hashID

PRESS RELEASE

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hashID launches: age checks without ID copies, a messenger no one else can read, and EU-standard digital identity in one app

The European platform for identity and secure communication launches seven weeks ahead of the EU wallet deadline. When checking age, the requesting platform learns only "yes" or "no". That is exactly the principle the European Commission wants to make mandatory with the KIDS Act.

Crevillent (Alicante, Spain), 5 November 2026 – The European technology platform hashID is available on the App Store from today. hashID brings digital identity, age verification and end-to-end encrypted communication together in one app and follows a single principle: only what is asked for is shared, and data stays in the user's hands. hashID is free for private users.

The timing is no coincidence. With the draft EU KIDS Act presented on 17 September, the Commission wants to require certified age verification for social networks; self-declaration will no longer be enough. By 24 December 2026, all 27 EU member states must also provide their citizens with a digital identity wallet. Everyday practice shows how risky today's approach is: anyone asked to prove their age or identity usually sends a photo of their ID. A single incident in October 2025 alone affected around 70,000 ID photos, which users of a major platform had been required to upload to prove they were old enough.

What makes hashID different

- **Age checks without ID copies.** hashID reads the chip of an ID card or passport once via NFC. The answer rests on what the state wrote into the chip, not on an estimate. From version 1.0.1, shortly after launch, the app also checks the issuing state's signature against the official trust lists. When a platform asks "over 18?", it gets yes or no. No name, no date of birth, no photo, and no AI face estimation. The age can also be shown on the Apple Watch.
- **EU-standard credentials, invisible wallet.** The built-in wallet receives, stores and presents digital credentials using the protocols of the European identity ecosystem (OpenID4VCI, OpenID4VP, SD-JWT VC, ISO/IEC 18013-5). It works in the background: users don't see a wallet, only the credential they need right now, and only the part of it that is asked for. hashID also issues credentials itself, for example for clubs and companies, and verifies them.
- **A messenger no one else can read.** hIDcom encrypts messages, voice and video calls end to end with forward secrecy. With CypherLock, users can raise protection step by step up to journalist level: their own keys per chat, plus decoy traffic and random delays against metadata analysis. Once delivered, messages are deleted from hashID's servers in Germany.
- **No contact without consent.** There is no public user directory. Contacts are only created through a mutual exchange that both sides agree to. Anyone who hasn't been accepted can't reach anyone.

Child protection is built into the architecture, not patched on later.

- **Backups without a master key, shortly after launch.** Version 1.0.1 brings backups that are encrypted and stored wherever the user puts them, never on hashID's servers. Restoring requires two of three keys; hashID itself holds none.

Verified, not just promised

hashID's claims have been checked from the outside. Its wallet has passed the official conformance tests of the OpenID Foundation, the international organisation behind the standards that the national EU wallets are built on as well. Certification by the OpenID Foundation has been applied for. For months, hashID has been verifying credentials from other providers' wallets in test environments for the EU wallets, including that of France Identité, the French national digital identity programme. In European interoperability tests, the app has worked successfully with other providers. And at the EU conference EUDI Unfold #5 in Nijmegen (Netherlands) in October, hashID demonstrated its age check live to an expert audience, from the wrist in 2.4 seconds.

> *"Europe is demanding age checks everywhere right now and getting mountains of ID copies in return. That doesn't protect children, it produces the next data breach," says Stephan Bergmann, founder and CEO of hashID. "hashID answers exactly the question that is asked, and nothing more. What isn't stored with us can't be sold, stolen or demanded. That's why ID data, credentials and backups never end up with us in the first place. Best data is no data."*

Availability

hashID is available on the App Store from 5 November 2026 and is free for private users. More at hashid.eu.

About hashID

hashID is a European platform for digital identity and secure communication. It combines a wallet and the issuing and verification of digital credentials under eIDAS 2.0 with an end-to-end encrypted messenger. hashID is developed by Desteba Productions S.L. in Crevillent (Alicante, Spain). Guiding principle: Prevention by Design, not Surveillance by Default.

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Press materials, interviews and early access to the app for journalists on request.