
Digital Sovereignty constitutes the leitmotiv of the European digital policy within the Programme for Germany’s Presidency of the Council of the European Union, from the 01st of July until the 31st of December. Thereby, top priorities in this field are:

- The development and use of human-centric AI, especially AI in healthcare
- The creation of a transparent European Healthcare Data Space
- Promoting the use of data in the agricultural and transport sector as well as in the circular economy
- Strengthening entrepreneurship, the digital transformation and innovation through cross-border approaches
- The creation of a financial market union
- Installing a Digital Diplomacy Network that incorporates the foreign ministries of the Member States under the auspices of the European External Action Service
- Strengthening armed forces in terms of cyber security, digital competence and cyber defence capabilities

Complementing the Programme for the German Presidency, the national ministries have outlined their priorities:

The Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi) aims to:

- Further develop the project GAIA-X and include additional European partners
- Develop Europe as a global leader for the development and governance of AI
- Enhance the accessibility, usability and interoperability of data for research and further processing
- Strengthen fair competition to establish a level playing field in the area of internet platforms

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) aims to:

- Establish the European AI Network “AI made in Europe”
- Strengthen national and binational research and innovation networks to mobilise and pool expertise within the European AI network
- Consolidate the European Research Area by strengthening the dialogue with stakeholders
- Initiate the establishment of a European Research and Investment Action on Electronics (IPCEI “trustworthy electronic”) as well as the launch of a Joint Undertaking on Artificial Intelligence
The Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) aims to:

- Strengthen fair working conditions by addressing continuing education, the conception of a regulatory framework on AI and regulation of work in the platform economy
- Foster initiatives, under the umbrella of the “Skills Agenda for Europe”, that sustain employability and create a culture of continuing education and training in Europe

The Federal Ministry for Health (BMG) aims to:

- Establish a European Health Data Space in close cooperation with the European Commission and national authorities
- Lay down the tracks for a Code-of-Conduct Process and therewith secure continuity in the governance of secondary health data usage on a European level

The Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) aims to:

- Target the potentials of digitalisation for environment and climate protection
- Establish the European Union as a precursor for sustainable digitalisation

The Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) aims to:

- Strengthen the field of innovative mobility solutions by putting forward a “New Mobility Approach” and enhancing the exchange of mobility data on the EU level
- Further the challenges of the European Green Deal on data exchange, connectivity, autonomous driving and climate-friendly mobility
- Foster the infrastructure and acceptance of 5G networks

The Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) aims to:

- Strengthen and transform the European financial markets to be modern, secure and innovative
- Foster tokenised financial services in support of the Payments Services Directive
- Increase the cybersecurity and cyber-resilience of the European financial markets
- Create a reliable framework for financial innovations, such as crypto assets

The Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community (BMI) aims to:

- Advocate for a homogenous minimum of IT security on all devices available on the market
- Promote the establishment of a European Centre for Cybersecurity and a network of national coordination centre

The Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (BMJV) aims to:

- Strengthen access to justice, by implementing the European e-justice strategy
- Improve the protection of IP to support innovation and to secure fair access rights
- Discuss the Intellectual Property Action Plan, proposed by the Commission
- Work on protecting fundamental rights while using AI, together with the European Agency for Fundamental Rights
The Federal Ministry of Defence (BMVg) aims to:

- Strengthen cyber and digital competence-building, as part of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)
- Extend the cooperation on matters of cybersecurity, as put forward by the Cybersecurity Act

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) aims to:

- Strengthen the cooperation between the EU and the African Union (AU) in the realms of digitalisation and green growth
- Support the use of digital tools to build up digital competences and foster data-driven market economies on the African continent as part of European developmental cooperation

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