

EUROGEOGRAPHICS General Assembly

Open Data policies vs. Security
Preparation for the Data Union Strategy

19 May 2025

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and Technology, unit G1*

Public sector data and High-value datasets



Open Data Directive and High-Value Datasets

Open Data Directive

of 2019
(its predecessor
in place since 2003)

- **The Directive**: all publicly accessible data from the public sector should be easier and cheaper to re-use for innovation.
- Access to information rules are mostly set by the MS.
- Application of the Directive must fully respect the data protection rules, confidentiality, security, IPRs etc.
 - Commission Implementing Regulation applicable from 9 June 2024.
 - List of public sector datasets with a high reuse potential for the society and economy that **have to be made available**:
 - for free, in machine-readable formats, via APIs and (where relevant) as bulk downloads.

Geospatial

*Earth observation
and environment*

Meteorological

Statistics

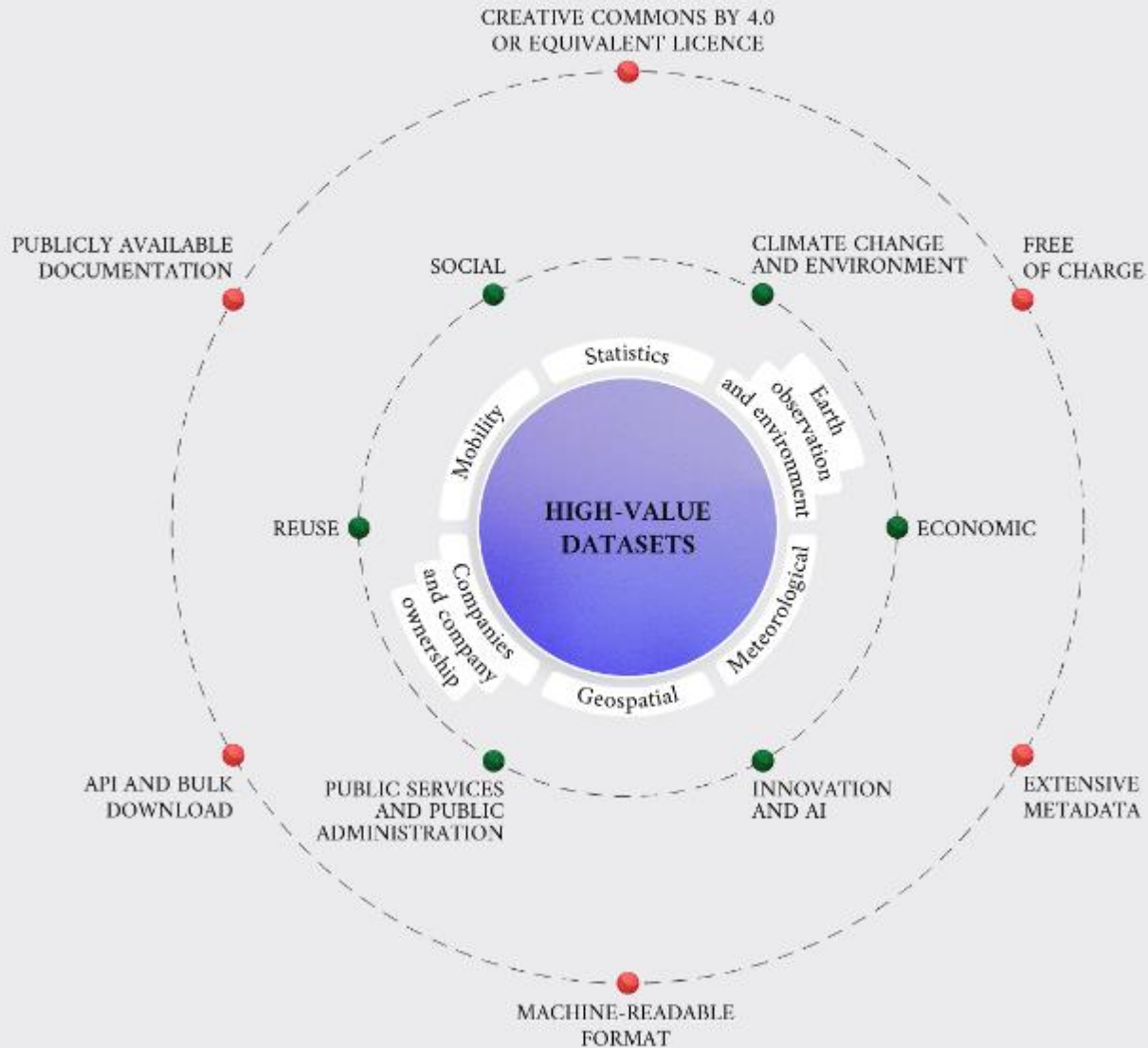
*Companies and
company ownership*

Mobility



FEATURES OF HIGH-VALUE DATASETS

- = Macro characteristics
- = Mandatory technical requirements



Member States reporting on High Value Datasets

By 9 February 2025 and then **every 2 years**.

