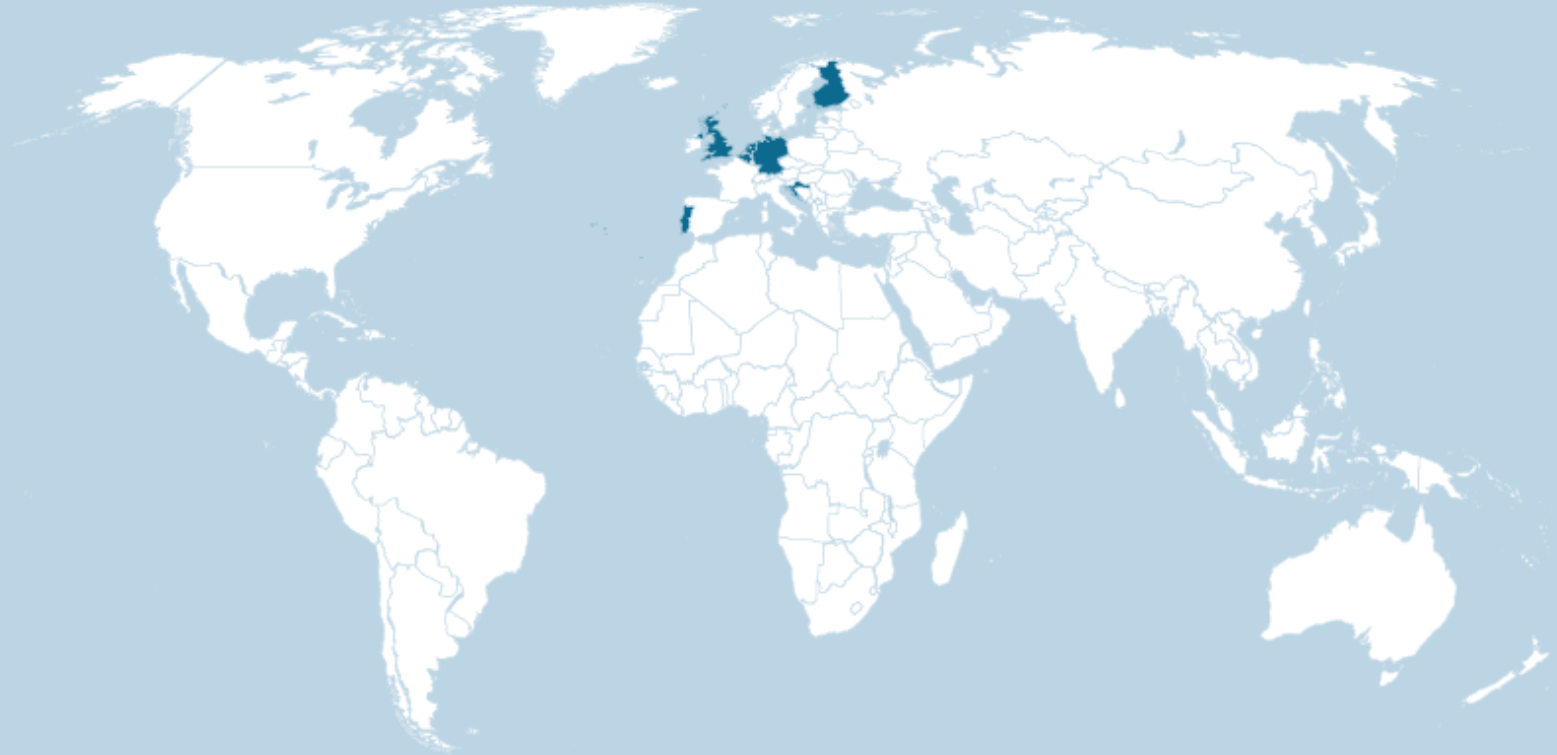


We are at a strategic crossroads of education's digital future...

