

DECENTRALIZED IDs FOR SELF-SOVEREIGNTY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS:

DIGITAL POWERS OF ATTORNEY TO PREVENT BORDER CROSSING OF CHILDREN WITH
FORGED DOCUMENTS

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BLOCKCHAIN FOR HUMANITY GLOBAL CHALLENGE

In cooperation with



Executive Summary

Human trafficking (HT) is one of the most disturbing problems facing our global community. In Moldova, it can affect anyone, from rich to poor, from educated to not. HT strips away basic human dignity from its victims.

HT often leads to modern day slavery, and in the Moldovan case, sex slavery. HT exists in one country, it has a ripple effect across the entire globe. Not only does it affect the victim, his/her family and community, the current rates of HT cripple local economies and weaken governing institutions. This global problem is degrading to humanity and should be tackled from all angles.

The sought outcome of the pilot is “to establish a unique, secure, digital ID for children and minors aged 0-14, with modalities of linking children’s personal ID to that of their family members”.

This document is a response to this open challenge, developed by a team of four women, two of whom were born in Moldova and have extensive experience in technology, blockchain and business and two women based in the United States with extensive experiences with blockchain for good and emerging self-sovereign identity technologies. We have identified a range of international partners and advisors to work with. The proposal outlines the basic components of a system to tackle one aspect of the challenge surrounding human trafficking (which is only one along many problems we are addressing), preventing the transport of ALL children across borders on semi-falsified or forcefully signed documents granting parental permission for them to travel.

In this project we aim to solve a very small piece of a much broader problem. But even then, solving a small part of the puzzle, requires hard work, lots of resources, a holistic approach and many committed partners. This problem is too big to be solved by one group or one tool.

A unique, secure digital ID can be achieved with the modern technology, there are several organisations that are doing this, and we partnered with many of them; a result that can be scaled and implemented in other countries with HT problem.

In order to educate and eradicate this problem we need:

- Local partners that know the territory and are persistent in their work.
- Local authorities to be involved. In countries like Moldova where the average monthly wage is below US\$300, bribery is common. This undermines trust in government, which makes the partnership/collaboration with the local government as a weak link
- International partners that have been in the space of HT or/and eID and blockchain, and have worked on related implementations
- Global expertise in designing solutions for human trafficking working inside the project team
- Academic partners that will independently assess the progress and the impact of the project and give a transparent feedback and suggestions for optimization
- International partners to insure the scalability of the project
- International support and engagement with Europol, Frontex and the Organisation for Security Cooperation in Europe, and EU member state police forces
- Financial support from private and public funds
- Direct access to modern slavery and human trafficking publications for global dissemination of project outcomes.
- At least another Partner country.

The solution we identified might sound easy and trivial, but its implementation will be a demanding process. We remain open to learning more as the project unfolds and will accept/integrate new solutions if need be.

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The Moldovan Context

In order to develop and implement a solution that is viable to stop child trafficking in Moldova, it is critical to understand the Moldovan context and how and why child trafficking develops inside and outside the country.¹

In the first years after obtaining its independence in 1991 with USSR's dissolution, the Republic of Moldova saw an armed conflict in Transnistrian region, an economic crisis that led to high unemployment and an impoverished population, and as a result, massive exodus of the labour force to other countries in search of jobs and means of survival. In the 90s, most of the population of Moldova, especially in the rural areas, did not only have any personal experience of travelling abroad, but also any concept of the reality of life in other countries, or possibilities of departure from their country or legal employment abroad. It made them vulnerable to doubtful migration organisation proposals coming from various dealers, and even organised crime, often covered by official firms. As a result, a part of Moldovan migrants stayed in countries of destination illegally being engaged in the informal sphere of the labour market, as well as outside of the market, i.e. marginal and even criminal sphere. The Information and Security Service of the Republic of Moldova has estimated that 1.2 to 2 million Moldovan citizens (almost 45% of a population of some 3.6 million) are working abroad, most illegally. More than half of them are mothers who are forced to leave their children behind. Such a state of society facilitated the emergence of sexual and labour exploitation of migrants from Moldova, and of their children they left behind.

Average portrait of a child-victim of trafficking in children

While the cause of the trafficking of children from Moldova is a wide range of demands from abroad for those children, the **primary vulnerabilities** for Moldovan children include poverty, abuse, domestic violence, lack of employment, corruption, lack of education, and awareness of and information for victims. According to one of the studies of the International

¹ The research for the Moldovan context was largely based on the research report by the International Center for Women Rights Protection and Promotion "La Strada", Moldova, in cooperation with Italian non-governmental organization — Associazione ITACA Ong-Onlus: "OVERVIEW OF THE CHILD TRAFFICKING PHENOMENON IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA 2010".

