

CRANE PRESS RELEASE

CRANE Policy Workshop at the Norwegian Directorate of Health in Oslo

February 2026

On 26 February 2026, the European project CRANE organised a policy workshop at the Norwegian Directorate of Health in Oslo, bringing together representatives from national authorities, municipalities, digitalisation agencies, healthcare stakeholders and innovation actors. The workshop provided a platform to discuss how European initiatives can support the digital transformation of healthcare systems and the future implementation of the European Health Data Space (EHDS).

CRANE is a Horizon Europe Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) project that aims to develop a new model for managing and sharing health data, placing citizens at the centre of the data ecosystem. As citizens increasingly generate health data through sensors, health applications and lifestyle monitoring tools, most of this information remains disconnected from formal healthcare services. Current healthcare systems are still largely structured around fragmented data infrastructures and siloed information systems, limiting the potential of digital health data for prevention, early intervention and improved quality of life.

Current healthcare systems are still largely structured around fragmented data infrastructures and siloed information systems. This fragmentation makes it difficult for citizens and healthcare professionals to gain a holistic understanding of health conditions or to fully exploit the potential of digital health data for prevention, early intervention and improved quality of life.

During the workshop, the project partners and the two CRANE contractors presented and demonstrated the solutions developed through the PCP process. These solutions implement a citizen-controlled health data model, enabling individuals to gather and manage their personal health information within a secure personal data space.

A key component of the CRANE approach is advanced digital consent management, which goes beyond traditional transactional consent models. Citizens are able to grant granular and continuous permissions for the use of their data, ensuring transparency, traceability and full control over how their information is accessed and used.

CRANE also incorporates Trust-by-Design principles, including privacy-preserving technologies such as secure computation environments, advanced cryptography and traceable data processing. These mechanisms allow health data to be analysed and used for healthcare services while maintaining strong privacy protection and citizen trust.

The platform integrates multiple types of health-related data — including clinical records, lifestyle information, sensor measurements and social care data — enabling advanced analytics that support preventive healthcare services, self-management and early intervention.

The workshop also highlighted the important role of regional collaboration and public procurement for innovation. The Agder region demonstrated how 25 municipalities joined forces through regional coordination structures for e-health and welfare technology, supporting the design, development and piloting of the CRANE solutions in close cooperation with industry partners and research institutions.

Participants also discussed the broader European policy context, including the upcoming European Health Data Space, digital identity frameworks and emerging digital wallet technologies that will enable secure and scalable health data sharing across Europe.

The workshop confirmed strong interest from national stakeholders in further showcasing the results of the CRANE project. The Norwegian Directorate of Health and the Norwegian Digitalisation Agency expressed interest in highlighting CRANE as a reference initiative at major national conferences later this year.

By combining technological innovation, citizen empowerment and regional collaboration, CRANE demonstrates how European initiatives can contribute to building a modern, trustworthy and citizen-centred health data ecosystem, supporting the transition towards preventive care and lifelong wellbeing.

All the best and let's CRANE!

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