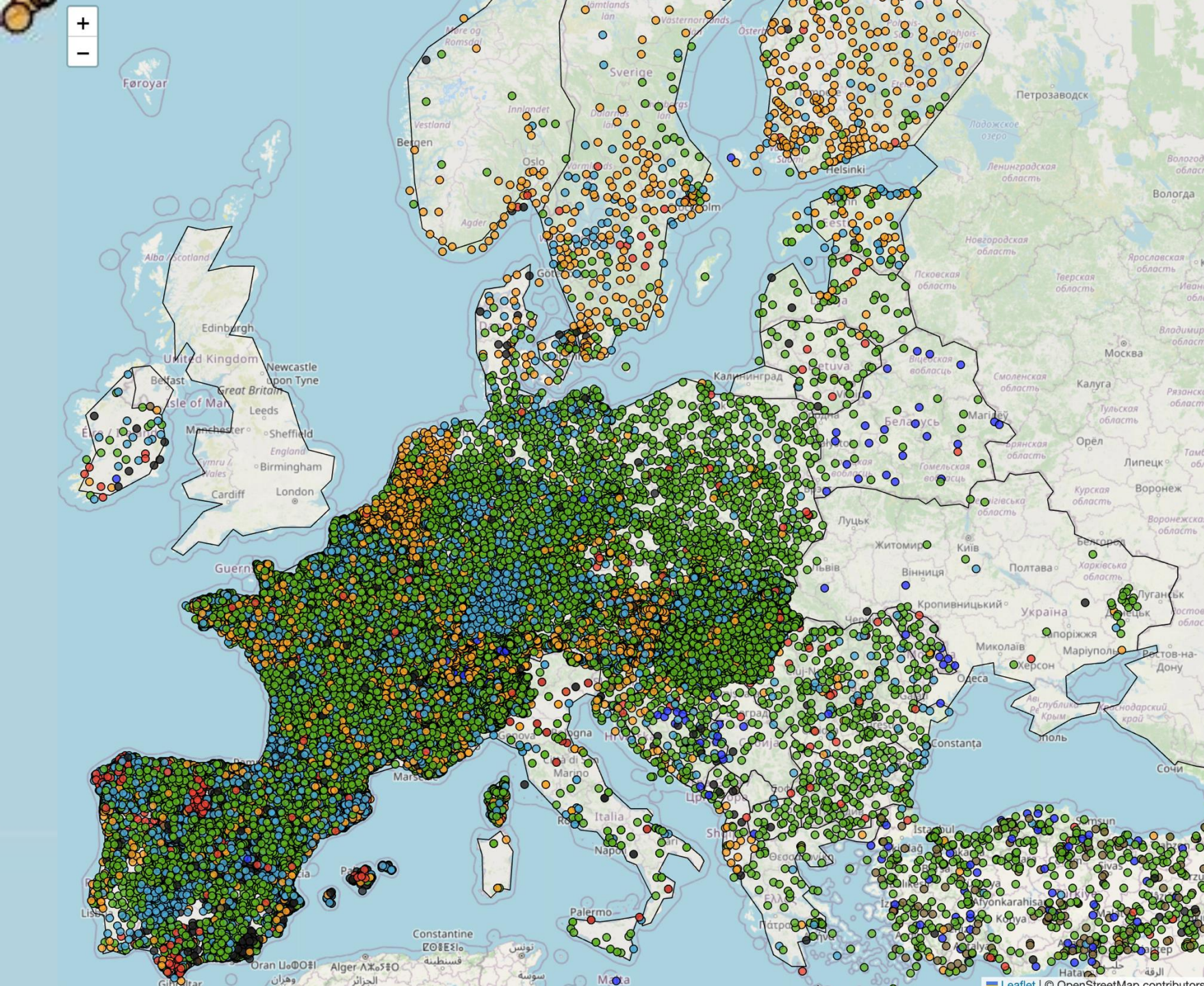
Evelien Renders

TNC 2025 | 11 June 2025

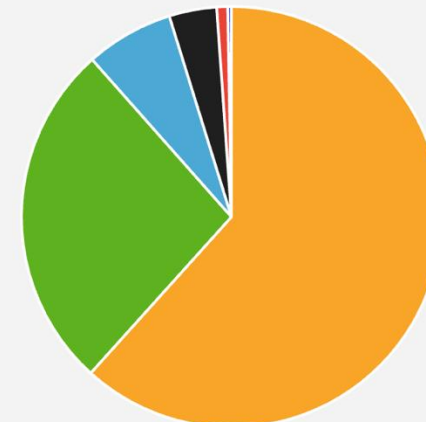




6
territories



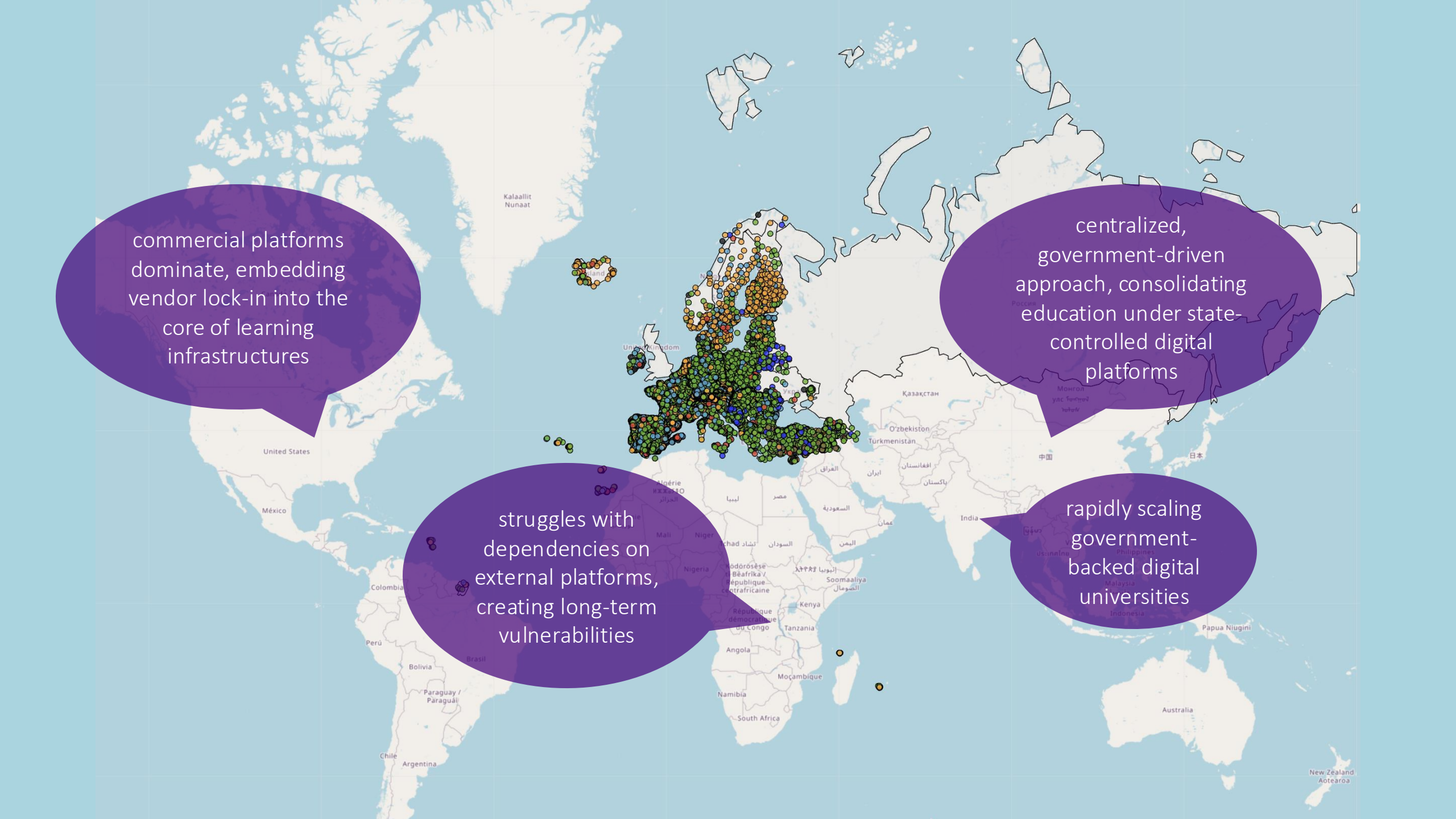
Netherlands



[Utrecht](#)

MX Records: utrecht-nl.mail.protection.outlook.com. (priority 10)
Provider (CSV): Microsoft (US)
Last Checked: 2025-03-17T06:26:10.974092+00:00

- Microsoft
- Google
- Domestic Server
- EU Server
- Non EU European Server
- US Server
- Asian Server
- Other

A world map with a light blue background and a white grid. The map shows the outlines of continents and countries. Overlaid on the map are four purple callout bubbles, each containing text. The bubbles are positioned over North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. The map also features numerous small, multi-colored dots (green, orange, blue, red) scattered across the landmasses, particularly in Europe and Africa. Country names are written in small text on the map, including 'United States', 'Mexico', 'Colombia', 'Peru', 'Bolivia', 'Paraguay / Paraguay', 'Chile', 'Argentina', 'Kalaallit Nunaat', 'United Kingdom', 'Nigeria', 'Kenya', 'Tanzania', 'Angola', 'Namibia', 'South Africa', 'Mozambique', 'India', 'China', 'Japan', 'Australia', and 'New Zealand Aotearoa'.

commercial platforms
dominate, embedding
vendor lock-in into the
core of learning
infrastructures

centralized,
government-driven
approach, consolidating
education under state-
controlled digital
platforms

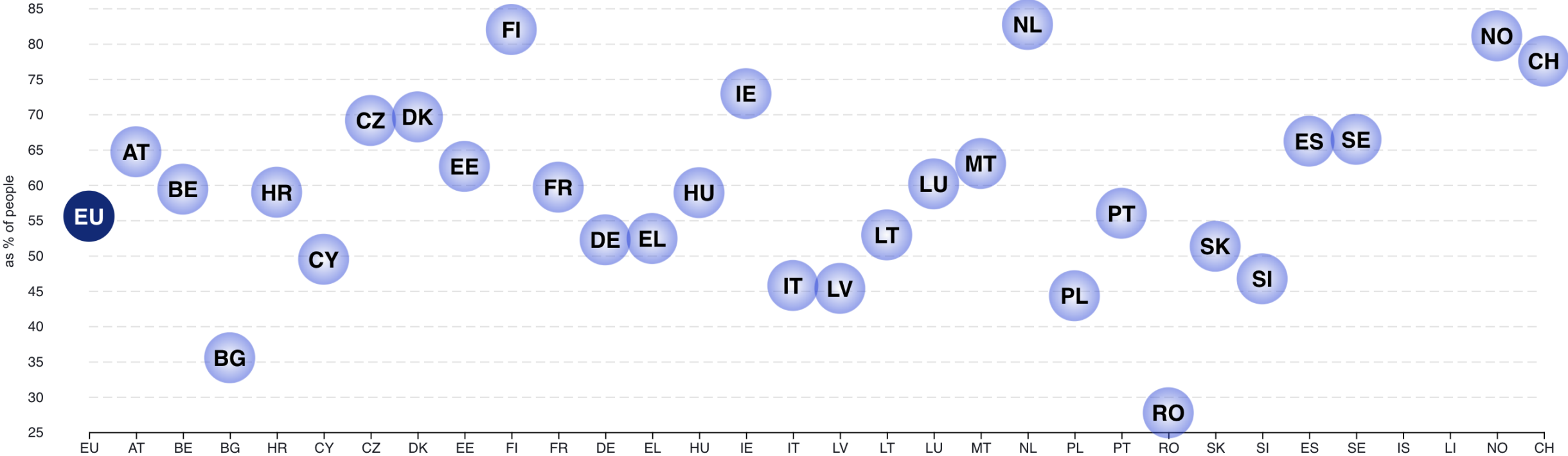
struggles with
dependencies on
external platforms,
creating long-term
vulnerabilities

rapidly scaling
government-
backed digital
universities



People with basic or above basic digital skills, 2023
(as % of people)

