

Switch

Input on digital (student) identification

ENHANCE IT Knowledge Hub

VC subproject meeting, ETH Zürich, 19.09.2024

Christoph Graf, Switch

Welcome to Switch - The Swiss National Research and Education Network (NREN)



Welcome to Switch - The Swiss National Research and Education Network (NREN)



Foundation

Established in 1987

Founded by the Swiss Confederation and eight university cantons

Governed by the Swiss Higher Education community

No commercial purposes and not for profit

Balancing interests to maximise benefit for all

Strategic framework

Purpose

The foundation's purpose is to create, promote and offer the necessary basis for telecomputing in teaching and research in Switzerland.

The foundation does not pursue commercial goals.

Foundation Deed, 1987

Our competencies

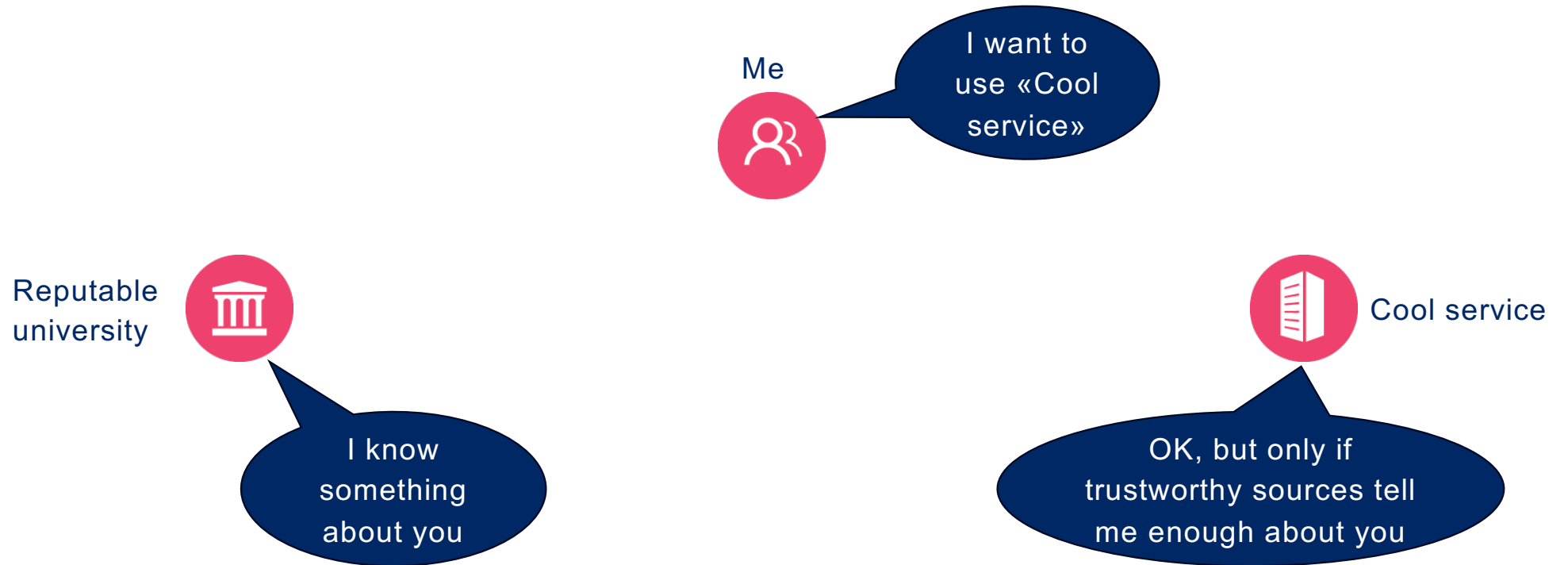


Digital Identity

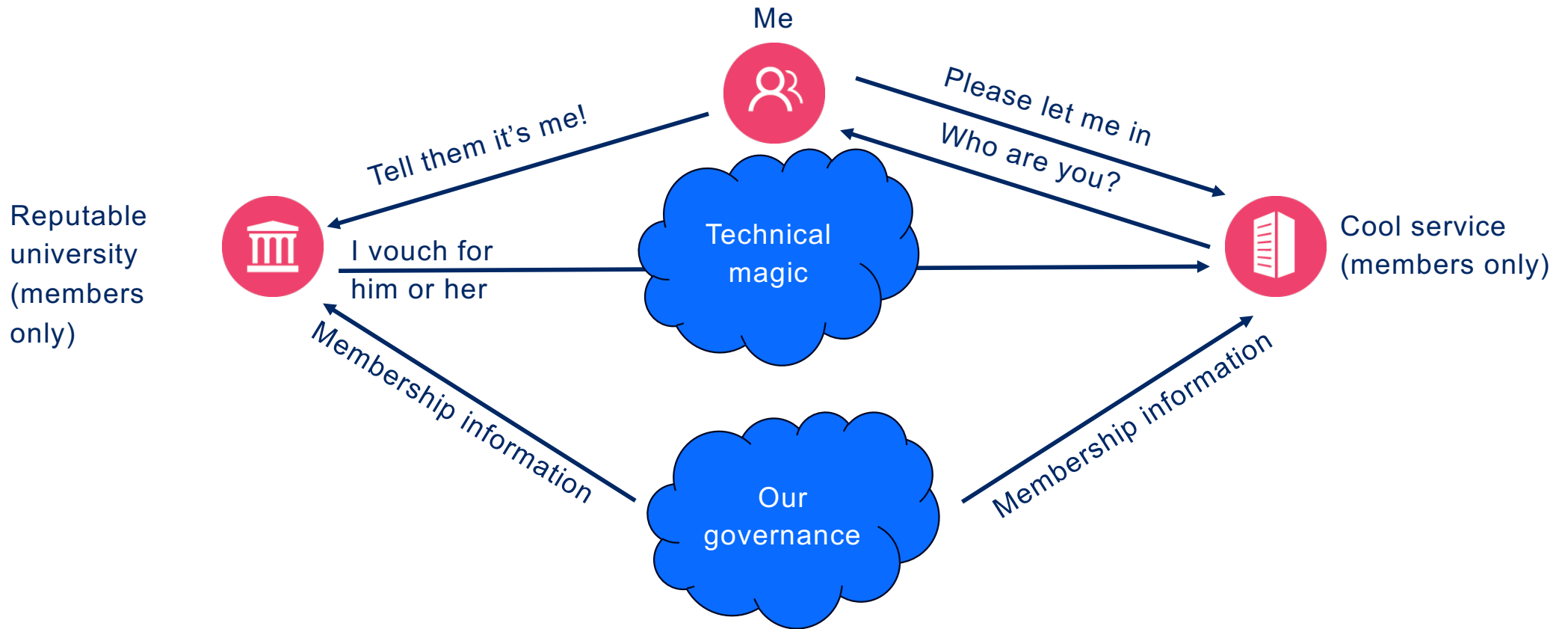
**Trust in your digital identity –
for secure lifelong learning.**

- Reliable data sovereignty
- Universal applicability
- Lifelong learning
- Compatibility throughout Europe
- High data quality
- Seamless integration

What is the problem we're solving?