Centre “La Strada”, the most at-risk profile is unemployed young women in poverty from rural areas.

Poverty and lack of employment prospects are not the only explanation for the spread of the human trafficking phenomenon, including child trafficking in Moldova. According to the same study, a high risk group of children that can be exposed to trafficking includes children-orphans and children from incomplete families. If these children remain without parents’ supervision and are transferred to boarding schools, they become even more attractive targets for traffickers. Children have nobody to consult in making decisions about leaving to go abroad, and in the case of disappearance of such a child, nobody looks for her/him.

One of the specific challenges unique to the country, due to the high illegal migration of the labor force, is that after finding jobs and a certain financial security, parents strive for **family reunification**. So they often pay smugglers to transport their children outside of Moldova and to the new country of residence.

“Parents working abroad are ready to pay big money to the intermediaries for organisation of transportation of their children from Moldova to the country where these parents work illegally... But here, nobody can guarantee that this child will be transferred to his parents”, said Petru Boghean, Center to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Moldova.

Most commonly, children trafficked out of Moldova are then **coerced into begging, sexual exploitation, and forced labour** including agriculture, construction, and housework.

In 2005–2014, **major destination countries** for child-victims of trafficking were EU, Russia, Turkey, and Ukraine, which do not require visas from Moldovan citizens for entry, or because the visa is easy to obtain upon entrance into the country.

Methods of border crossing

Crossing of the border of the Republic of Moldova for the purpose of transportation of child trafficking victims was performed both legally (on legal grounds) and illegally. Legal

departure from the country supposes crossing the border at established border control points and based on documents, prepared in conformance with legal requirements. Illegal methods of taking-out of children included border-crossing through a border control point using forged documents or border-crossing bypassing border control points. The procedure of departure from the country is regulated by the Law on Exit from the Republic of Moldova and Entrance into the Republic of Moldova №269–XIII of November 9, 1994. Requirements to identification documents, including for the purpose of use abroad, are set out in the Law on Identification Documents from the National Passport System №273-XIII of November 9, 1994. As it was already noted, in late 2005, the regime of border crossing by minors was tightened with a view of prevention of illegal departure of children from the country. Earlier, in order to take a child abroad, it would suffice to provide their birth certificate bearing no photograph and making it impossible to identify the child. After amendments were made to the specified laws, in order to cross the state border, a passport became a requirement — a document bearing a photo that allows identifying the owner, including biometric data (blood type, height, colour of eyes). Besides, when crossing the border, minors should be accompanied by a legal representative (one of the parents, guardian or tutor) or an accompanying person notarially assigned by a legal representative. To go to most of developed countries, a visa is also required. But victims of child trafficking are most often taken to countries that do not have visa regime for the citizens of Moldova (Russia, Turkey, Ukraine etc.), or to countries with facilitated visa regime (Turkey). Tightening of exit requirements for children brought a significant decrease to the cases of illegal travel of children. However, criminals continue using illegal methods of taking children abroad. According to International Center “La Strada”, in the period of 2005–2009, 20% of child trafficking victims were taken out of the country bypassing border control points. It should be noted that the border between the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine is not demarcated, and the part of the border in the East of the country, in Transnistria, is almost uncontrolled by Moldovan authorities after the armed conflict in that region in the 90s. According to existing data, it is exactly through this part of the border that children are carried out to Ukraine and then to other countries by transport along country roads or on foot.

Current Border Crossing Process with Third Party Custodian

Currently if minors need to travel abroad, they can do so accompanied by at least one of the parents or a third party/custodian that has a notarized power of attorney from one of the parents or the child's legal representative. All parties need to have passports. In addition, the parent(s) needs to present the child's birth certificate to the notary to prove the parent/minor relationship. In the event of a power of attorney, the purpose, destination and duration of the trip need to be included.

Technology Context

Technologists have been working for many years to innovate ways to support the emergence of an identity layer of the internet. In particular a layer that empowers individuals to manage, own and control their own digital identities - that is user-centric. Without this type of architecture one ends up with people's identities that are either owned by corporations or issued by governments. Figuring out this challenge has been particularly hard but over the last 12 years innovators have gathered twice a year at the Internet Identity Workshop, co-lead by Kaliya Young on the project team.