European Union



Best viewed in full screen mode

Source: Eurostat - [access to dataset](#)

COMPETITIVENESS COMPASS



To achieve this, the Union of Skills sets out a plan to:



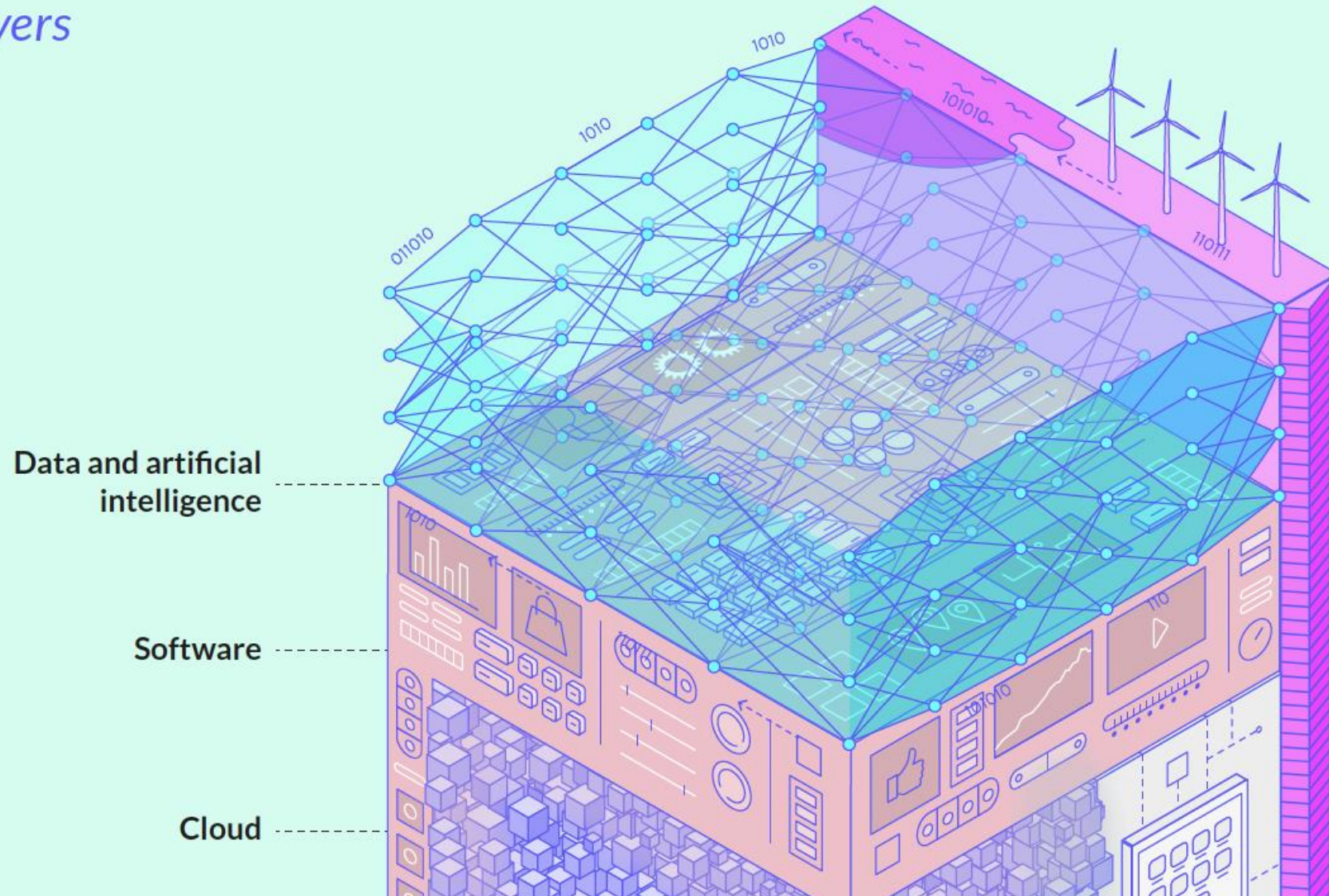
Bram Vranken, Corporate Europe Observatory researcher and
campaigner, says:

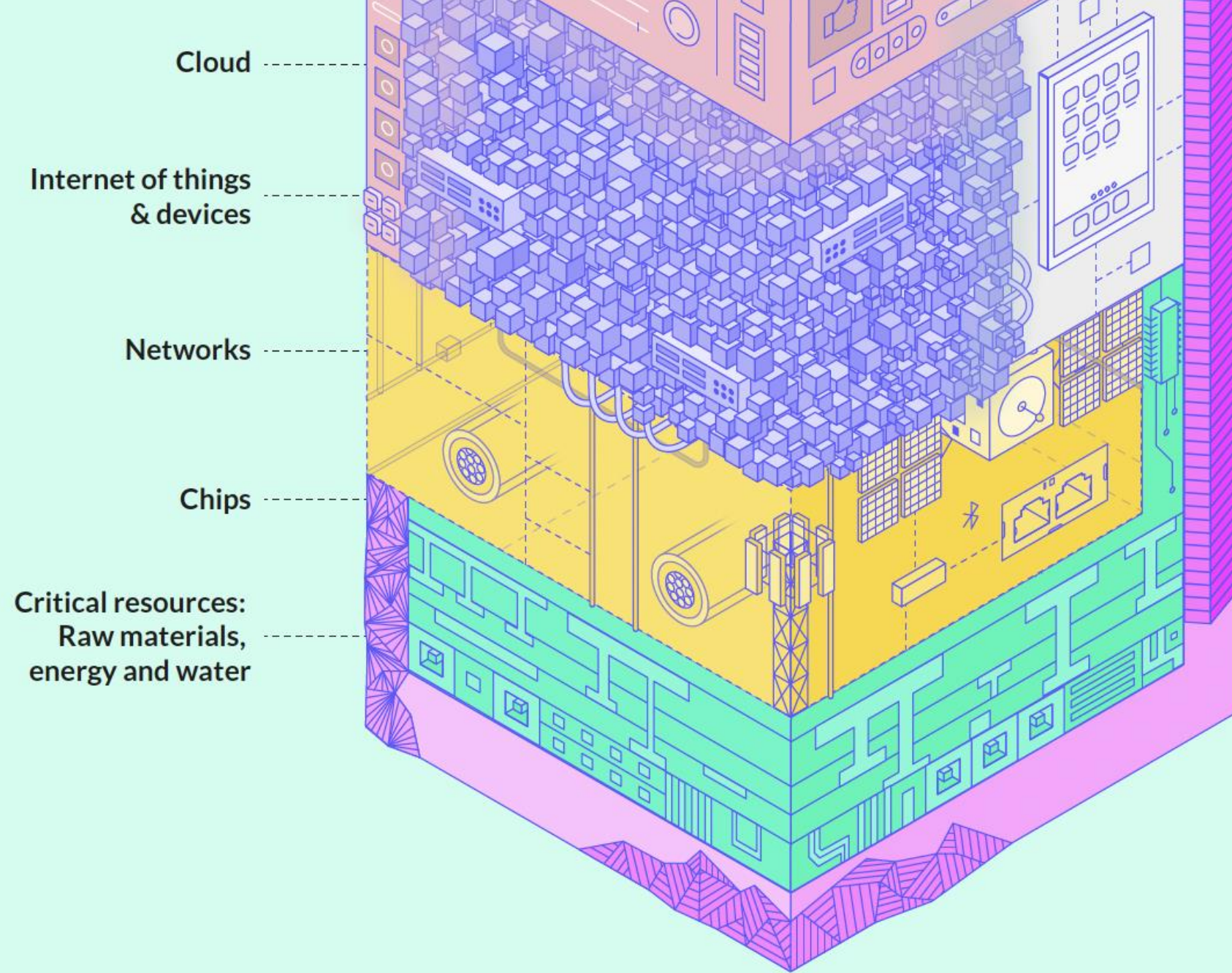
*“The EU Commission’s obsession with ‘simplification’
and ‘competitiveness’ is opening the door to
aggressive Big Tech lobbying.”*



