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**PRESS RELEASE**

**Aristotle University launches the Digital European Student Card (ESC)  
first in Greece**

Thessaloniki, 9/3/2026

Aristotle University is the first Greek university to put the Digital European Student Card (European Student Card – ESC) into full operational use, actively strengthening the participation of its students in the European Education Area.

More than 4,500 students of Aristotle University have already successfully issued the Digital European Student Card. The new digital service, fully aligned with the directions of the European Union, provides students with modern tools that facilitate mobility, strengthen connections with European universities, and enable access to academic services abroad.

The operational launch of the Digital European Student Card builds on the capabilities developed through the innovative open-source electronic student information system UniverSIS, which Aristotle University implemented in collaboration with Democritus University of Thrace. The system recently received the 1st Digital Governance Award in the category “Best Applied Idea.”

On the occasion of this new achievement of the Institution, the Rector of Aristotle University, Professor Kyriakos Anastasiadis, stated: *“The operational launch of the Digital European Student Card at Aristotle University represents another substantial step in the digital transformation of our Institution. As the first Greek university to implement the European Student Card Initiative, we demonstrate in practice our strategic commitment to a University that is open, interconnected, and fully integrated into the European Education Area. Aristotle University will continue to invest in solutions that strengthen the quality of studies and the European perspective of its students.”*

## **Student in Greece, identity across Europe**

The new digital card provides outgoing Erasmus+ students, as well as all students participating in mobility programs, with a common identification method that certifies their student status across all EU countries.

### **What it offers to the student community**

The digital student card functions as a unified identification tool for all participants in mobility programs, allowing:

- electronic identification at other European universities
- access to university services such as libraries, dining facilities, and campus infrastructure
- simpler Erasmus procedures with less bureaucracy
- access to student discounts in many European countries

### **Digital, immediate, and secure**

The card is immediately available in digital form without the involvement of the Secretariat. It includes a verification mechanism via **QR code** and is issued through the University's Electronic Secretariat system, with full compliance with **GDPR** requirements.

The initiative of Aristotle University paves the way for the adoption of the European Student Card by other Greek universities. At the same time, it lays the groundwork for future integration with European digital identity infrastructures and the **EU** Digital Identity Wallet.

The implementation meets the requirements of the European Student Card Initiative (ESCI) and the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) held by Aristotle University. The project was also designed and implemented in cooperation with the competent services of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports.

More information about the card issuance process is available here:

<https://it.auth.gr/manuals/esc-card/>

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*We kindly request that this event be published, broadcast, and covered by the media.*