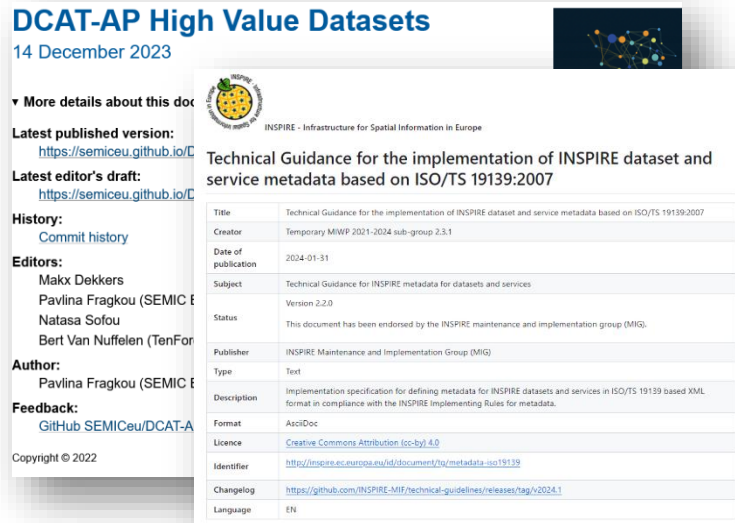
On the following information:

- (a) a list of specific datasets at Member State level;
- (b) persistent link to the licensing conditions;
- (c) persistent link to the APIs;
- (d) where available, *guidance documents* issued by the Member State;
- (e) where available, the existence of data *protection impact assessments*;
- (f) the number of public sector *bodies exempted from gratuity*.



Reporting: builds on existing (improved) common practices

Use existing metadata **standards** and metadata **sharing networks** of data portals



DCAT-AP High Value Datasets
14 December 2023

More details about this document

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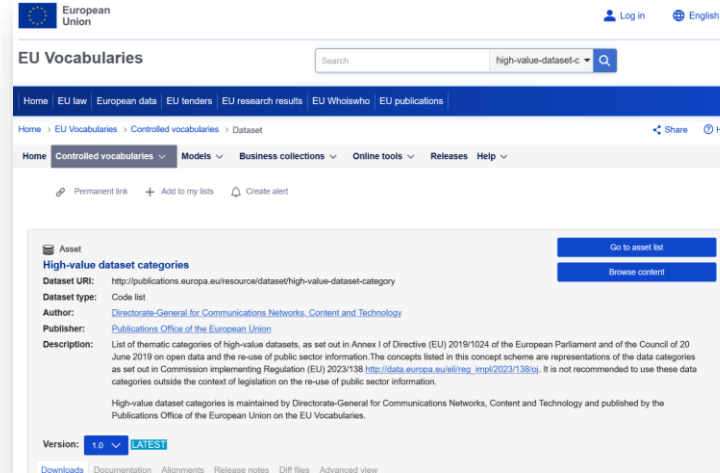
Feedback:
[GitHub SEMICEU/DCAT-AP](#)

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INSPIRE - Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe

Technical Guidance for the implementation of INSPIRE dataset and service metadata based on ISO/TS 19139:2007

Title	Technical Guidance for the implementation of INSPIRE dataset and service metadata based on ISO/TS 19139:2007
Creator	Temporary MIWP 2021-2024 sub-group 2.3.1
Date of publication	2024-01-31
Subject	Technical Guidance for INSPIRE metadata for datasets and services
Status	Version 2.2.0 This document has been endorsed by the INSPIRE maintenance and implementation group (MIG).
Publisher	INSPIRE Maintenance and Implementation Group (MIG)
Type	Text
Description	Implementation specification for defining metadata for INSPIRE datasets and services in ISO/TS 19139 based XML format in compliance with the INSPIRE Implementing Rules for metadata.
Format	AsciiDoc
Licence	Creative Commons Attribution (cc-by) 4.0
Identifier	http://inspire.ec.europa.eu/id/document/tq/metadata-iso19139
Changelog	https://github.com/INSPIRE-MIF/technical-guidelines/releases/tag/v2024.1
Language	EN



