



Link4Life

Connecting lifesaving networks across borders

The Challenge

Across Europe, highly effective first responder systems already exist (e.g., Staying Alive, Mobile Retter, Region der Lebensretter, ...).

However, these systems operate largely in isolation. A trained bystander from Luxembourg cannot be alerted in Trier or Paris — even if they are only a few hundred meters away from a cardiac arrest.

These “**blind spots**” cost valuable minutes in situations where early CPR and defibrillation are critical for survival.

The Vision

A federated, decentralized network that connects existing systems through a standardized interface.

- **No** new app required for responders
- **No** central EU database or tracking
- **No** disruption of existing regional solutions

The Goal: True interoperability between systems to maximize available help across all European borders.

The Concept (“Responder Roaming”)

Existing app providers remain fully autonomous but implement an additional standardized API (Application Programming Interface) to collaborate across systems.

How it works:

1. **Local Alerting:** Emergency dispatch centers continue to activate responders through their existing local provider.
2. **Cross-System Request:** The local provider’s server sends a standardized query to the network: *“Are there suitable responders available in this specific area?”*
3. **Aggregated Response:** Partner systems check their users' locations and reply with anonymized availability (e.g., number of nearby trained individuals).
4. **Targeted Activation:** Additional responders from other systems are activated via their own native apps.
5. **Synchronization:** Once sufficient responders accept the alert, further activations are automatically adjusted or stopped across all involved systems.

Qualification (Discussion Proposal)

To support dispatch decision-making and ensure trust, a simplified and harmonized categorization could be utilized:

- **Level 0:** AED runners (focused on device delivery)
- **Level 1:** BLS (Basic Life Support trained individuals / First Aiders)
- **Level 2:** ALS / Professional responders (Healthcare pros, firefighters, etc.)

This classification is intentionally flexible and serves as a basis for regional dispatch rules.

Key Benefits

- **Faster Response:** Significantly improved coverage, especially in cross-border regions and for travelers.
- **Data Protection:** Fully GDPR-compliant; no central storage of personal data or real-time location profiles.
- **System Sovereignty:** Existing platforms, branding, and local processes remain unchanged.
- **Flexibility:** Local dispatch rules and safety strategies are fully preserved.

Why I am reaching out

I am currently developing this concept into a **Whitepaper**, with the intention to contribute to discussions at organizations such as the European Resuscitation Council (ERC) and other European stakeholders.

Your perspective would be extremely valuable:

- What practical challenges do you see in your specific environment?
- How do you assess the technical and political feasibility of such an approach?
- Which aspects should essentially be considered from your point of view?

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