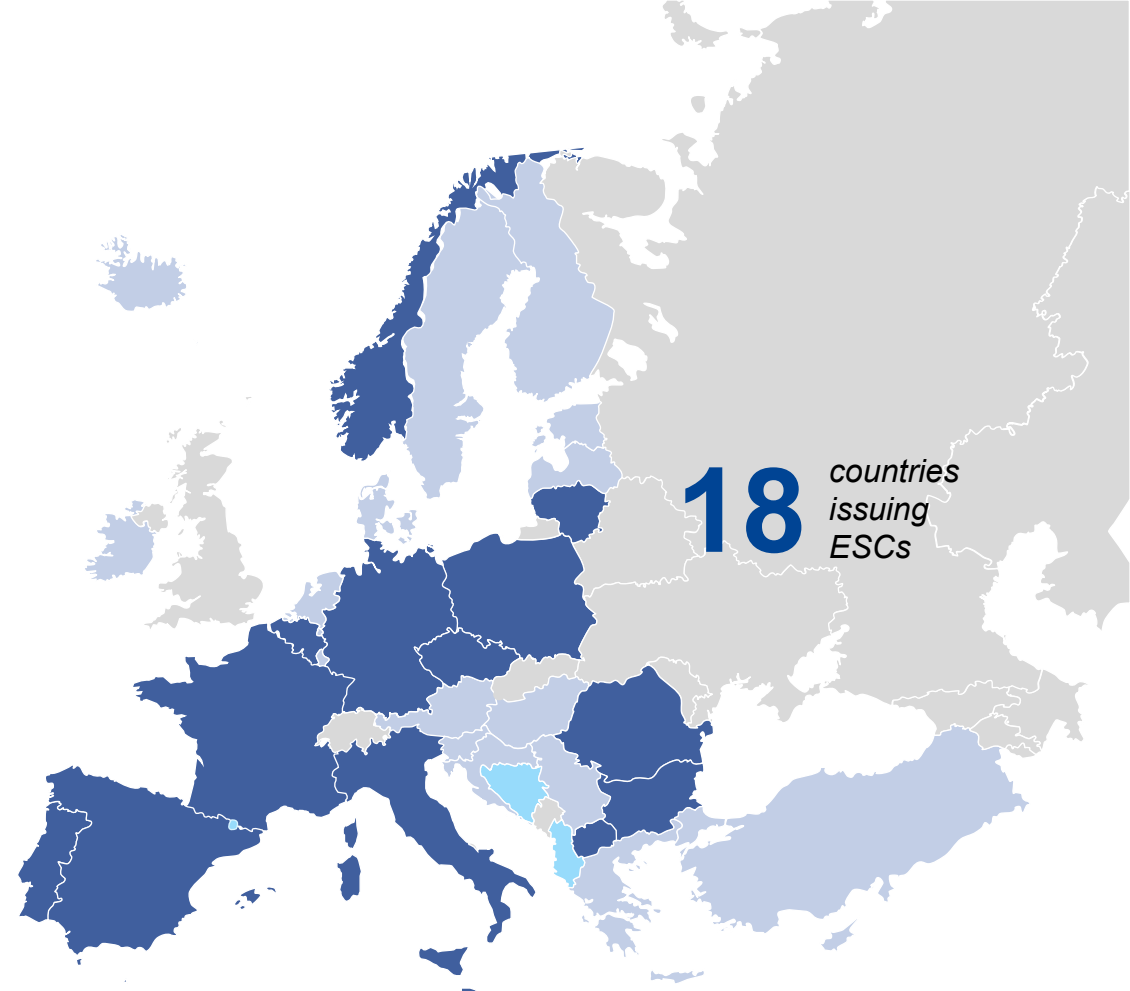
298

Organisations issuing active ESCs**

Data from the ESC-Router (September 2025)

*Includes both active and inactive/expired cards.

** Active organisations (including higher education institutions, public authorities and third-party processors) that have more than 10 currently active ESCs in the ESC-R.



Where ESCs are issued:

- 15 countries associated to Erasmus+ issuing ESCs
- 3 countries not associated to Erasmus+ issuing ESCs

Other countries connected to the ESC-R:

- 19 countries associated to Erasmus + connected to the ESC-R, but not issuing ESCs



A European Student Card to make it easier to be a mobile student ☒

recognise your student status
across Europe

facilitate access to student services

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.

Higher education

4 | Ongoing ESC developments

ONGOING ESC DEVELOPMENTS

Upcoming and future developments



Service catalogue

A dedicated platform allowing higher education institutions and service providers to **list the services and benefits** they provide to students – and enabling ESC cardholders to **navigate the catalogue** and find relevant services available to them, either in their area or online



Digital European Student Cards

Laying the technical groundwork to allow the issuance of **digital ESCs as verifiable credentials**, that are digitally-signed and representing a more secure advanced method for validation, enabling more complex use cases



Stay tuned!

For any further questions and support,
please contact us through our [Helpdesk](#).



*Scan the QR code to access
the Helpdesk!*

