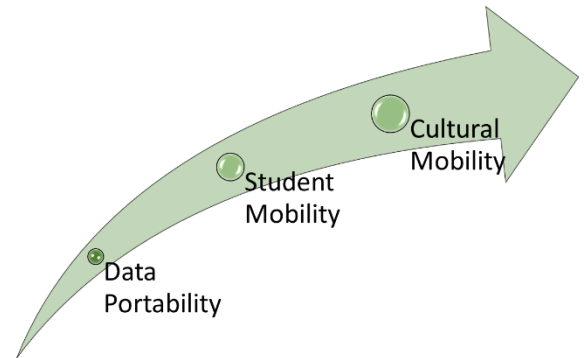


Initiative: Groningen Declaration Network (GDN) – groningendeclaration.org

Request: consider becoming a signatory to the Groningen Declaration - **Steps** to becoming a signatory are available **online**.

Purpose: the Groningen Declaration Network seeks common ground in best serving the academic and professional mobility needs of citizens world wide by bringing together key stakeholders to collaborate and create an ethically centred Digital Student Data Ecosystem. Digital student data portability and digital student data depositories will contribute decisively to the free movement of students and skilled workers on a global scale.



GDN Mission: *aiming to deliver on digital student data portability* -- The GDN brings together key stakeholders through a declaration of intent. Signatories cooperate on a voluntary basis, seeking not standardization but rather convergence. The main goal includes developing best practices and globally-accepted standards for secure, citizen-centred consultation and portability of digital student data.

GDN Vision: *towards a trusted digital student data ecosystem* -- In 2020, the Network constitutes a global, broad and interconnected ecosystem including large digital student data depositories, educational institutions, government bodies, and other stakeholders. Participants in this ecosystem work together to guarantee trust by encouraging safe administration, processing, consultation, exchange, acceptance and recognition of digital student data in addition to appropriately verified paper-based records, using the best standards and technology available.

GDN Ethical Principles: *student centred at its core* -- Committed to student privacy and data protection; transparency; responsible practices; interoperability; openness; student and institutional freedom to choose delivery options; integrity; diversity; respect for the law; auditability; good fellowship; and access.

Strategic GDN Objectives: *focused on best practice* -- To share best practices in digitally secure systems and to coordinate policies on the purpose, feasibility and cost-efficiency of world wide exchange of digital student data; system compatibility; comparability and interoperability; digitized assessment practices; and adherence to national or federal privacy rights.

Sample GDN Signatories: *more than 80 higher education associations, institutions, and allied organizations*

**** Australia **** Universities Australia, University of Melbourne **** Belgium **** EWP Erasmus Without Paper, AHOVOS (Agency for Higher Education, Adult Education and Study Grants) **** Canada **** ARUCC, McGill University **** China **** CHESICC (China Higher Education Student Information and Career Centre) **** France **** Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation; EUNIS (European University Information Systems Organization – European non-profit organization); AMUE (Agence de mutualisation des universités et établissements – shared services agency for universities and other higher education and research institutions) **** Italy **** CINECA, consortium of universities (non-profit consortium of 69 universities and 3 institutions) **** Malta **** Ministry for Education and Employment **** Mexico **** UDUAL (The Association of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean – represents over 200 colleges, public and private, across 21 Latin American and Caribbean countries) **** The Netherlands **** Ministry of Education, Culture and Science **** New Zealand **** New Zealand Qualifications Authority **** Netherlands **** DUO (non-profit member organization), EAIE (European Association for International Education) **** South Africa **** SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) **** Spain **** University of Málaga, SIGMA Gestión Universitaria AIE (not-for-profit higher education consortium) **** UK **** HEDD – Higher Education Degree Datacheck from Prospects (managed by HECSU/Graduate Prospects, a subsidiary of the Higher Education Careers Services Unit (HECSU), a higher education agency and registered charity

Legal Status of the GDN: incorporated as a **public benefit foundation** with the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce Registration number 67518613, date of registration 20-12-2016; EU Transparency Register registration number: 238535130318-52, of 21-2-2018; **GDN Office postal address:** Nolenslaan 13, 9722 NK, GRONINGEN, The Netherlands