

Ergo Nation

Ergohack Fest

Final report 30.5.2022

The Ergo Nation set out to design a framework for truly decentralized identity verification. The IDs will save work for projects in the Ergo ecosystem. They won't have to set up their own identification processes for sales, whitelists, rewards, testing, etc. Most importantly, the IDs will enable community driven governance models and experimentation. This is a large improvement compared to the current governance-by-the-wealthy models in crypto.

In the Ergohack we have focused on equipping the community with the IDs first. The use-cases will follow once projects have access to the list of unique community member IDs. The uniqueness is achieved by running monthly events that prevent bots, and multiple accounts. In an event, participants engage actively in a game long enough to verify their ID on-chain. Later on, their actions build reputation. Together, the uniqueness and reputation unlock a wide range of new blockchain use-cases.

The Ergo Nation framework is designed to be anonymous. It protects the decentralization by not giving external entities targets to go after. It also enables higher integrity governance by mitigating politics, lobbying, bribery and corruption. The pseudonymous governors are judged by their actions and deliberation on a topic instead of campaigning, marketing and rhetoric. Altogether, the anonymity allows improving not only crypto governance models, but also traditional systems.

In practice, we managed to build and test a game for the first event (see following announcement). We also have R code to build the ID list using explorer API. This means that the project is ready to start. The technical side for this basic framework is not demanding. At this early stage the focus is on attracting a self-sustaining social movement behind the Ergo Nation. Going forward, the community is expected to improve the tooling by voluntary contributions. The aim is to have no permanent team, and no treasury. This can inspire contributions and engagement, because the efforts truly benefit the community instead of some token/share owners.

We encourage the community to vigilantly uphold decentralization, anonymity and the spirit described in the Ergo Manifesto. However, there is no central authority to enforce anything. The Ergo Nation only provides the idea, the framework and the tooling. It is then up to the community to uphold that spirit on-chain. If projects can count on some of the IDs on list to provide engagement in the Ergo spirit, then it will be valuable for them to use it. This dynamic can potentially make a radical re-alignment of incentives in support of decentralization. People and projects now have a reason to pursue better reputations as defenders of the ideals. With momentum, it will also become the profitable choice.

Full proposal on the forum:

<https://www.ergoforum.org/t/ergo-nation-identity-and-governance/3560>

Ergo Nation launch announcement:

Get you Ergo Nation ID now!

Step 1. Create ID

- Create a new Ergo wallet address. This address is your anonymous ID. Do not reveal it to anyone.
- Use the mixer to send 1 ERG into it. The mixing process may take some time. Start it right away to be ready for the verification event.
- All funds going in and out of the ID address must go through the mixer to preserve anonymity.

Step 2. Verify ID

- Join the first ID verification event on 7.6.2022 at 20.00 UTC for instructions. The event itself will start 20.15 UTC, and end 20.30 UTC.
- Participants will play a short game. If successful, they will be able to verify the ID on-chain.

Step 3. Use ID

- Ergo projects can engage the ID holders in governance, testing, whitelist, rewards, tasks, etc.
- The IDs will gather reputation through actions in the ecosystem. We encourage projects to engage those IDs that actively support decentralization, anonymity and the spirit of Ergo (see Ergo Manifesto).

For further event and Ergo Nation information, please join on telegram:

<https://t.me/+9Q22gjQI5Go1ZDUy>