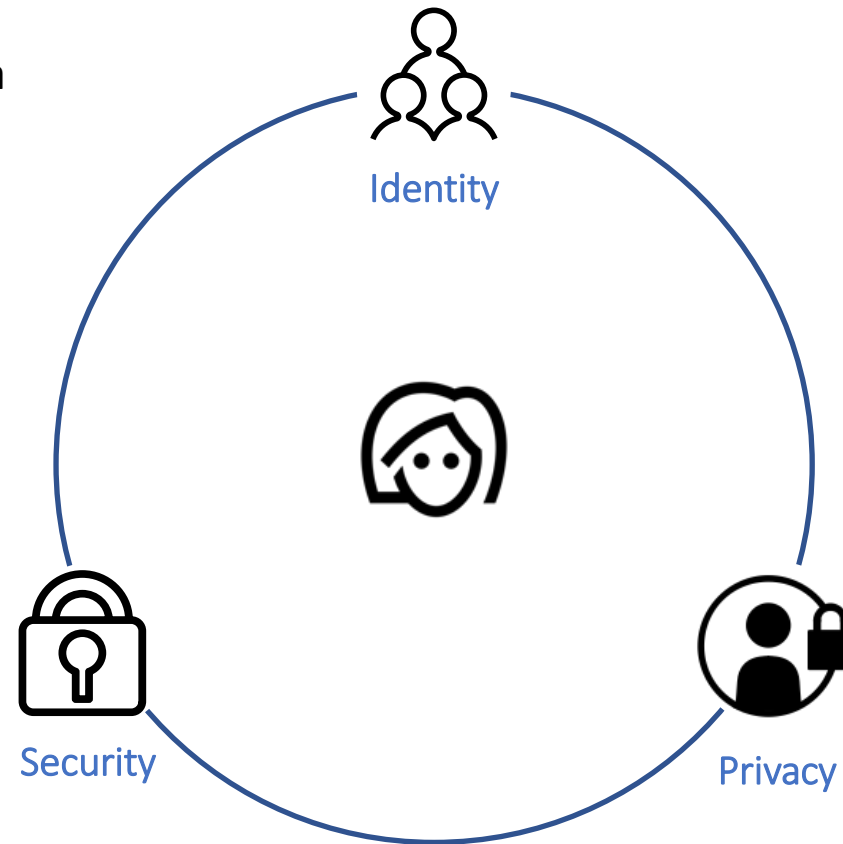# David Pollington

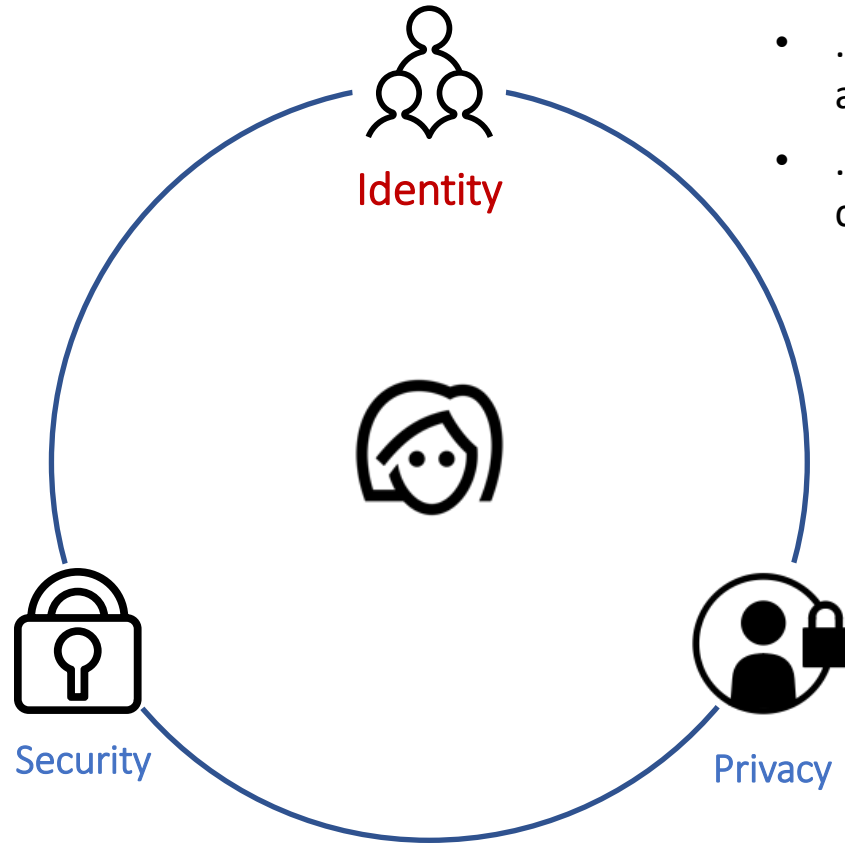**27+yrs in the mobile industry & technology innovation**

Vodafone R&D leadership (17yrs)

Senior Technical Director GSMA (10yrs)

Head of Research **Bloc Ventures** (1yr)

What does identity mean... in a hyperconnected world?