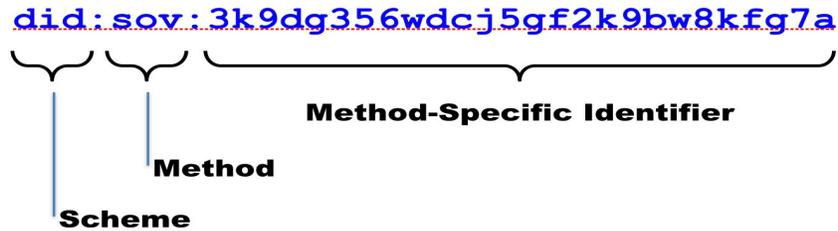
In the last two years several breakthroughs have occurred and a new name has been found for this technology - Self-Sovereign Identity. At its core is a set of specifications that create decentralized identifiers for individuals that they own that leverages Public Key Infrastructure. A complementary set of specifications permit the issuance of verified claims to individuals. Both of these take advantage of shared ledgers (also known as blockchains) to manage the keys and claims all while never putting sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (PII) on the blockchain. In 2016 the first ID2020 conference was convened at the UN and it was there that technologists from the global north and those concerned about critical humanitarian issues like refugees, internally displaced people, and victims of human trafficking considered how Self-Sovereign Identity might be applicable to these challenges.

Self-Sovereign Identity

Self Sovereign Identity Technology empowers individuals to create digital anchors for their digital identities that are totally globally unique, a Decentralized Identifier, or DID. These unique identifiers can be stored in shared ledgers (also known as blockchains).

A Self-Sovereign Identity is a lifetime portable digital identity for any person, organization or thing that does not depend on a centralized authority and can never be taken away.

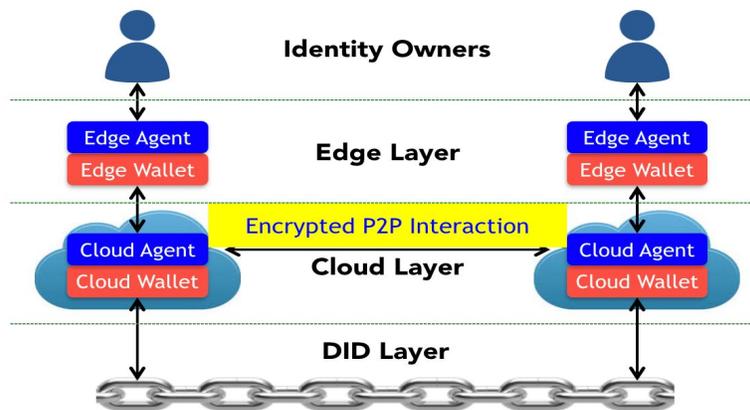
Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs) are globally resolvable, cryptographically-verifiable unique identifier that requires no centralized registration authority. This is what a DID looks like:



Associated with a DID is a DID Document written in JSON-LD, a form of JavaScript Object Notation, that records some simple information about the particular DID. Third party software is then used to support individuals with managing the vast array of DIDs that are connected to their Digital Identity. In this system there are no persistent identifiers that link all activity together. Each relationship with each party creates new DID's for the specific interaction and uses this to support an encrypted Peer-2-Peer Interaction.

This is a simplified picture of the decentralized identity stack.

The decentralized identity "stack"



This image was created by Drummond Reed, Chief Trust Officer of Sovrin Foundation and used with permission.

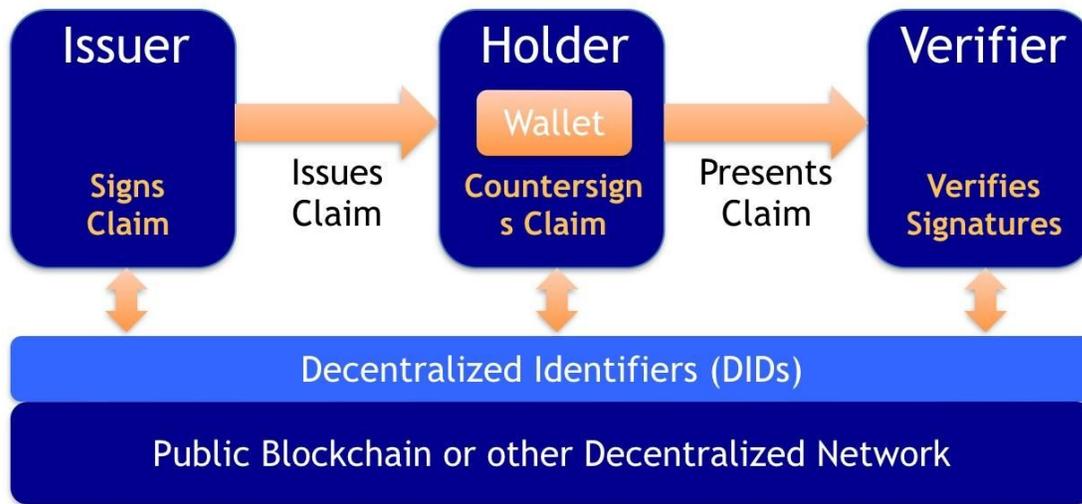
In this diagram each individual and organization has their own "cloud agent." There are several companies that provide cloud agent services. These are linked storage accounts for helping individuals manage their identity and data. Individuals will have multiple DIDs, one for every pairwise relationship, which must be managed by third party providers including

