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# “Electronic Signatures & Legal Framework”

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# Background to Legislation

- Electronic Signatures Directive 1999/93/EC
  - Electronic Communications Act 2000
- The Electronic Signatures Regulations 2002
- Draft Regulation on electronic identification and trusted services for electronic transactions in the internal market

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/policy/e-signature/eu\\_legislation/regulation](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/e-signature/eu_legislation/regulation)



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# Examples of Initiatives and Pilots

e-Codex

epSOS

PEPPOL

SPOCS

STORK



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# UK Government

The Government Digital Service is a new team within Cabinet Office tasked with transforming government digital services

<http://digital.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/about>



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# The Government Digital Service Projects

- Assisted Digital
- Digital Engagement
- Directgov
- ID Assurance
- Innovation
- Single government domain
- Archive of all blogs



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# The Government Digital Service

“Digital by Default”



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# Why do Notaries need E-signatures?

- To meet the expectations of citizens and business in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.
- To adapt traditional practices to the digital age.
  - To enable the profession to play its vital role in International Commerce in a changing world.
- To fulfil their role as trusted third parties in an electronic environment.



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# What remains to be done?

Governments to lead by example and encourage citizens to communicate electronically through legislation and example

Competent Authorities and other stakeholders to embrace “Digital World”

Courts & State Authorities to accept digitally signed documents from foreign jurisdictions.



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