European Union

EU Vocabularies

Home | EU law | European data | EU tenders | EU research results | EU Whoiswho | EU publications

Home | EU Vocabularies | Controlled vocabularies | Dataset

Controlled vocabularies | Models | Business collections | Online tools | Releases | Help

Permanent link | Add to my lists | Create alert

Asset

High-value dataset categories

Dataset URI: <http://publications.europa.eu/resource/dataset/high-value-dataset-category>

Dataset type: Code list

Author: Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

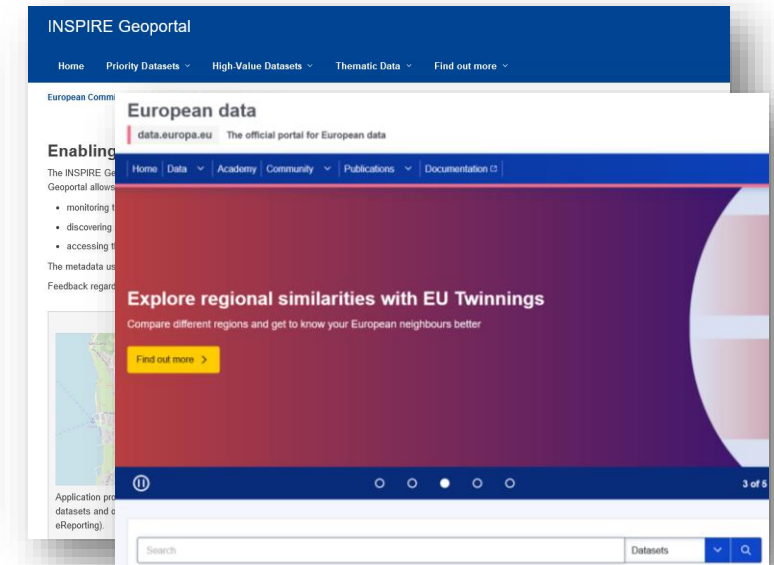
Publisher: Publications Office of the European Union

Description: List of thematic categories of high-value datasets, as set out in Annex I of Directive (EU) 2019/1024 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on open data and the re-use of public sector information. The concepts listed in this concept scheme are representations of the data categories as set out in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/138 http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg_imp/2023/138/oj. It is not recommended to use these data categories outside the context of legislation on the re-use of public sector information.

High-value dataset categories is maintained by Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology and published by the Publications Office of the European Union on the EU Vocabularies.

Version: 1.0 | LATEST

Downloads | Documentation | Alignments | Release notes | Diff files | Advanced view



INSPIRE Geoportal

Home | Priority Datasets | High-Value Datasets | Thematic Data | Find out more

European Commission

European data

data.europa.eu The official portal for European data

Home | Data | Academy | Community | Publications | Documentation

Enabling the INSPIRE Geoportal allows you to:

- monitoring
- discovering
- accessing

The metadata used in the INSPIRE Geoportal are available in the INSPIRE Metadata Catalogue (eReporting).

Feedback register

Explore regional similarities with EU Twinings

Compare different regions and get to know your European neighbours better

[Find out more](#)

Application provided by the INSPIRE Geoportal (eReporting)

Search

Datasets

Metadata standards such as [DCAT-AP HVD](#),
INSPIRE HVD guidelines

Shared code lists such as [HVD categories](#), [licences](#), ...

Harvesting networks and data portals
such as data.europa.eu and [INSPIRE data portal](#).

Ongoing activities which are being improved to match the HVD requirements



High-value datasets on data.europa.eu

Datasets

High-Value Dataset [?]

☒ Yes ☐ No

Data scope [?]

- Any -

Provenance [?]

- Any -

Filter

<input type="checkbox"/>	Germany	8 983
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ireland	2 236
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spain	1 044
<input type="checkbox"/>	France	858
<input type="checkbox"/>	Austria	655
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lithuania	423

Search for datasets [?]

