

# STOA Roundtable on Digital Sovereign Identity

11/06/2020, 15:00-16:30 CET

Webex meeting

## Speakers' biographies

**Eva KAILI**, MEP & STOA Chair



Eva Kaili is a Member of the European Parliament, part of the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) Delegation since 2014. She is the Chair of the Future of Science and Technology Panel in the European Parliament #STOA, Member of the Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) and Substitute Member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON) and the Committee on Budgets (BUDG). In her capacity, she has been working intensively on promoting innovation as a driving force of the establishment of the European Digital Single Market. She has been the draftsman of multiple pieces of legislation in the fields of blockchain technology, online platforms, big data, Fintech, AI and cybersecurity.

**Remy KNECHT**, COO of ITSME.be



Remy joined Belgian Mobile ID in 2015 at the start of the itsme® project and is now COO, responsible for Delivery & Operations. He has a background of 20 years in telecommunication services where he worked with all major telecommunication companies in Belgium in various positions on technical development, innovation, product development and marketing. He has a passion to explore new solutions in the digital world using cutting edge technologies that bring value and open new opportunities to companies and consumers. Remy started his career in the transport and aviation industry and has a degree in Civil Engineering, an ATPL pilot license and several certifications in Cyber Security and Defense.

**Daniel DU SEUIL**, Convenor European Self Sovereign Identity Framework (EBSI)



Daniel Du Seuil is the convenor of the European Self Sovereign Identity Framework within the European Blockchain Partnership. This partnership of 30 EU member states and related countries cooperate in the establishment of a European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI) that will support the delivery of cross-border digital public services, with the highest standards of security and privacy. Daniel is also the initiator and project leader of the National Belgian SSI project Blockchain on the move. He is currently working as a project manager digital transformation at Digipolis Ghent and was the former blockchain program manager of the Flemish government. He is also a member of the EU blockchain observatory and co-initiator of the Belgian blockchain taskforce at Beltug.

**Loretta ANANIA**, Scientific Officer at DG Connect, European Commission



Loretta Anania works at the European Commission, DG Communication Networks Content & Technologies, in the Next Generation Internet unit. She has a BA from Sussex University and a PhD from MIT. She worked 12 years in the US teaching in two universities, as journalist and telecommunication consultant, researcher with the MIT Media Lab and in the MIT Telecom Policy Research Program Her publications are in the domain of internet policy (access pricing, broadband convergence, multimodal interfaces, social media & search computing). Twice elected Chairman of the Board of the International Telecommunications Society ([www.its-world.org](http://www.its-world.org)) Dr. Anania serves on the Board of QoMEX

([www.qomex.org](http://www.qomex.org)). She managed over 200 EU R&D projects over 6 R&D Framework programs, with a passion for social innovation and SDGs as part of the EC's digital single market strategy for sustainable growth and jobs.

**Thibaut VERBIEST**, Head of Regulatory Affairs Europe & Africa at Diginex, ELONTech Advisor



Thibault Verbiest is Head of Regulatory Affairs for Europe & Africa based in London, where he oversees the legal and compliance functions of the firm while managing its relations with regulators across those continents. Prior to joining Diginex, Thibault was a partner at DS Avocats and headed the fintech, digital banking and crypto-finance practice. Before DS Avocats, he was a partner at Gaille Fleurance, advising the Belgian federal government on internet policymaking. He has also worked on the blockchain policymaking for the French government, including drafting the PACTE crypto-assets legislation and has co-authored books on crypto-finance regulation. He continues to advise on blockchain policy with the European

Blockchain Observatory & Forum, and the World Bank, and teaches crypto-finance regulation at Solvay Business School and at Skema Business School. He holds LLM degrees from Université libre de Bruxelles and from University of San Diego.

**Petros KAVASSALIS**, Associate Professor at University of the Aegean, ELONTech Advisor



Petros Kavassalis is an Associate Professor with the University of the Aegean (Dpt of Financial and Management Engineering – Information Management Lab, i4M Lab). In the past, he worked as a Researcher at the Ecole Polytechnique, Paris (Centre de Recherche en Gestion), at MIT (Research Program on Communication Policy – now part of SSRC), where he has contributed to the foundation of the MIT Internet Telecommunications Convergence Consortium MIT-ITC, ICS-Forth, Crete, and CTI, Greece. In recent years, Kavassalis' research focuses on the application of e-services and software that enable private and public organizations to explore the

potential of advanced identity management technologies and the secure environment established by the eIDAS Regulation.

**Ivars IJABS**, MEP and STOA 2nd Vice-Chair



Ivars Ijabs is a Member of the European Parliament and 2nd Vice-Chair of the Panel for the Future of Science and Technology (STOA). He is a Member of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), and the Delegation for relations with the United States, and a Substitute Member of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, the Delegation for relations with the countries of the Andean Community, the Delegation for relations with the countries of Southeast Asia and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly. From 2014 to 2019 Ivars Ijabs was Chairman of the Board of the Foundation for an Open Society DOTS. From 2009 to 2013 he was Chairman of

the Board of the Latvian Association of Political Scientists. Since 2018 he is a Corresponding member of the Latvian Academy of Science.