Consent.global and Evernym. Individuals can authorize a third party providers to manage their folder of DID numbers in the cloud agent and have access to this via an, edge wallet (app on the phone)..

Verified Claims

Self-Sovereign Identity provides containers for individuals to center digital selves that they own and control. However identifiers on their own without any context are not particularly helpful.

The verifiable claims architecture provides a way for individuals to collect claims about themselves from various parties who might be qualified or authoritative to issue such claims. A university is qualified to confer claims on students that have completed the requirements for a degree. Governments issue certificates of birth to parents who register the births of their children. Much of the management of these claims is being done with paper. This is insecure and not scalable in the digital realm.



This image was created by Drummond Reed, Chief Trust Officer of Sovrin Foundation and used with permission.

Once an individual has been issued a claim, such as a digital POA, they are free to present it to whoever they want. The party they present the claim to, the verifier like a Notary, can check

the veracity of the claim with the receipt that was recorded in the blockchain based on permissioned access without requiring all of a citizen's PII using a method called zero-knowledge proofs.

Open standards are being developed by the W3C to enable a digital verified claims ecosystem. We are excited to be pulling the most innovative efforts in Self-Sovereign IDentity and Verified Claims to address some aspects of critical issues that children vulnerable to human trafficking face in Moldova.

The (Narrow) Challenge

Our pilot solution is attempting to solve only a very specific problem out of the myriad of challenges that contribute to human and child trafficking. Due to local government corruption and the prevalence of counterfeit documents, our primary focus is to create a solution that eliminates the forgeability of Power of Attorney documentation and identifying documents that lead to the illegal/semi illegal border crossing of vulnerable children and their adult “guardians.”

How We Solve The Challenge

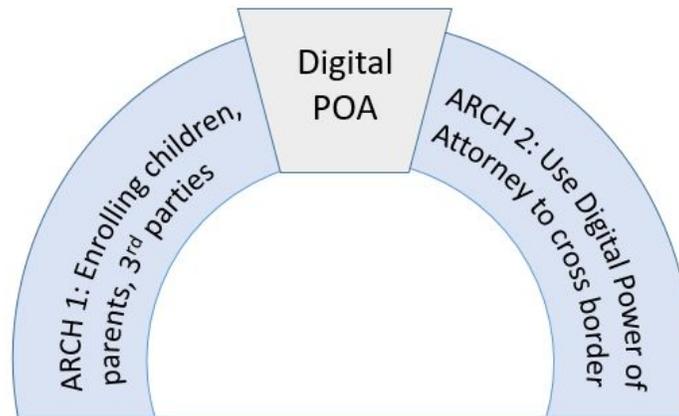
The Digital Power of Attorney Document is the cornerstone of the solution. We use the blockchain ledger and cloud agent to digitally register a power of attorney document witnessed by a licensed notary that is signed digitally by the parent and the custodian with the child present.

First step is to get the biometrics and other PII. The collection of biometrics and PII is to be completed by the licensed notaries when the child needs to travel abroad, without his parent(s). Newborns could undergo the process for a digital birth certificate in the hospitals or pediatric centers (more details will be provided if necessary).

Biometrics and other PII of the child, parents and custodians are securely recorded and stored off the blockchain in a cloud agent using a private-public key infrastructure that prevents unauthorized users from accessing a citizen’s personal information. The Sovrin ledger is a public-permissioned chain, (BitCoin is an example of a public-permissionless blockchain). The record of the digital POA will be stored in the cloud agent and viewable only by relevant stakeholders, while cloud agents service providers, like Consent.Global, will store the data in the parties’ individual cloud agents accounts.

A physical copy of the power of attorney that would also contain a digitally verifiable component such as a QR code is presented at the border where the border patrol verifies that the child is truly the child represented in the document via a biometric match, such as an iris scan. The border patrol will also ensure that the custodian matches the person represented in

the document. At border crossing, the guard can also use this blockchain-based system to record that the crossing happened.



