
The strategy for data focuses on putting people first in developing technology, and defending and promoting European values and rights in the digital world.

Data is an essential resource for economic growth, competitiveness, innovation, job creation and societal progress in general. In the future, the development of data-driven applications will bring various benefits to both citizens and businesses:

- improve healthcare
- create safer and cleaner transport systems
- generate new products and services
- reduce the costs of public services
- improve sustainability and energy efficiency

The European strategy for data (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52020DC0066) aims at creating a single market for data that will ensure Europe’s global competitiveness and data sovereignty. This will lead to the creation of Common European data spaces (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/data-spaces). They will ensure that more data becomes available for use in the economy and society, while keeping the companies and individuals who generate the data in control.
To further ensure the EU’s leadership in the global data economy the European strategy for data intends to:

- adopt legislative measures on data governance, access and reuse. For example, for business-to-government data sharing for the public interest;
- make data more widely available by opening up high-value publicly held datasets across the EU and allowing their reuse for free;
- invest €2 billion in a European High Impact Project to develop data processing infrastructures, data sharing tools, architectures and governance mechanisms for thriving data sharing and to federate energy-efficient and trustworthy cloud infrastructures and related services;
- enable access to secure, fair and competitive cloud services by facilitating the set-up of a procurement marketplace for data processing services and creating clarity about the applicable regulatory framework on cloud framework of rules on cloud.


Two critical pieces of legislation have been put in place to protect the rights and interests of citizens while simultaneously fostering industrial and technological development. They play a vital role in laying the foundation for achieving the objectives outlined in the European data strategy:

- The [Data Governance Act](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/data-governance-act-explained) (DGA) is a comprehensive tool designed to oversee the reuse of publicly or protected data across various sectors. It aims to facilitate data sharing by regulating new entities known as data intermediaries and promoting data sharing for altruistic reasons. The DGA covers both personal and non-personal data, with the [General Data Protection Regulation](https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-topic/data-protection_en) (GDPR) applying whenever personal data is involved. The inclusion of built-in safeguards, in addition to GDPR, is intended to enhance trust in the sharing and reuse of data. This trust-building is crucial for increasing the availability of data in the market.


**Open consultation**


The Commission also ran an open public consultation on the Data Act, a key part of the strategy for data. The summary report ([link](https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/news-redirect/729171)) provides an
overview of the contributions.

**Useful links**


*Communication from the Commission: A European strategy for data*
Data Act


Data Act
European Data Governance Act

Press release: data strategy
Q&A: Data Strategy
Fact Sheet: Data Strategy
Report: Business-to-Government data sharing

Business-to-Government data sharing Expert Group
Q&A: Business-to-government data sharing
Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

Latest News

PRESS RELEASE | 24 January 2024
Commission launches AI innovation package to support Artificial Intelligence startups and SMEs

Today, the Commission has launched a package of measures to support European startups and SMEs in the development of trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) that respects EU values and rules.

PRESS RELEASE | 11 January 2024
European Data Act enters into force, putting in place new rules for a fair and innovative data economy

Follow the Commission's work on data @DataEcoEU (https://twitter.com/dataecoeu?lang=en)
The new rules define the rights to access and use data generated in the EU across all economic sectors and will make it easier to share data, in particular industrial data.

DIGIBYTE | 21 December 2023
Virtual Human Twins: Launch of the European Virtual Human Twins Initiative

Alongside the inauguration on Thursday of the MareNostrum5 supercomputer (MN5) by the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the Barcelona Supercomputer Center, the Commission launched the European Virtual Human Twins (VHTs) Initiative which supports the emergence and adoption of the next generation of virtual human twins solutions in health and care.

PRESS RELEASE | 14 December 2023
Commission awards €41 million contract to develop infrastructure for Common European Data Spaces

The Commission has selected a consortium that will develop ‘Simpl’ – a secure middleware platform that will support data access and interoperability among European data spaces, unleashing the power of data-driven innovation.

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Related Content

Big Picture

Data

Data is everywhere and growing at an unprecedented pace. The Commission has developed a European data strategy to help us unlock its benefits.

Dig deeper

Data Act
The Data Act is a comprehensive initiative to address the challenges and unleash the opportunities presented by data in the European Union, emphasising fair access and user rights, while ensuring the protection of personal data.


The EU wants to ensure a free flow of data in Europe, allowing companies and public administrations to store and process non-personal data wherever they choose.


A European Data Governance Act, which is fully in line with EU values and principles, will bring significant benefits to EU citizens and companies.


Data has become a key asset for the economy and our societies and the need to make sense of ‘big data’ is leading to innovations in technology.

**See Also**


Common European data spaces will make more data available for access and reuse. This will be done in a trustworthy and secure environment for the benefit of European businesses and citizens.


The European Commission aims to provide European businesses and public authorities with access to secure, sustainable and interoperable cloud infrastructures and services.

**Other**


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