The current digital stack

The layers





Europe's common digital stack

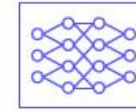
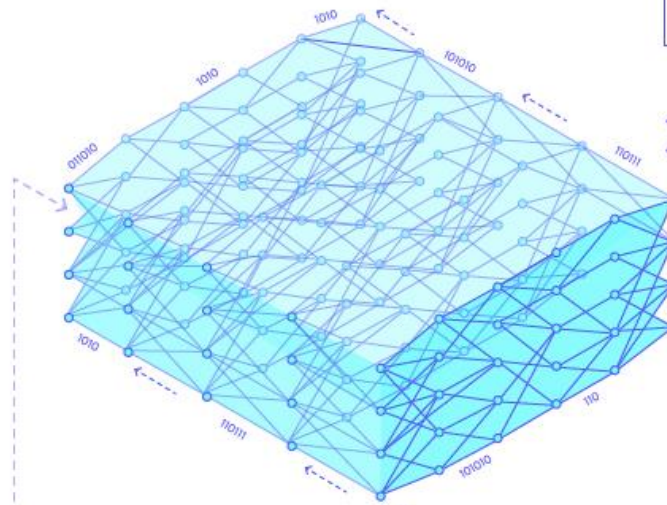
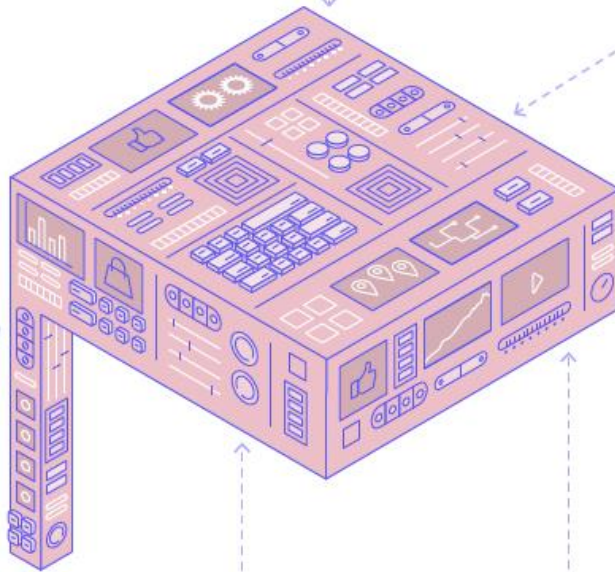
Key components/ common services

This robust infrastructure is built around key components designed to strengthen Europe's autonomy and drive innovation.



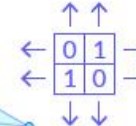
EuroOS

Europe's digital control center (featuring the Digital ID Wallet and Digital Euro)



SovereignAI

AI-as-a-service for Europe's strategic autonomy



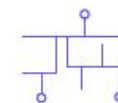
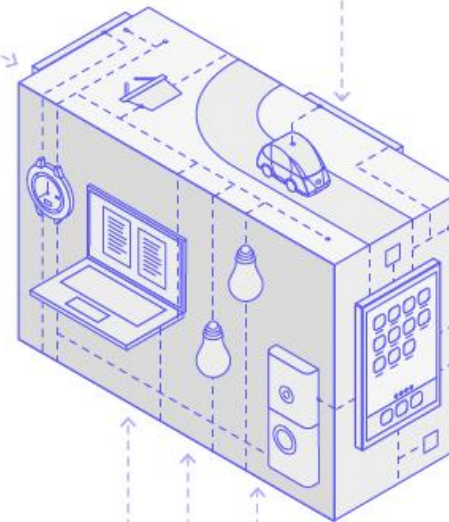
DataCommons

Federated data exchange for innovation



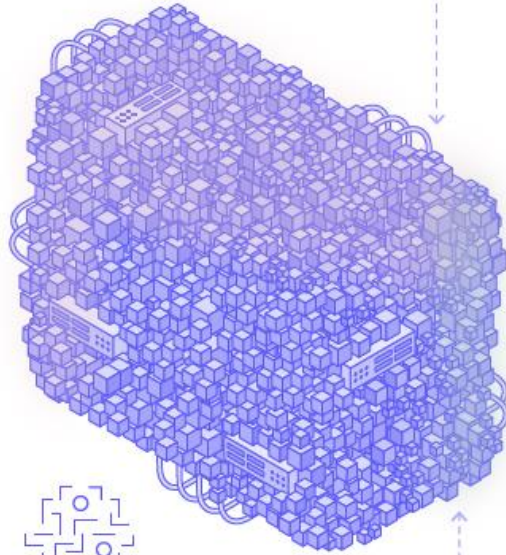
SmartEurope IoT

Trusted, interoperable, and connected systems

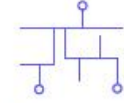
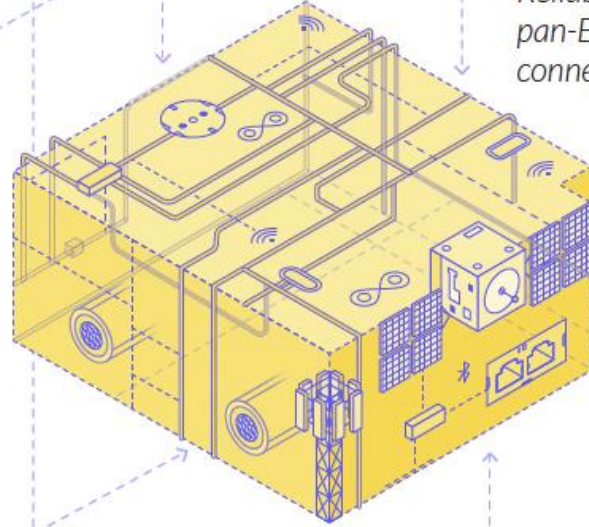
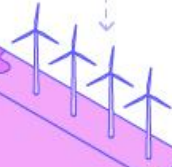


EuroConnect

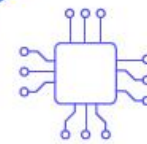
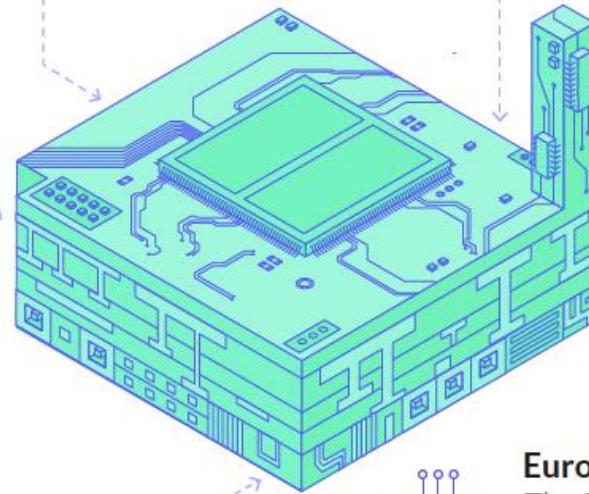
control center
(featuring the
Digital ID Wallet
and Digital Euro)



SovereignCloud
Europe's secure
and scalable
digital core



EuroConnect
Reliable
pan-European
connectivity



EuroChips
The foundation
of Europe's
digital power

Data and artificial intelligence

Software

Cloud

Internet of things & devices

Networks

Chips

Critical resources:
Raw materials,
energy and water

KEY COUNTRIES



US



China



US



China



Germany



US



China



US



China



Korea



Germany



US



China



Europe



Japan



Taiwan



Korea



US



Netherlands



US



China



Russia

KEY FIRMS

OpenAI, Microsoft, Google, Meta, Anthropic, XAI, Amazon, Baidu, Tencent, Alibaba, DeepSeek