1st Arch

Enrollment: The Parents, Children and Custodian all need to be enrolled. Each will need Self-Sovereign Identity and claims about them from the documents they present that are verified (passports, birth certificates etc.)

Keystone

Notary meets with the Child, Parent and Custodian who is travelling with the child and creates a Digital POA. This will be required for children crossing the border. Each user's Decentralized ID (DID) will be stored on the blockchain. The digital POA will be stored in the parties' individual cloud agent, hosted by service providers like Consent.Global.

2nd Arch

Border Crossing: The project will work with border patrol, train them and gather data.

The data should be analyzed, assessed by independent Institutes and consultants and the results should be optimized, in order to insure long term sustainability of the project.

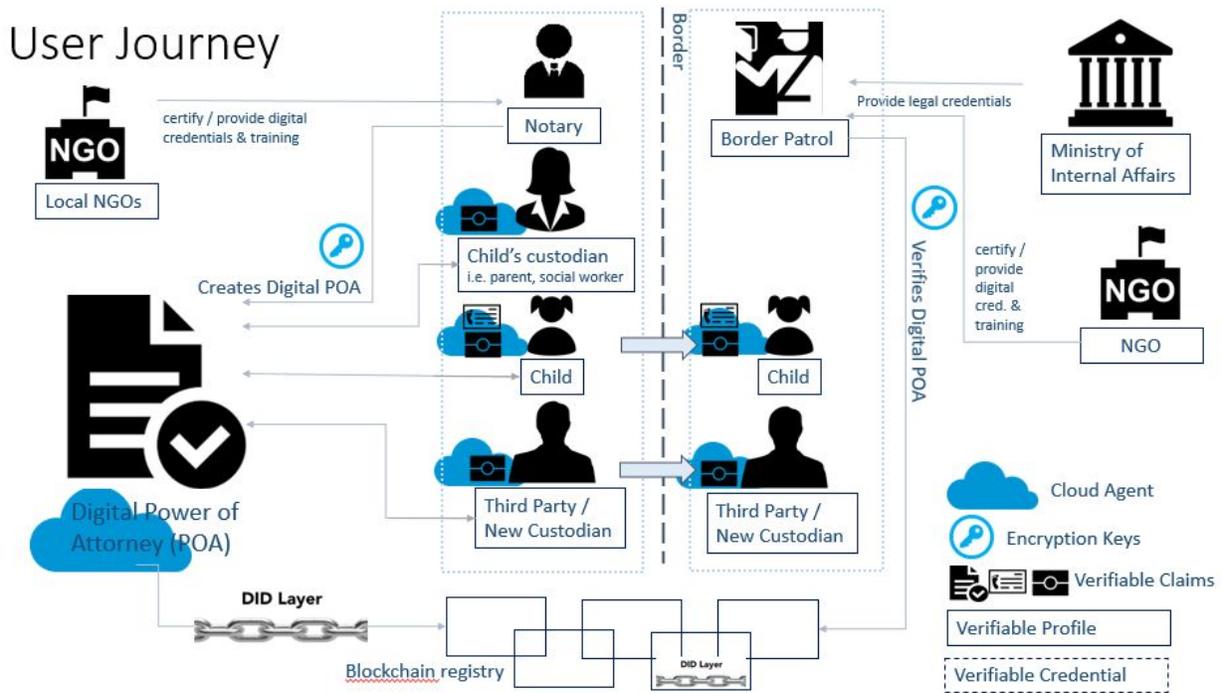
The User Journey

There are many steps through this journey. All of the steps we have articulated are oriented towards creating and then being able to use the Digital Power of Attorney.

Notaries are currently creating power of attorney documents that are required to cross borders with minors. The plan is to work with local NGO's who will certify notaries to:

1. Get Self-Sovereign Digital Identities established for all the parties to the transaction

2. Record in the Self-Sovereign Identity Cloud Agent a biometric for the child and third party custodian respectively
3. Verify the identity documents of all those presenting themselves, the parent, child and Third Party/New Custodian
4. Record verified claims about parties in each individual Self-Sovereign Identity Cloud Agent
5. Issue Digital Power of Attorney that binds all the parties and store it in the Cloud Agent.



Once the Digital Power of Attorney document has been created, it is stored in the parties' individual, private cloud agents and the Third Party/Custodian will receive a paper copy of the POA. A hash of the digital POA may also be stored on the blockchain if deemed necessary; however, to increase privacy, lower costs, and lower complexity, we propose to only store the DIDs on the distributed ledger. It must be emphasized that no personal information about

any parties is ever stored in a blockchain. By using the DID ledger, users can then access their private cloud agents which securely stores the POA and other personal information off-chain.