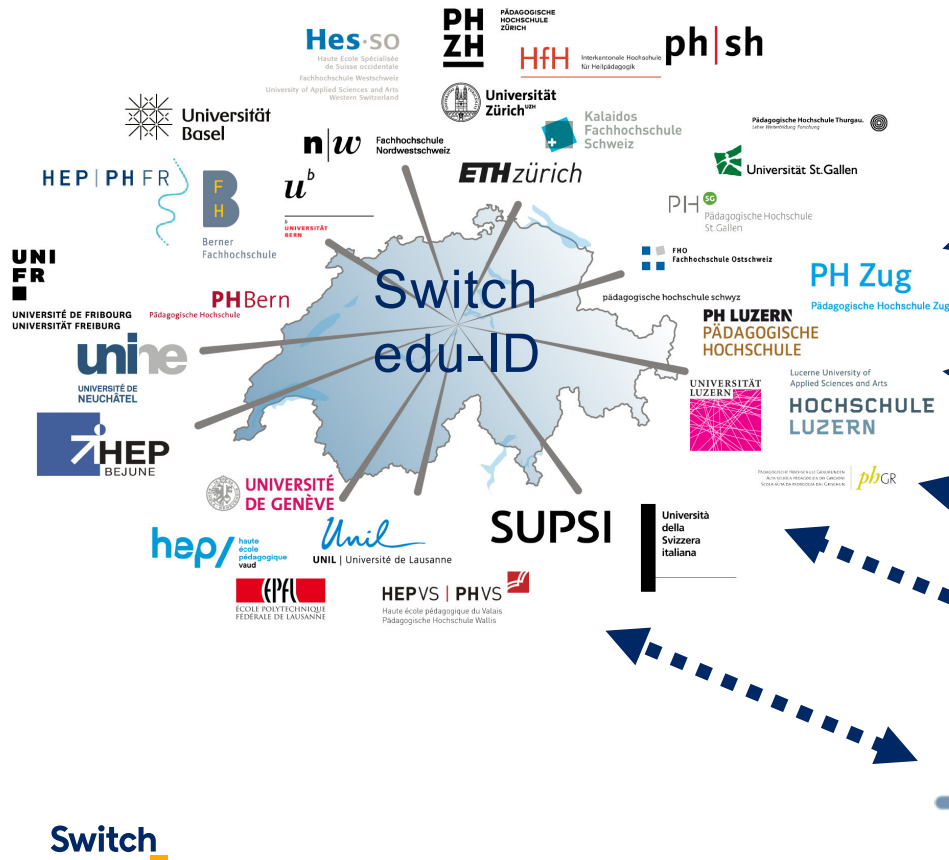
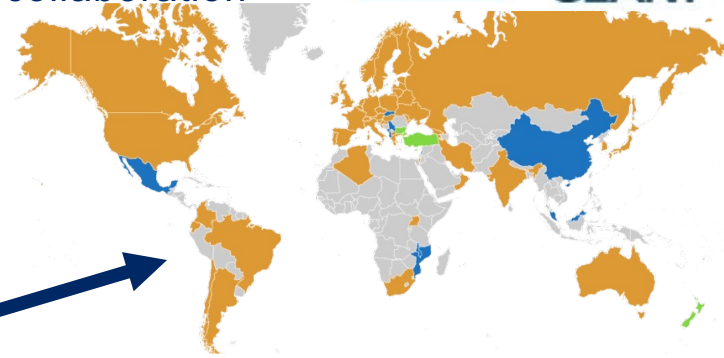


Switch edu-ID at work



Switch edu-ID in a borderless world

Supporting global
R&E collaboration



National E-ID



Switch

eduGAIN – enabling worldwide access

eduGAIN allows students and researchers to securely access a world of educational resources using a single sign-on.

[Find out More](#)

The eduGAIN interederation service connects identity federations around the world, simplifying access to content, services and resources for the global research and education community. eduGAIN comprises over 80 participant federations connecting more than 8,000 Identity and Service Providers.



Students, Researchers and Staff

eduGAIN helps nearly 27,000,000 students, researchers and educators access online services while minimising the number of accounts users have to manage – reducing costs, complexity and security risks.



Service Providers

With eduGAIN participants from over 4,500 identity providers, service managers can simplify their account management and control processes – allowing greater access at reduced cost.



Institutions

eduGAIN enables institutions to easily and scalably support access to services globally – allowing control over user management.

"Excellent and inclusive universities are a condition and foundation for open, democratic, fair and sustainable societies as well as sustained growth, entrepreneurship and employment."

EU Strategy for Universities:

<https://education.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2022-01/communication-european-strategy-for-universities.pdf>

EU values

EU Policy measures



Strategy for universities

Digital education hub

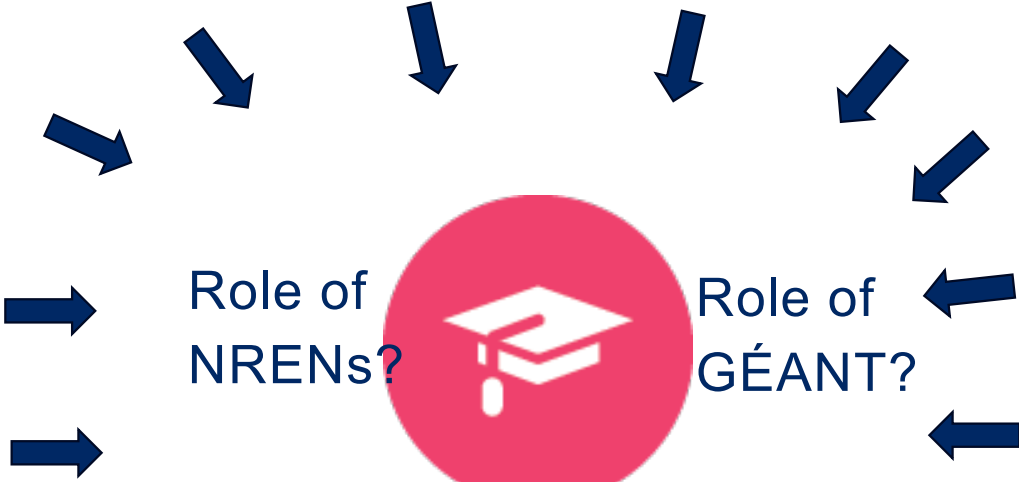
Europass, ELM, ESCO, ...

