

Cloud

Main messages

Data Act

- The Data Act introduces minimum regulatory requirements of contractual and commercial nature to enable cloud switching and improved open interoperability standards.
- One of the aim is to unlock the potential of data and cloud technologies. Today, most data - up to 80% - is not used, while the potential benefits are considerable. One study estimated the benefits of sharing machine-generated data more widely at EUR 1.5 billion.
- Secondly, it is essential that European data can be stored and processed securely in Europe. This principle is in line with our rules and values. The concentration of the market around a few non-European players raises concerns for users, who are increasingly expressing their preferences for multi-cloud models and their ability to retain control over their data. It also raises concerns about vendor lock-in.
- Finally, by embracing the edge revolution and the green transition, Europe has an unprecedented opportunity to reverse this market trend. 80% of data could be processed on edge by the end of the decade. This will require a fundamentally new architecture and processing capabilities.

Cloud Alliance

- The Alliance aims to foster the development and deployment of advanced and next generation cloud technologies. Members come together in three dedicated groups: Edge and Cloud, Aeronautics and Defence, Member States. Companies, Member States and relevant experts aim to strengthen the position of EU industry in these areas. A first kick-off meeting at CEO level was held on 14 December 2021, and working level meetings are organised since then.
- The Alliance aims to create a roadmap for investments in the cloud sector in Europe. It does not aim to duplicate the activities of Gaia-X who aims to develop technical standards. The Alliance represents a complementary instrument to the Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) to implement the European data strategy.

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EU Cloud Certification Scheme

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- The Commission facilitates discussions on the certification scheme for cloud services in the European Cybersecurity Certification Group (ECCG), in close cooperation with ENISA.

Contact – briefing contribution: [REDACTED]