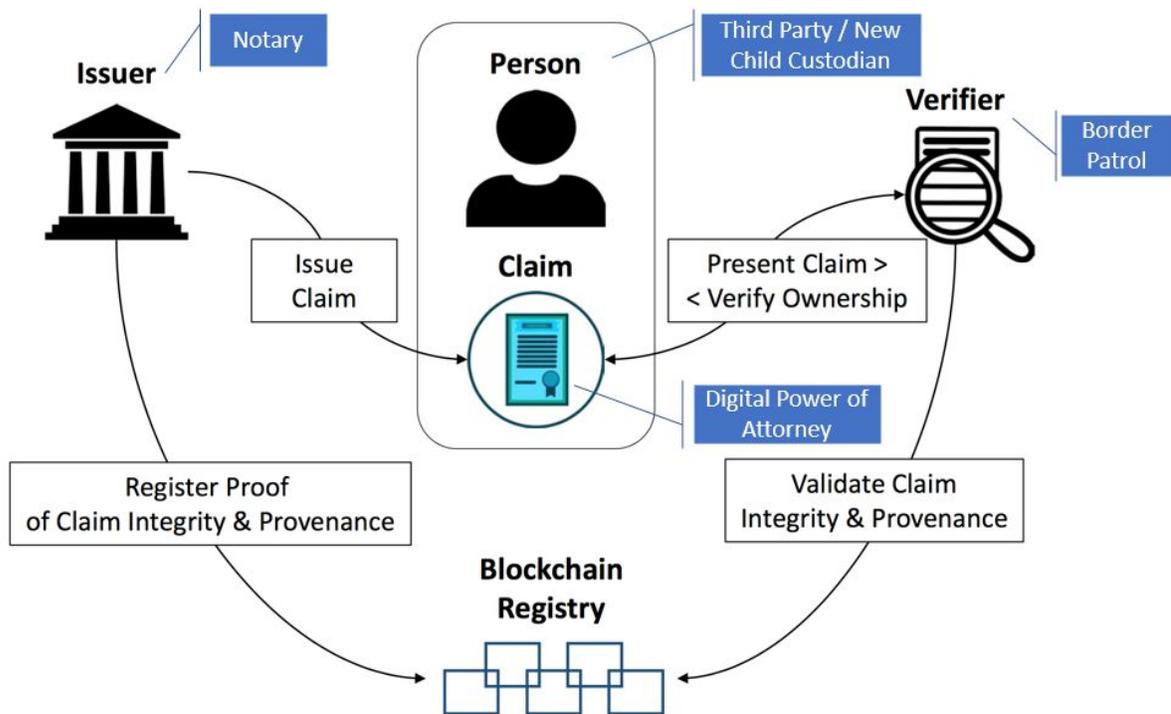
The Third Party Custodian must present either the digital POA or the paper copy of the POA with the QR code at the border. This will point to their biometrics in their SSI Cloud Agents. The Border Patrol will then scan the child's iris and match it against the iris scan stored in the cloud agent. If the scans match, then the POA is valid and the child and custodian can leave legally. If the scans do not match, then the POA is invalid and authorities are notified. (It is important to note that according to experts in the field, iRespond is the only biometric service provider that securely stores PII off-chain, which is the gold standard in privacy for Self-Sovereign Identity.)

A notification flow will be set up in place for The Child who has the digital POA in their cloud agent and checks in at the border. When The Child is checked in at the border, a notification is sent to the notary and the NGO so the POA issuers stay informed. When The Child arrives at their destination, he/she is checked in and a notification is sent to all the interested parties. If the notifications do not come in the expected arrival window, a "searching" workflow kicks in and everyone starts looking for The Child, meaning the child went missing.

Creating a Verified Claim

The architecture we proposed is articulated in a different way in this diagram. The Notary is the Issuer of the Verified Claim in this case the Digital Power of Attorney to Person in this diagram the Third Party/Custodian (the child would also carry this same claim with them). A record that the claim was issued will be recorded in the blockchain.

The claim, The Digital Power of Attorney, is presented to the Verifier in this case the Border Patrol.



This diagram was modified from one originally created by the US Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology in 2017 to explain the verified claims architecture.

To support this user journey we must build on existing and build new software components to support the creation of DIDs and the exchange of Verified Claims.

