**U** **UBISECURE**®

Connecting Identity.
Transforming Digital Business.

# Case study:

# Higher Education

**Single sign-on (SSO) and federation for**

**Suomen Akatemia (Academy of Finland)**

**SUOMEN AKATEMIA**

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➡ Grants competition-based funding for scientific research, researcher training and the development of framework conditions for research.

➡ Provides science policy expertise.

➡ Promotes scientific research and its application.

➡ Develops international scientific cooperation.

➡ 150 Employees.

➡ Funding for research amounts to €437 million in 2021.

## OVERVIEW

➡ Suomen Akatemia (Academy of Finland) grants competition-based funding for scientific research.

➡ It's online portal – used for various functions related to the Academy's work – required efficient Identity and Access Management (IAM).

➡ Ubisecure provided a registration and login solution, alongside single sign-on (SSO) for frictionless movement between services and robust security.

➡ It leverages the Haka identity federation network for sign in using an existing student number.

## OBJECTIVE

**S**uomen Akatemia (the **Academy of Finland**) is a governmental funding body for scientific research in Finland. It created an online portal to allow researchers to create funding applications, external experts to review them and request more information, researchers to update the applications and several other functions.

With multiple areas of the portal for various stakeholders to access, Suomen Akatemia needed an efficient identity and access management (IAM) solution to support frictionless workflows for identities in the system. Being a government institution in Finland – a highly digitalised country – seamless IAM is not just a nice to have, it's expected.

## SOLUTION

Suomen Akatemia deployed Ubisecure SSO to enable simple registration workflows on a customised signup page, and login to its online services using Haka. Haka is a Finnish SAML-based federation network, enabling a single identity for login to multiple services. Service Providers (such as Suomen Akatemia) and Identity Providers can join Haka with Ubisecure **single sign-on** (SSO). This means that, for example, university students are able to log in to all internal networks with their student number using Haka, as well as other federated networks using Haka.

When a new university or other higher education institution joins or leaves the Haka network, the metadata file issued by the federation operator is updated, signed and published securely. Ubisecure Metadata Updater regularly monitors for changes, validates the authenticity of the file and then automatically applies configuration changes.
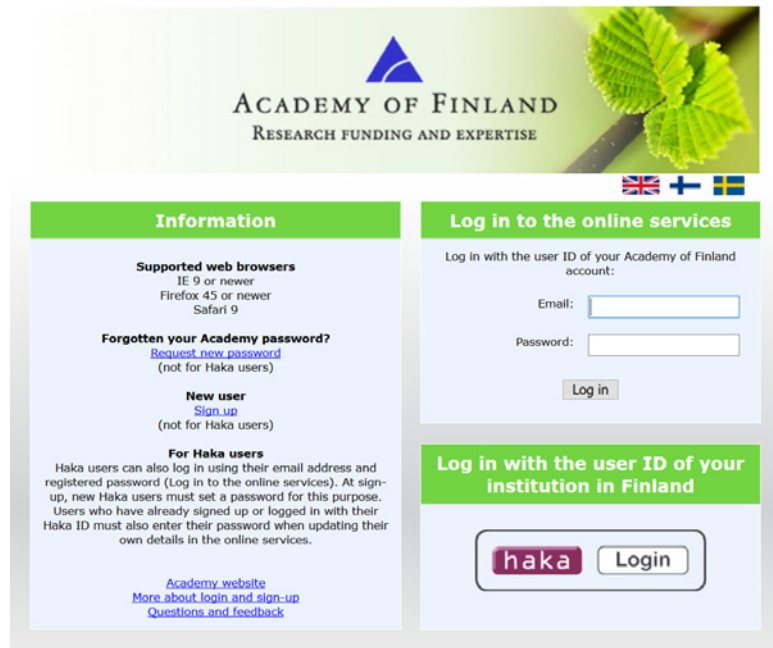
Login page (multiple language options)

Log in with Haka

## BENEFITS

→ Leveraging Haka as an authentication method means Suomen Akatemia does not have to enforce new user account credentials, which can be cumbersome, hard to manage for both staff and customers, and insecure.

→ The Metadata Updater means system administrators do not need to spend time monitoring and applying changes in the federation network, freeing up resource whilst guaranteeing security for all parties.

→ SSO creates seamless user experiences, allowing users to move between services without having to log in repeatedly.

→ Single sign-on also means single log out, which enhances security as users are less likely to leave accounts signed in and vulnerable. It also means just one set of credentials to de-activate when access authorisation expires, reducing the risk of unnecessary privileged access.

→ Fully customisable registration process enables Suomen Akatemia to keep all processes on-brand.

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**Find out how Ubisecure can help your organisation – get in touch.**

# About Ubisecure

Ubisecure provides feature rich customer identity management software and services to help companies reduce identity data breach risk, improve operational efficiencies, and improve user experience.

The company provides a powerful Identity Platform, deployed as IDaaS, Cloud, or on-premise software. The platform consists of productised Customer Identity & Access Management (CIAM) middleware and API tooling to enable single digital identity benefits across multiple applications. Capabilities include enabling complex authorisation and delegation workflows, single sign-on (SSO), frictionless multi-factor authentication (MFA), user identity management, and pre-established connections to dozens of third-party identity providers (social, mobile, and verified).

Ubisecure's Right to Represent is a representation governance solution offering a fast and easy way to assert and verify an individual's mandated rights to electronically represent their company, including financial, signatory, or other authority. Ubisecure's widely used Delegated Authority solution allows individuals and organisations to manage which users and organisations can act on their behalf to dramatically reduce costly, time consuming and delay-prone manual workflows.

Ubisecure is accredited by the GLEIF to issue Legal Entity Identifiers (LEI) under its RapidLEI brand. RapidLEI is a cloud-based service that automates the issuance and registration of these highly assured organisation identifiers.