Microsoft, Apple, Alphabet, Meta, Amazon, Salesforce, SAP, ByteDance, Tencent

Amazon, Microsoft, Alphabet, Alibaba

Amazon, Google, Apple, Samsung, Huawei, Bosch, Siemens, Xiaomi

Huawei, Nokia, Ericsson, ZTE, SpaceX, NEC

TSMC, Samsung, Intel, NVIDIA, AMD, ASML

Chinese government (through SOEs e.g., China Rare Earth Group), ExxonMobil, Gazprom

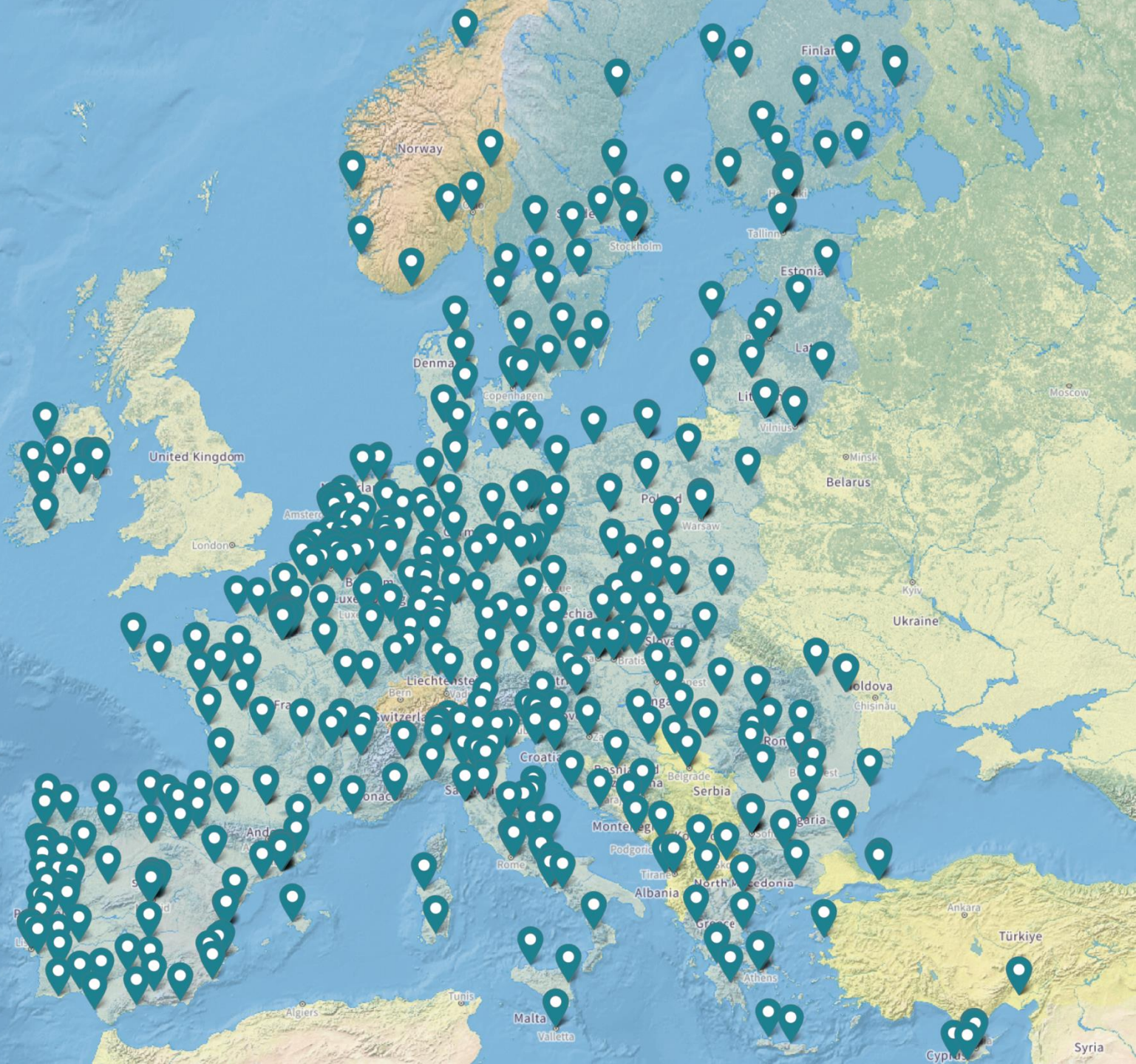
“Cloud infrastructure... paradoxically described as ‘sovereign’ because it’s located on European soil— though still owned by hyperscalers.”





<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T59HRvlaMyc>

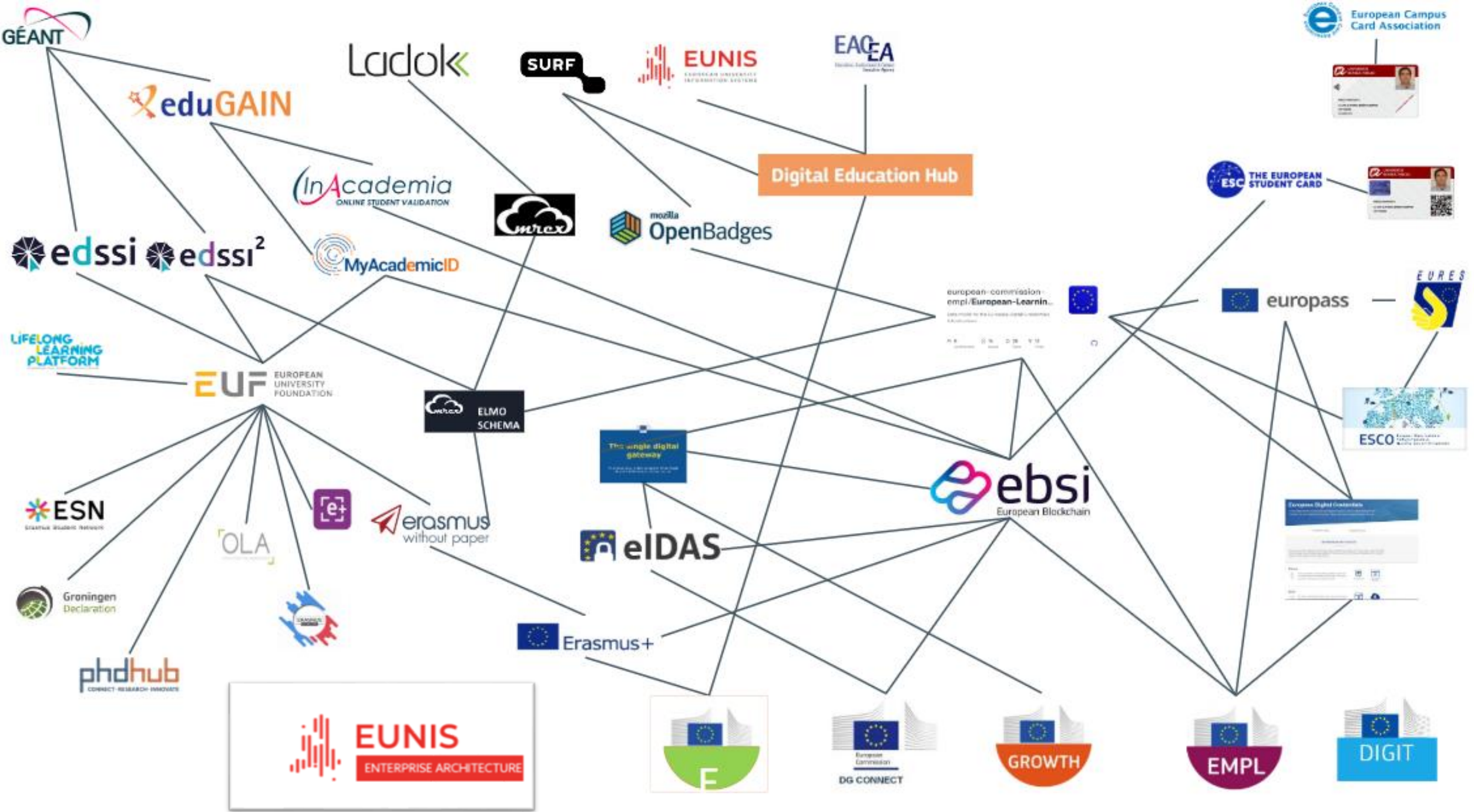
- 65 European University Alliances
- 570 higher education institutions involved
- Covering 35 countries
- 2200 associated partners
- 1,2billion euro Erasmus+ support
- 159 joint degrees developed