Software Development for key components:

- Software issuing “Credential” Licensing of the Notaries by the NGOs
- Software for the Notary
 - Creating the Self-Sovereign ID’s for the Parties
 - Recording Biometrics for the Parties
 - Creating and Signing the Digital POA providing a record to the parties and recording it in the blockchain
- Cloud Agents for the Parties
- Edge Agents (mobile phone applications) for the Parties

- Software for the Border Agents to be able to read and verify the Digital POA
- Software and Hardware to check the biometrics recorded in the Digital POA with the parties presenting themselves at the border.

Stakeholder Map

Civilians	Government Agencies	Nonprofits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Children - who travel abroad without their parent(s) ➤ Parents/Guardians - who are physically located in Moldova ➤ Custodians - who transport children with real documents ➤ Predators - who transport children with falsified documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ministry of Internal Affairs ➤ Anti traffic gov. agency ➤ Border Crossing stations ➤ Authorities that issues the travelling documents ➤ Hospitals and pediatric centers ➤ Notaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ International Organisation for Migration ➤ United Nations ➤ Lastrada.md ➤ Amnesty.org

Confirmed and Potential Partners

(local and international, that must be in place in order for the project to succeed)

Our team has agreements or is in conversations with the following organizations:



Sovrin Foundation



IOM.md



Lastrada.md



ATHackit.org



iRespond.org



SlaveFreeTrade.org



The Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs

Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs at Fordham University



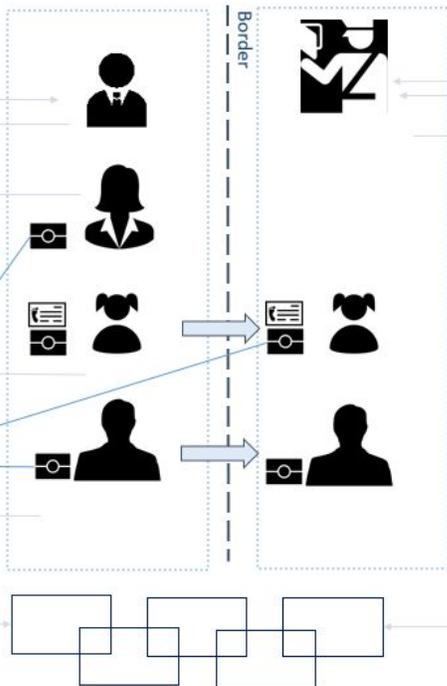
CAER: Center for Analysis and Evaluation of Reforms



Communitere.org

StrangerLabs

Partners



Partners beyond the technical aspects



Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs at Fordham University
Impact assessment



Center for Analysis and Evaluation of Reforms
Lobbying for reform with government



ATHack Inc.
Community building, empowerment and education



Communitere
Bringing the solution beyond Moldova

High Level Action Plan

Steps to undertake in order to insure the full engagement and best use of resources.

- Online meeting of all the key players (and role distribution)
- Timeline setting
- Written agreement of each partner's role and responsibilities
- Meeting all the key players in Moldova
 - Ministry of Internal Affairs
 - Anti traffic gov. agency
 - Border Crossing stations
 - Authorities that issues the travelling documents
 - Hospitals and pediatric centers
 - Notaries
 - International Organisation for Migration
 - United Nations

- Lastrada.md
- Amnesty.org
- Digital ID creation process
 - iRespond
 - Sovrin
 - SlaveFreeTrade
 - StrangerLabs
- Training the main actors in the acquisition of Digital POA
 - Anti traffic gov. agency
 - Border Crossing stations
 - Notaries
 - Embassies
 - International Organisation for Migration
 - United Nations
 - Lastrada.md
 - Amnesty.org
- Training the main beneficiaries in the acquisition of Digital POA
 - ATHackit
 - United Nations
 - Lastrada.md
 - Amnesty.org

- Implementation, Training and User testing
 - SlaveFreeTrade
 - Anti traffic gov. agency
 - Border Crossing stations
 - Notaries
 - Embassies
 - International Organisation for Migration
 - United Nations
 - Lastrada.md
 - Amnesty.org
- Project's impact evaluation
 - IIHA
 - CAER
- International Scalability
 - Comunitare
 - United Nations
 - Amnesty.org
 - International Organisation for Migration

Identified Risks

1. Political Climate Changes
2. Public/Private bribery
3. Need of stronger reinforcements in areas with frequent border crossing

4. HT deviation from offline to online
5. Intensified illegal border crossing in regions without formal control (Transnistria)
6. Errors in user-experience process flow

Examples of Risks & Risk Mitigations

Risk: Public/private bribery and enforcement at borders (The digital POA will be linked to the digital ID. **The system must transcend national borders in order to generate the expected results. The project must have at least another Partner County. Ex. Romania, Turkey, Russia)**

