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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(1.9.2026)

Article 5a (15) of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹ establishes that the use of the EU Digital Identity Wallets is voluntary. It states that access to public and private services, access to the labour market and freedom to conduct business shall not in any way be restricted or made disadvantageous to natural or legal persons that do not use EU Digital Identity Wallets and that it shall remain possible to access public and private services by other existing identification and authentication means. In addition, Regulation (EU) 2024/1183 of the European Parliament and of the Council², which amended Regulation (EU) No 910/2014, does not foresee a discontinuation of national identification systems in the context of the deployment of the EU Digital Identity Wallets.

For the digital euro, this means that the EU Digital Identity Wallets are a voluntary option that citizens can use, if they wish, for identification, onboarding and authorising payments with the digital euro. In order to enable this option for users, Article 25 of the Commission proposal provides that front-end services shall be interoperable with, or integrated into, the EU Digital Identity Wallets. It also provides that on request by digital euro users, payment service providers distributing the digital euro shall ensure that those users can rely on the functionalities of their EU Digital Identity Wallets.

¹ Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC (OJ L 257, 28.8.2014, p. 73, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2014/910/oj>).

² Regulation (EU) 2024/1183 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 April 2024 amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 as regards establishing the European Digital Identity Framework (OJ L, 2024/1183, 30.4.2024, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/1183/oj>).