... and much more

eIDAS v2

- ERASMUS+
- "European universities"
- "European degrees"
- European student card

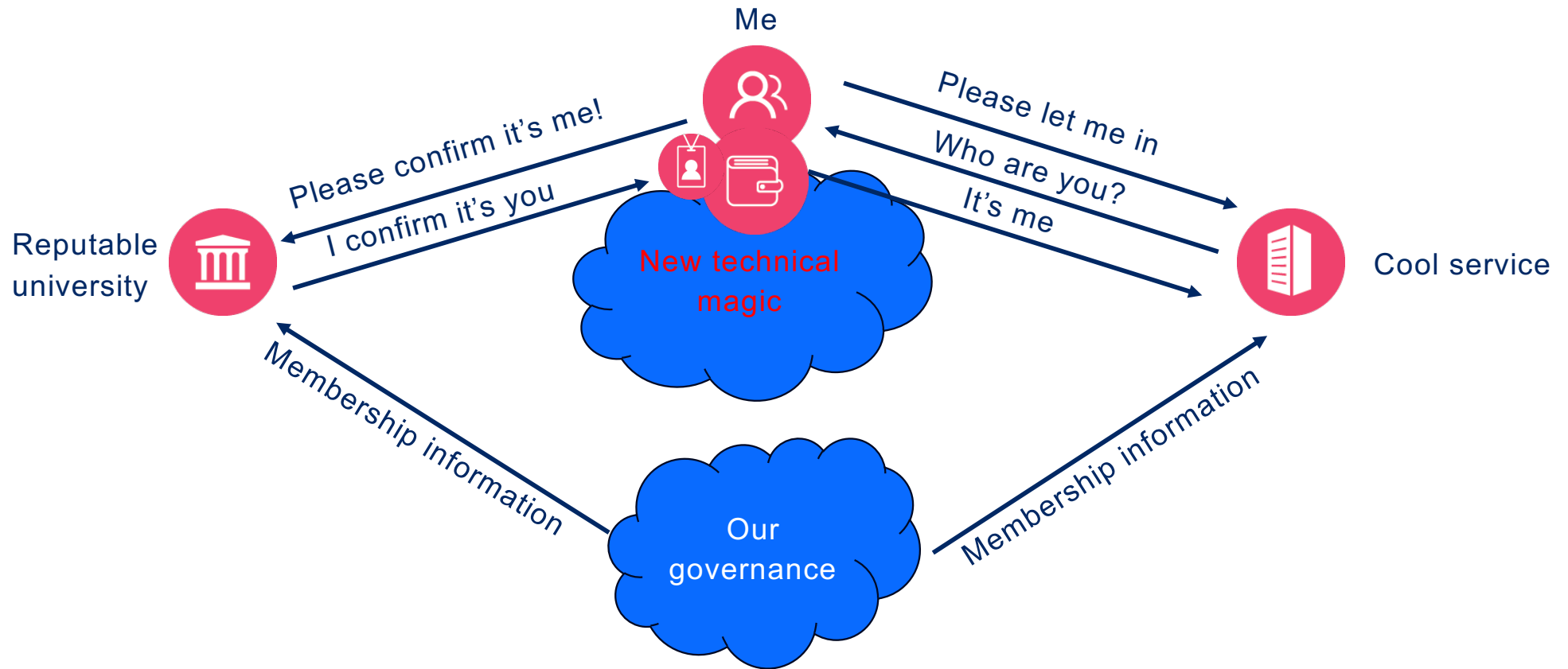
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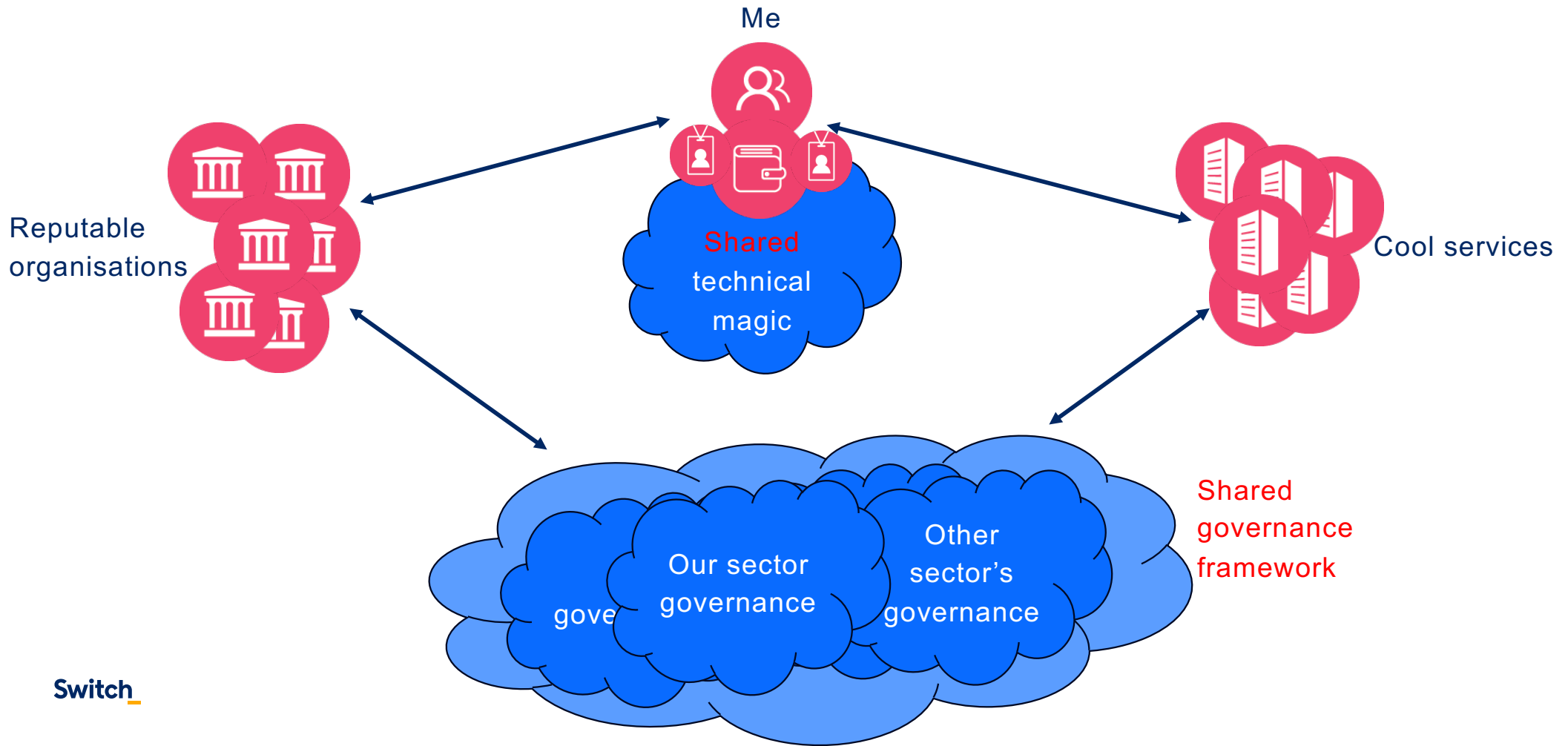
Universities

- EUDI wallet
- Implementing acts
- Architecture reference framework
- Large Scale Pilots
- EBSI/ EUROPEUM-EDIC

Going wallets: how does the picture change?



Scale-out with wallets: how does the picture change?



Our high-level options

eduGAIN

(A bird in the hand...)

Pros:

- Deployed 100%
- Global R&E coverage
- Governance established
- Works well for identity information within R&E
- Extensibility (comes at cost)

Cons:

- Won't scale to educational credentials
- Cumbersome for X-sector use cases

Switch

Best of both worlds

eduGAIN for identity - wallet for everything, once ready

Pros:

- Access to identity at very low cost, here & now: solved
- Boosts «CloudAgent MVP» with identity-only information
- Upgrade easy (if identity VC matches eduGAIN attrib.)

Cons:

- Slower transition to wallets

Going wallet

(... is worth two in the bush)

Pros:

- X-sector standards
- Scalable across sectors
- Regulatory push: less effort, one solution for all

Cons:

- Regulatory push: does it fit our needs?
- Deployment at 0%
- Standards still in flux
- Shared governance framework largely unclear
- Sectorial governance limited

Let's stay in touch

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