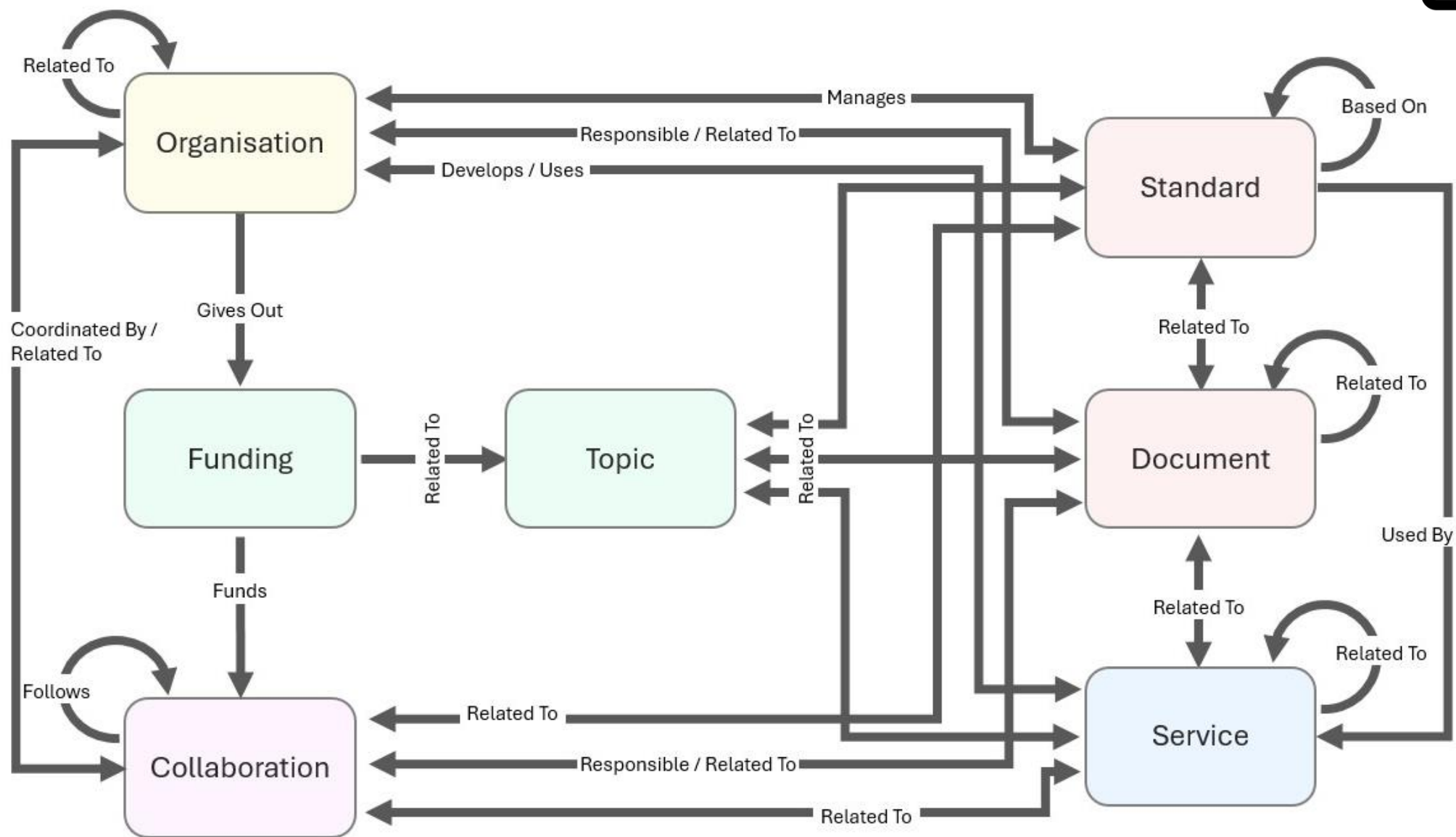


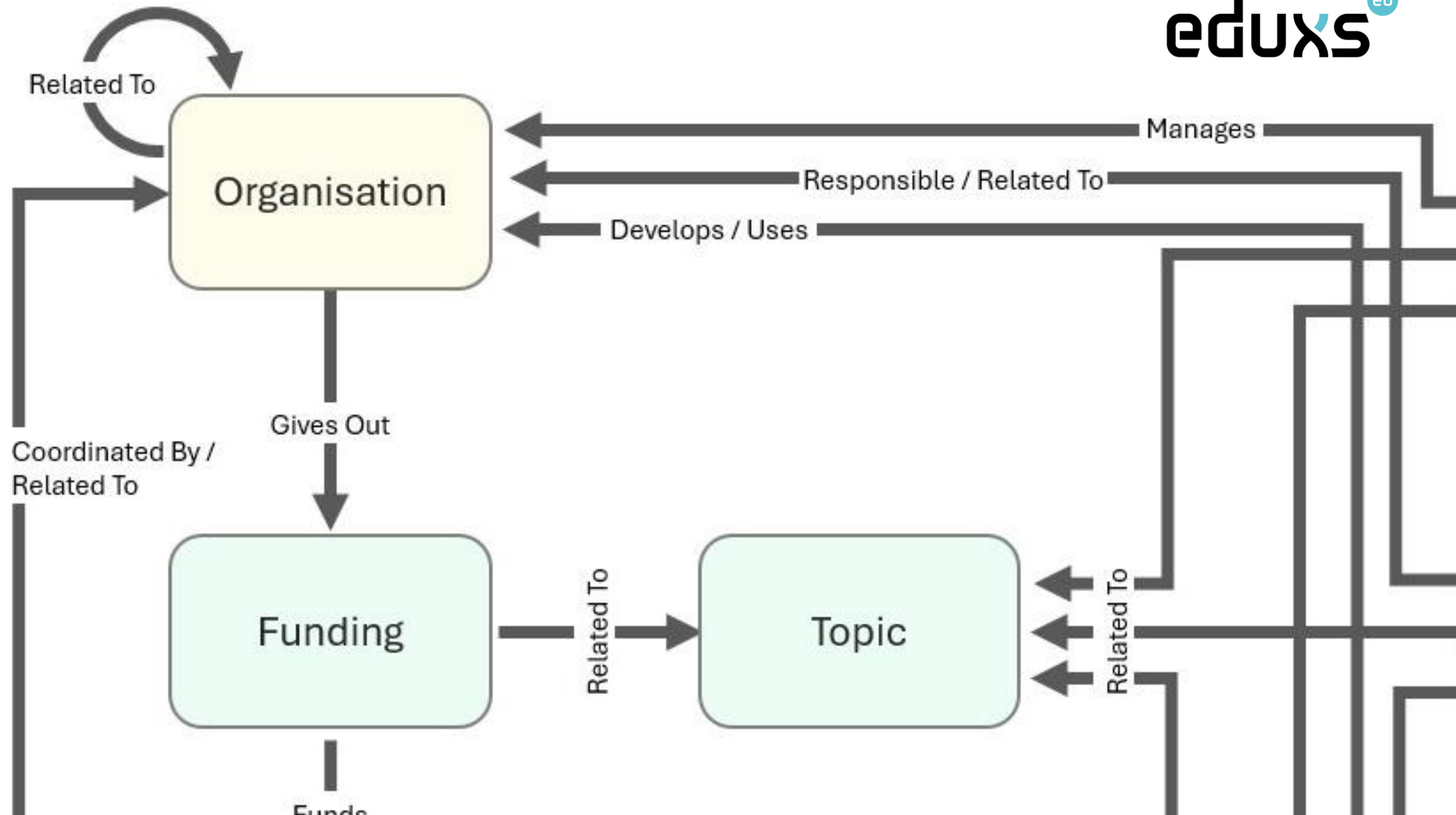
“We can no longer admire the problem.
There can be no debate on the ‘**why**’.