Risk Mitigation: It is possible for a trafficker with fake documents to bribe a Moldovan border patrol agent to not check the POA and documents, not scan the child, nor do proper due diligence at the checkpoint even with the digital POA stored on the blockchain. One possible avenue to mitigate this risk of traffickers successfully bribing Moldovan border patrol is to have a secondary scan at the subsequent border checkpoint in partnership with the Ukrainian and Romanian border patrol. For example, let's say a trafficker manages to bribe a Moldovan border patrol on the way to Ukraine. Once the trafficker and child pass through the Moldovan border, they must also pass their documents through the Ukrainian border. The Ukrainian border patrol will check the trafficker's documents in the blockchain. The Ukrainian patrol will see that there is no evidence of the Moldovan border patrol's due diligence, and will be able to notify authorities and take proper legal measures to return the child safely to Moldova. To this point, our proposal has politics on our side. Moldova is aiming to become part of the European free trade zone and because of this, it's border patrol must adhere to Euro Police mandates. If the Moldovan border patrol is found to be corrupt, this will weaken the country's chance of being accepted into the Schengen area agreement.

Risk: Lack of access to internet, smartphones, and areas of low connectivity

Risk Mitigation: To account for this gap in technology access, a QR code will be printed on the paper copy of the POA that the parent, child, and 3rd party custodian receives at the notary.

The Team

Anastasia Miron is Moldovan-born, Italy-raised, United States-seasoned social mompreneur, speaker and innovation evangelist. Known for her contagious energy and can-do attitude, she is passionate about challenging the status quo by empowering underprivileged people and communities all around the world. As many children from the former USSR sphere, she was left with her grandmother at age 9, so her parents could travel abroad to work. Her father was arrested in Portugal, and repatriated, her mother started a hard new life in Italy. Fortunately she was able to reunite with her mother and sister when she was 14. Her sister and Anastasia immigrated to Italy, where her mother set a new home for them.

This situation is not her destiny or karma, it is a systemic geo-political problem that millions of families undergo every year. This type of forced labor immigration process lead to a complex social-economical disaster with a long term negative consequences to states as Moldova, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and others.

She committed her life to staying involved in solving at least a small part of this massive problem. She volunteered at CPTF (first anti Human Traffic Organization in Moldova, started out in the '90s, integrated into iom.md), worked in Treviso's, Italy court and collaborated with the local police as a translator for Moldovan women victims of traffic, and haven't stopped since.

She has a deep, first hand knowledge about the issue of human trafficking in Moldova and a deep technical understanding of Blockchain Technology.

Kaliya Young, also known as "Identity Woman" is a globally recognized expert in self-sovereign digital identity. In 2005 she co-founded, the Internet Identity Workshop, the world's leading global forum for Self-Sovereign Identity that continues to meet twice a year.

She has a Master of Science in Identity Management and Security from UT Austin. She has literally been in the room participating in the development of the emerging open standards that are the basis of self-sovereign identity. She consults with a range of governments and companies around the world to understand looking to adopt these identity technologies that empower individuals and help articulate complex use-cases that bridge legacy systems.

Sara Golden specializes in blockchain applications for social impact. Previously, she was a Fellow at the Blockchain Trust Accelerator in Washington, D.C., a collaboration between New America, BitFury, and NDI. Sara has worked with social justice organizations, social enterprises, and labor unions on issues of women's economic empowerment at home and abroad. She currently works at a shipping and logistics startup in San Francisco and consults for non-profits and blockchain for good projects. She holds a Master's degree in international law and economics from Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies and a bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley. Sara believes powerful technologies like blockchain, which garner public attention and historic funding levels, should be used to solve the world's truly toughest challenges, like child trafficking. More importantly, as a women's rights advocate, Sara is deeply motivated to leverage her unique skills to potentially solve a small part of this global problem.

Born and raised in Moldova, **Tatiana Chicu** left home at the age of 19 to study abroad in France and, later on, US. She has always been passionate about giving back to communities through involvement in various non-profits with missions focused on empowering immigrants and helping them to adjust to a new culture. She has developed a solid understanding of the human and child trafficking phenomenon in Moldova, particularly through the lens of someone who has experienced the circumstances that foster its development. During her studies in the MBA program at UC Berkeley, she got exposure to the blockchain community where she realized the extent of the applicability of the technology for social good. Tatiana's expertise comes in process design and improvement, strategy and

project management. Her professional background is in energy procurement, power analytics and renewable energy project development.

We are collaborating with **Sovrin Foundation** and **IXO Foundation** to co-lead this project.