



Shaping Europe's digital future

A European strategy for data

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://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/strategy-data) 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](#). 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:



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[Data Act](#)

[Common European Data Spaces](#)

[European Data Governance Act](#)

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[EU-funded R&I projects on data](#)

- 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.

In 2020, the Commission has published a [report on Business-to-Government \(B2G\) data sharing](#). Originating from a high-level Expert Group, the report presents a series of policy, legal, and funding recommendations aimed at facilitating the scaling, responsible, and sustainable implementation of B2G data sharing in the public interest within the EU.

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](#) (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](#) (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.
- The [Data Act](#) entered [into force on 11 January 2024](#). It is a pillar of the European strategy for data. Its main objective is to make Europe a leader in the data economy by harnessing the potential of the ever-increasing amount of industrial data, in order to benefit the European economy and society.

European Data Market study
2024-2026

European Data Market study
2021-2023

Free flow of non-personal data

Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

✕ [Follow the Commission's work on data @DataEcoEU](#)

You can read about the [European data strategy](#), including the [Q&A](#). and the [Fact Sheet](#).

Forthcoming Data Union Strategy

Building up on the 2020 European strategy for data, the forthcoming **Data Union Strategy** aims to bolster AI innovation by enhancing access to high-quality, curated data across industries and research domains. Building on the existing legislation, the new Data Union Strategy will increase data availability, streamline data rules, and address international data flows. It will also address barriers to cross-border data use, aiming to create a coherent legal framework and robust data infrastructures to scale up AI development and enhance the EU's global competitiveness. The Data Union strategy is planned for the third quarter of 2025.

Latest News

Press release | 20 March 2025

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The Commission welcomes launch of the Alliance for Language Technologies European Digital Infrastructure



Press release | 10 March 2025

EU and Korea deepen ties with landmark digital trade deal ([/en/news/eu-and-korea-deepen-ties-landmark-digital-trade-deal](#))

The EU and the Republic of Korea have concluded negotiations for a landmark Digital Trade Agreement (DTA), underscoring their commitment to a strong and reliable partnership that is fit to face the



Consortium (ALT-EDIC) and the Language Data Space (LDS).

fast-paced digital developments of today.

Press release | 16 December 2024

Commission calls on 10 Member States to comply with the Data Governance Act

[\(/en/news/commission-calls-10-member-states-comply-data-governance-act/\)](/en/news/commission-calls-10-member-states-comply-data-governance-act/)

The European Commission decided to send a reasoned opinion to Czechia (INFR(2024)2057), Germany (INFR(2024)2060), Estonia (INFR(2024)2058), Greece (INFR(2024)2061), Cyprus (INFR(2024)2056), Luxembourg (INFR(2024)2063), Austria (INFR(2024)2054), Poland (INFR(2024)2066), Portugal (INFR(2024)2067), and Slovenia (INFR(2024)2070), as these Member States did not designate the responsible authorities to implement the Data Governance Act, or have failed to prove that the latter are empowered to perform the tasks required by the Act.



Press release | 12 December 2024

EU-funded AI innovation powers a new era in cooperative smart city development

[\(/en/news/eu-funded-ai-innovation-powers-new-era-cooperative-smart-city-development/\)](/en/news/eu-funded-ai-innovation-powers-new-era-cooperative-smart-city-development/)

In Valencia, the CitiVerse European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) was officially established during its inaugural general assembly. This milestone marks a new era in cooperative smart city development, setting a new global benchmark in this area.



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Big Picture

[Data](/en/policies/data) (</en/policies/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

[European Data Governance Act](/en/policies/data-governance-act) (</en/policies/data-governance-act>).

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