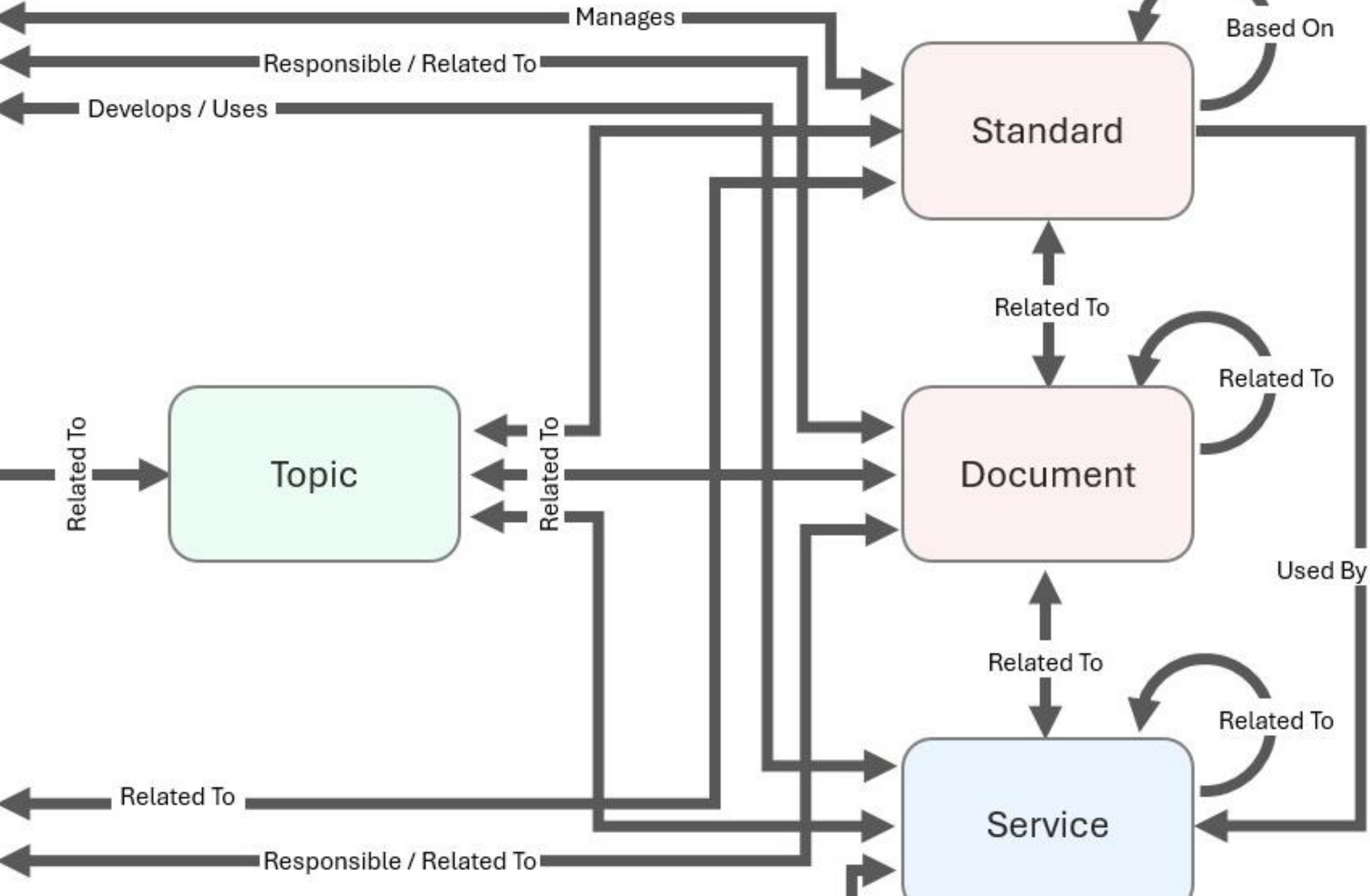
The issue is now **how**.”