Identity

Security

Privacy

Today:

- Who you are...
- ... what you have rights to access
- ... but also, how others characterise you

In a Hyperconnected world:

- Even more identities...
- ...and across a wider array of contexts
- ... and with varying levels of detail
- ...and perhaps digital twins that persist your identity within the metaverse...

- But how detailed or 'real' does an identity need to be?

- => what really matters is trust, not identity

- Do we need to know someone to trust them?

- Reputation can be an alternate online proxy for knowing someone...

The biggest global issue is the continued erosion of trust.

Klaus Schwab
Founder and Executive Chairman,
World Economic Forum

Trust can also be ascertained through verified credentials

In the physical world...

Passport   Driver's license   eID card

Online... work ongoing to develop an open ecosystem of verified credentials
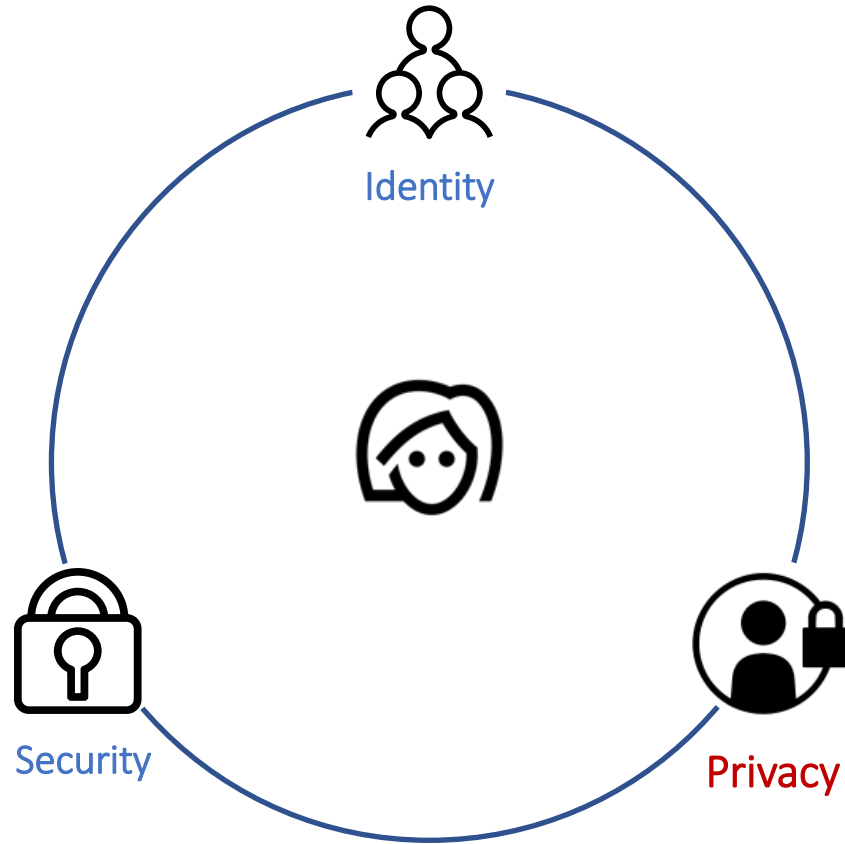
... at least that's the vision... but challenging in practise

=> successful ecosystems typically require Gov endorsement
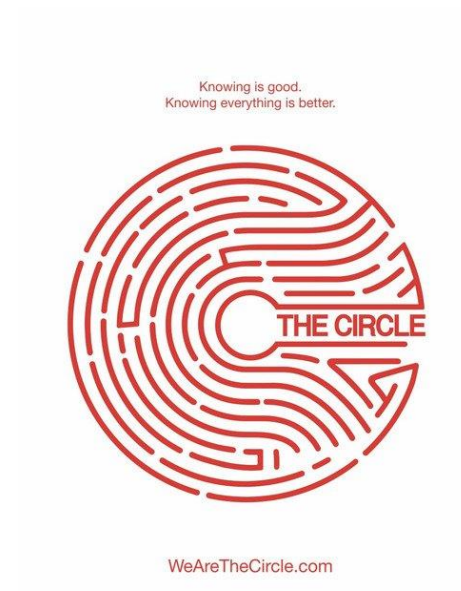
Identity

Security

Privacy

Today:

- We are the product...
- ... challenge of sharing proportionate to purpose

In a Hyperconnected world:

- Escalating risk of over-sharing in the 'producer' economy
- Dangers of linkability => data misuse

Knowing is good.
Knowing everything is better.

THE CIRCLE

WeAreTheCircle.com

Keeping ourselves and our online identities
safe in an immersive hyperconnected world
will become increasingly fraught...