Datasets

¹ Advanced Search

Datasets found (16 614)

API request [↗](#)

Relevance

High-Value Dataset: Yes x



Certain public sector data are particularly interesting for creators of added-value services and applications and have **significant benefits** for society, the environment and the economy. That is why they should be made available to the public under conditions that make their reuse easier. A [Commission implementing regulation laying down a list of specific high-value datasets](#) has been set up under the [Open data directive](#), defining **six categories of such high-value datasets**: geospatial; earth observation and environment; meteorological; statistics; companies; and mobility. These datasets have to be available in machine-readable format, via an application programming interface and, where relevant, as a bulk download. For further information on the implementation of the EU legislation on open data go to [Open data – Shaping Europe's digital future](#) and to the [HVD dedicated section](#) under Documentation.

Paquets Arpège - Résolution 0,25°

Regroupement de différents paramètres du modèle français de prévision atmosphérique global Arpège, répartis en 4 groupes d'échéances : 00h-24h, 25h-48h, 49h-72h et 73h-102h. Données d'analyse et de...

[grib2](#) [PDF](#) [UNKNOWN](#)

Harvested from
17 Member
States



Reporting: status as partially processed by Power BI

24

Responding countries

21,977

Datasets

97.8%

% Datasets with category

37.0%

% Datasets with licence

87.8%




























% Datasets with distribution



Member state

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czechia
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden

MS overview

Member state	Flag	Datasets	% Datasets with category	Distinct main categories	Distinct category names
Austria					
Belgium			97.9%	6	
Bulgaria		◆			
Croatia			90.9%		2
Cyprus			100.0%		4
Czechia			100.0%	5	
Denmark			100.0%	6	
Estonia			100.0%		6
Finland			100.0%		6
France			98.2%	6	
Germany			99.7%	6	
Greece		◆			
Hungary			100.0%		4
Ireland			99.8%	5	
Italy			100.0%	3	
Latvia			100.0%		8
Lithuania			100.0%		6
Luxembourg			100.0%	6	
Malta			100.0%		2
Netherlands			100.0%	1	
Poland			98.7%		6
Portugal		◆			
Romania			100.0%		7
Slovakia			99.1%	4	
Slovenia			100.0%		14
Spain			100.0%	5	
Sweden			84.2%	4	
Total		21,977	97.8%	6	48

Category codes

Main category	Datasets	Distinct category codes
▣ Companies and company ownership	26	2
▣ Earth observation and environment	7,601	61
▣ Geospatial	641	17
	521	5
Addresses	23	2
Administrative units	25	4
Agricultural parcels	1	1
Buildings	20	6
Total	19,320	108

Category names

HVD category name	Datasets	Distinct category names
Vremenska opozorila	1	1
Vállalati és vállalatulajdonosi adatok	6	1
Statisztikák	15	1
STATISTICS	849	1
STATISTICAL DATA	101	1
Statistic	14	1
Radarski podatki	1	1
Public sector	1	1
PROPERTY LAW DATA OF COMPANIES AND CO...	18	1
Podnebni podatki: arhiv meteoroloških meritev	1	1
Podatki o opazovanjih, izmerjenih na vremenskih po...	1	1
Podatki modela za numerično napovedovanje vremena	1	1
Območja upravljanja/zaprta območja/regulirana obm...	11	1
Območja nevarnosti naravnih nesreč (III)	3	1
Nabori podatkov (DATASET)	1	1
Mobilnost (Mobility)	1	1
Total	21,977	48



(Not only) **security** trumps openness

Rules on reuse of data only apply to **publicly accessible data**. Member States decide what data is accessible.

Rules on reuse of data do not apply to:

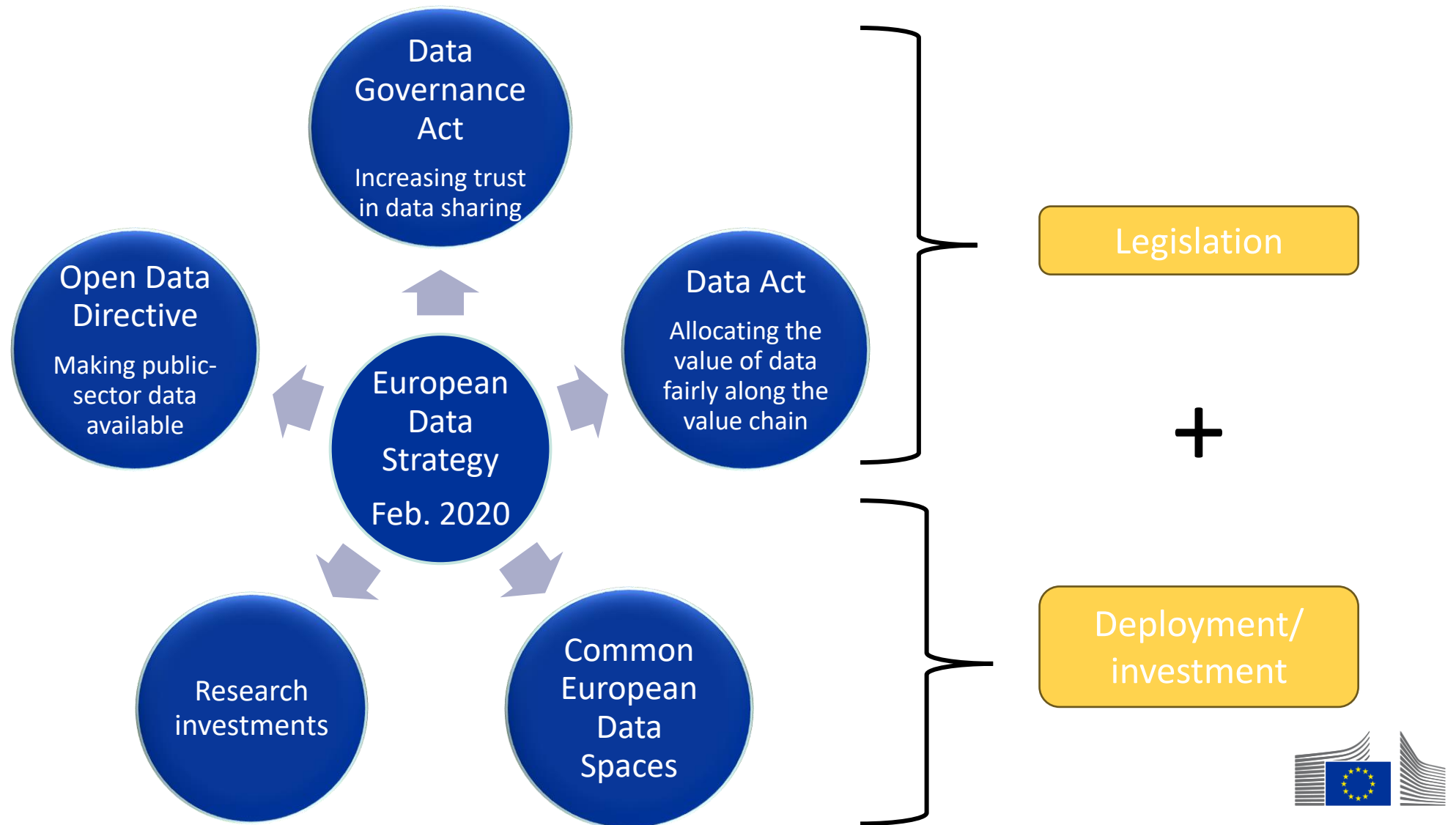
- documents for which third parties hold **intellectual property** rights;
- documents, **access** to which is **excluded** or **restricted** on grounds of protection of **personal data**,
- documents excluded from the access regimes e.g. on grounds of:
 - the protection of **national security** (namely, State security), **defence**, or **public security**;
 - **statistical confidentiality**;
 - **commercial confidentiality** (including business, professional or company secrets);
- documents access to which is excluded or restricted on grounds of sensitive **critical infrastructure protection**.



Future policies – New Commission 2024-2029



Key achievements of the Commission's previous mandate – data policies



Data can help EU competitiveness



Innovators including GenAI companies are running out of data

Lack of harmonisation of data legislation, including sector-specific laws, and overlapping governance bodies

Data is underutilized for compliance purposes (beyond data legislation)



Scaling up of data markets

Businesses fear sharing data due to competition concerns

Geopolitical tensions lead to uncertainty in international data flows



Those who can freely access new research, increasingly **accurate data**, and more efficient technologies can **innovate more quickly**, improve their processes, and **maintain competitiveness** in the global market.

Letta report, April 2024



The EU should **promote cross-industry coordination and data sharing** to **accelerate the integration of AI** into European industry.