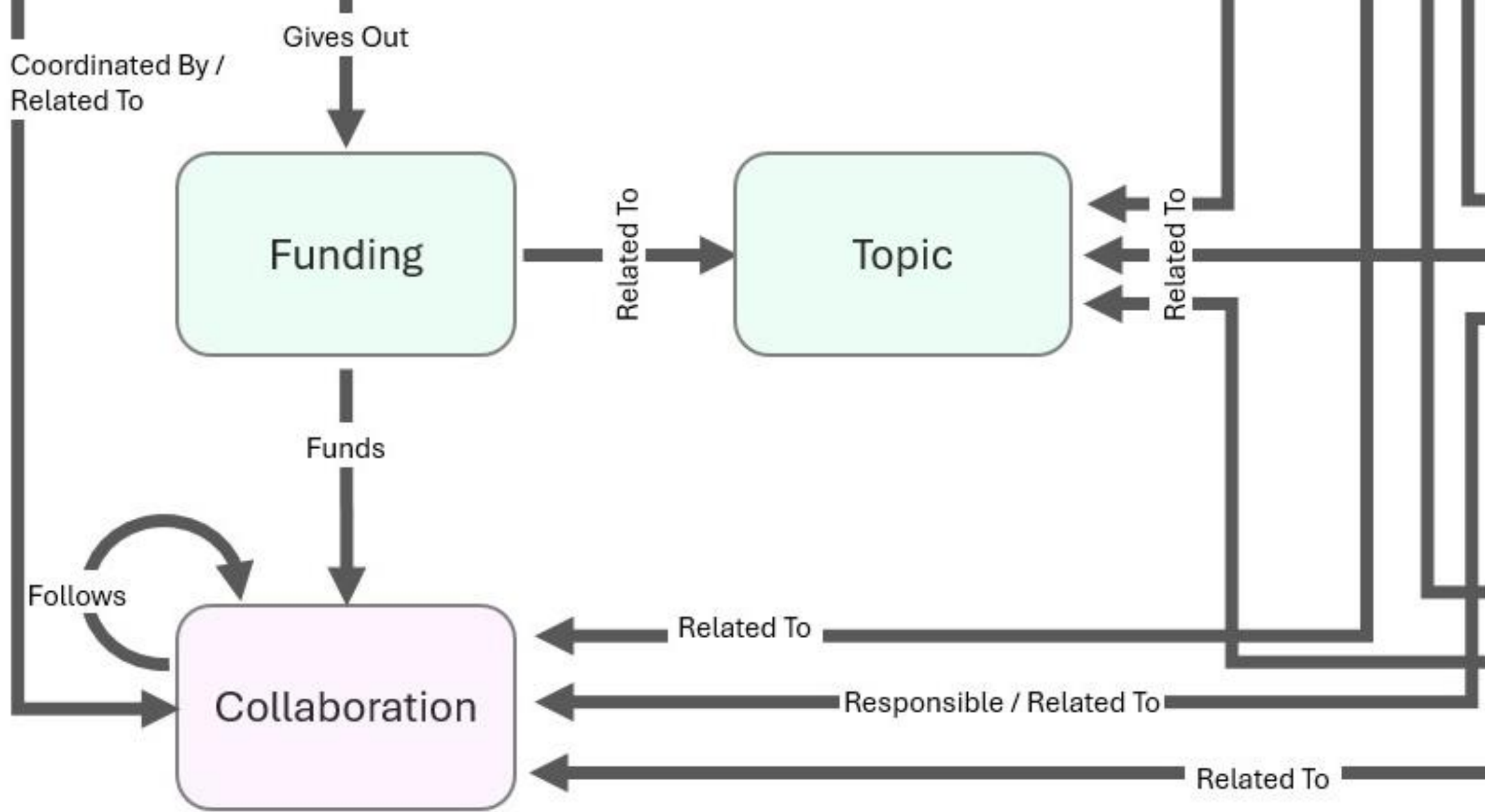
- *Eurostack report*





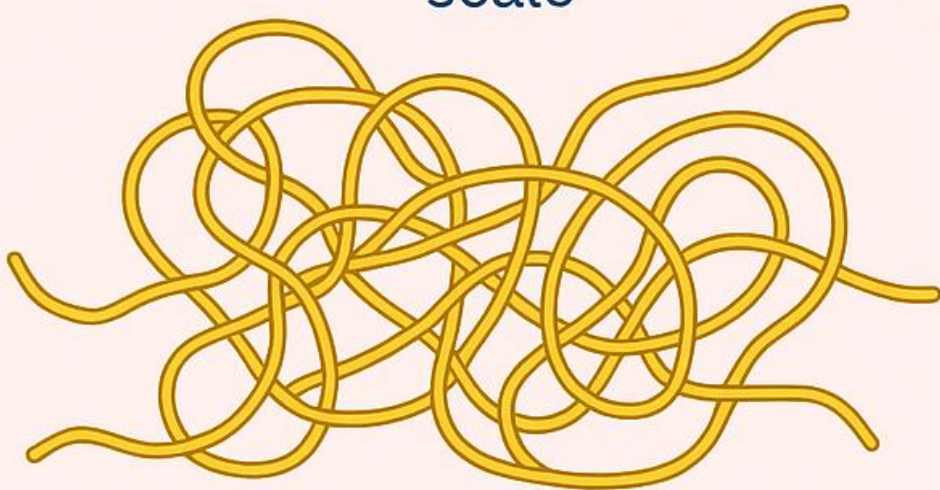




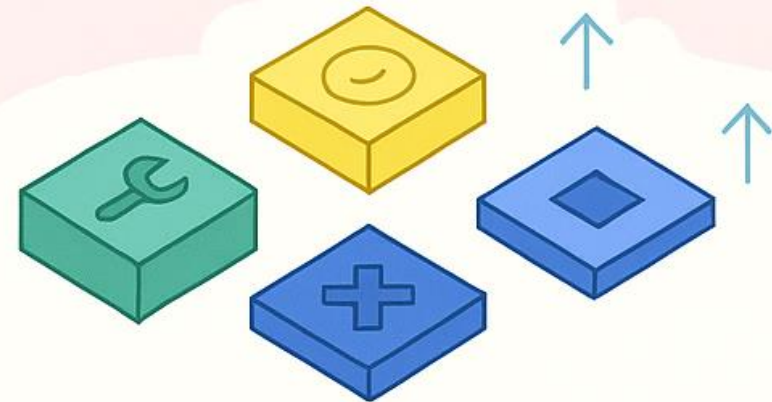


65 alliances. 570+ HEIs. A shared infrastructure can't wait.

Without shared
scaffolding,
platforms cannot
scale

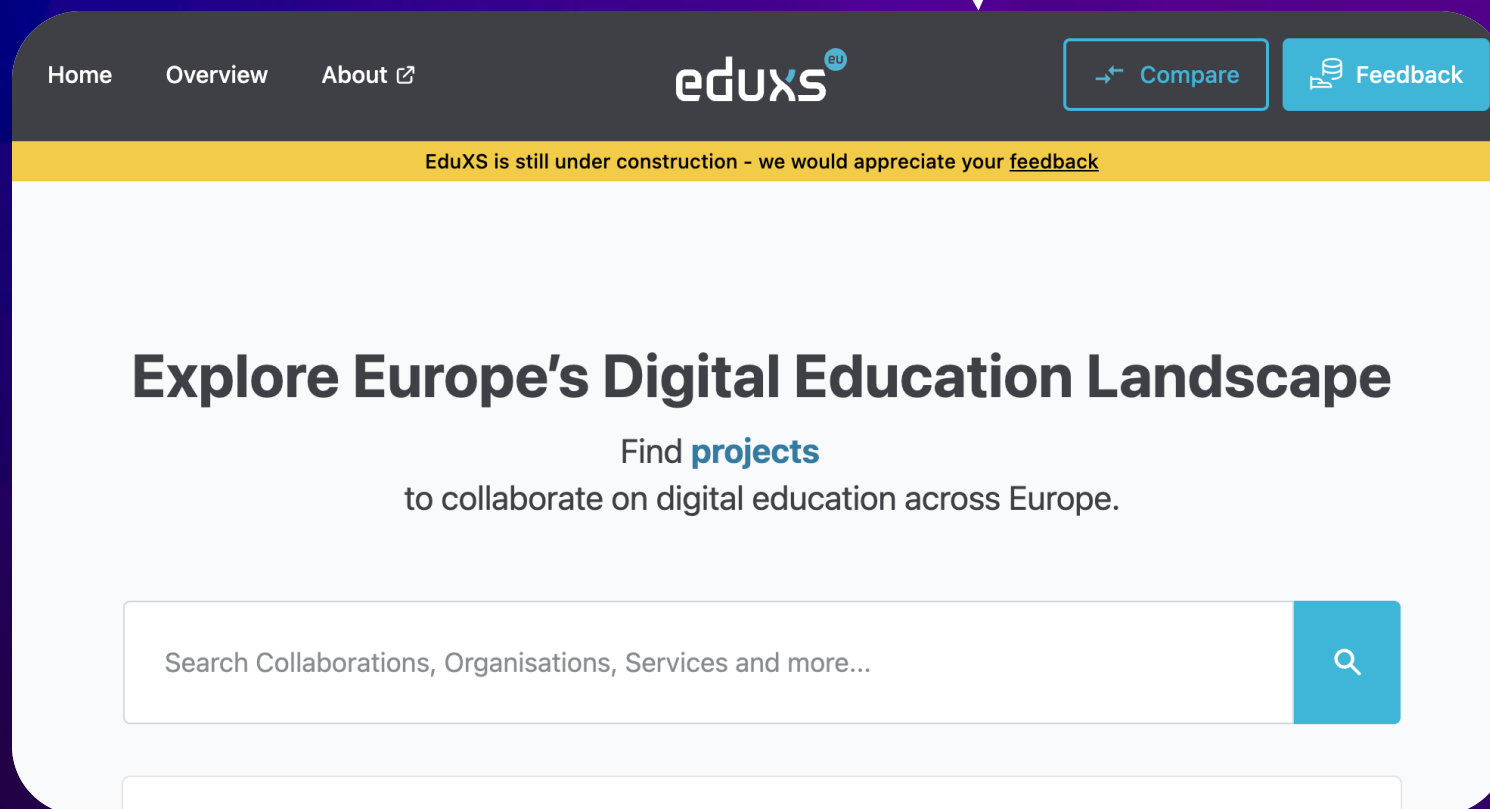


Interoperability
is urgent,
not optional

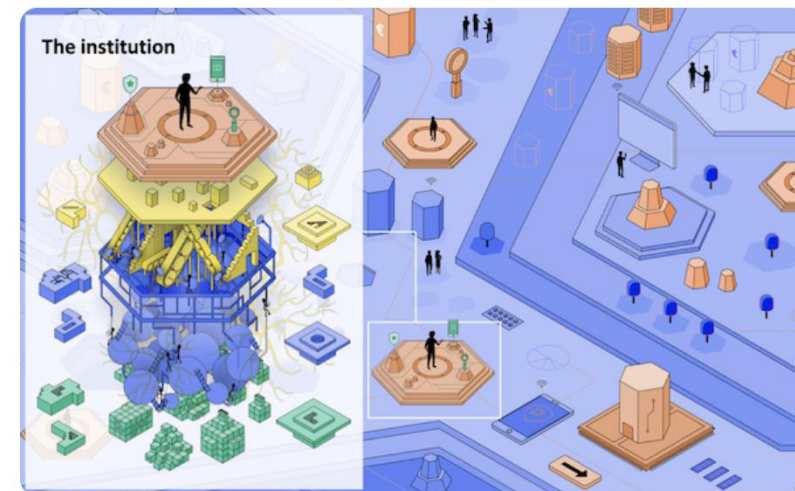


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Slide deck Educational Interoperability



The slide deck begins with the educational ecosystem and then zooms in on the institution. What does the world that facilitates the learner journey look like?

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