Draghi report, September 2024

Commissioner - Henna Virkkunen

Executive Vice president for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy



[Mission Letter to Henna Virkkunen](#)

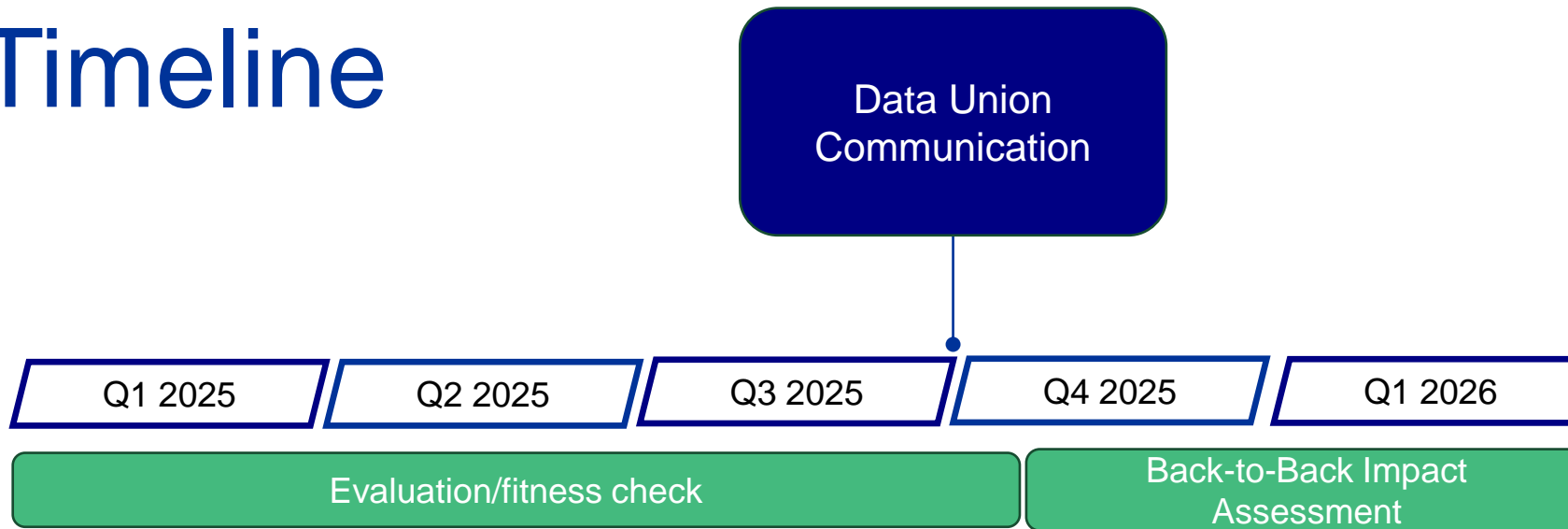


- **Accessible High-Quality Data**
Ensure high-quality data is available to European innovators addressing the scarcity of fresh datasets for European AI. (AI Continent)
- **Streamlined legislation**
Simplification and burden reduction for businesses. Possibly, clarify and streamline the existing data legislation to make it more coherent and understandable and user friendly.
- **International Data Flows**
Enhance, secure cross-border data exchanges, balancing privacy with innovation potential.

Data Union Strategy



Timeline



- **Two studies** (Feb-Nov): on future data needs and evaluation of legislative framework DGA, ODD, and Free Flow of Data
 - **Public consultation** on “Have Your Say” (from May running for at least 8 weeks)
 - **Targeted surveys** to EDIB (Mar-Jun)
 - **Sectoral workshops** (Apr-Jun): Civil Society, Mobility, Technology Providers, Health, Manufacturing/Energy
 - **Major outreach events** (Apr-Sep): PLPRES conference and Data Union conference (likely mid-September)
- If relevant: Impact Assessment for possible new legislative measure can be conducted back-to-back with an evaluation if a legislative proposal is deemed necessary

Adoption of the **Data Union Strategy in Q3/Q4 2025**

Open Data Directive – evaluation

- Article 18 of the Directive:

No sooner than 17 July 2025, the Commission shall carry out an evaluation of this Directive, and submit a report on the main findings of that evaluation to the European Parliament and to the Council as well as to the European Economic and Social Committee.

Member States shall provide the Commission with the information necessary for the preparation of that report.

- = > Study to support the evaluation has been launched
- = > Questionnaire submitted to the European Data Innovation Board
- = > Online public consultation will be launched in Q2 2025
- = > PSI Group will be involved



Thank you very much for your attention



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Unit G1 of DG CONNECT

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