

# DATA GOVERNANCE ACT (DGA)

## Policy briefing

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Weblink	<a href="https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/data-governance-act">https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/data-governance-act</a>
Relevance	<input type="checkbox"/> National policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EU policy <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
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## Short summary of the policy

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The Data Governance Act (DGA) is a regulatory framework adopted by the European Union to facilitate the reuse and sharing of data across sectors and member states, promoting a trustworthy and secure data-sharing environment. The DGA introduces mechanisms to encourage voluntary data-sharing by businesses and individuals while ensuring strong protections for privacy and security. The Data Governance Act also supports the setup and development of Common European Data Spaces in strategic domains, involving both private and public players, in sectors such as health, environment, energy, agriculture, mobility, finance, manufacturing, public administration and skills. The regulation aims to strengthen data availability and interoperability across Europe to support innovation, economic growth, and the deployment of artificial intelligence and other digital technologies.

The DGA establishes data intermediaries, which are organizations facilitating data-sharing services under neutral and trustworthy conditions. It also introduces the concept of data altruism, allowing individuals and organizations to voluntarily share their data for public-interest research. Moreover, the Act creates a framework for European data spaces, fostering sector-specific and cross-sector data exchange.

The Data Governance Act entered into force on 23 June 2022 and, following a 15-month grace period, became officially applicable from 24 September 2023.

## Main objectives of the policy

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- Promote fair and secure data-sharing across the EU.
- Establish neutral data intermediaries to facilitate data access and exchange.
- Enable data altruism, allowing voluntary data-sharing for public benefit.
- Ensure compliance with EU privacy and security standards.
- Support the creation of sector-specific data spaces for digital transformation.
- Improve access to high-value datasets for innovation and research.

## Context and relation to the Digital Europe Programme (DEP)

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The DGA aligns closely with Digital Europe Programme (DEP) objectives by fostering a robust digital economy and enhancing data-sharing frameworks essential for AI, cloud computing, and high-performance computing.

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**Parts of the policy directly related to specific objectives (SO) in DEP**

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**SO2 – AI Continent:** The Data Governance Act aims to fulfil the vision of a Common European Data Space in which data could be used irrespective of its physical storage location in the Union in compliance with applicable law, which, *inter alia*, could be pivotal for the rapid development of artificial intelligence technologies.

**SO4 – Advanced Digital Skills:** DGA supports education and training initiatives related to data governance and digital skills.

**SO5 – Deployment of Digital Solutions:** Encouraging businesses and governments to leverage data-driven innovation through the reuse of public and private data.

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**Activities in the DEP Work Programme 2025-27 contributing to the objectives of the policy**

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Health: Data ingestion capacities and data services for the European Genomic Data Infrastructure in the European Health Data Space: data storage and processing capacity: This action supports the acquisition and set-up of a secure federated data storage and processing capacity for the 1+MG data infrastructure. All actions of the topic must comply with the rules and mechanisms imposed by the Data Governance Act that shape a trustworthy and secure data-sharing environment.

Health: Data ingestion capacities and data services for the European Genomic Data Infrastructure in the European Health Data Space: data tools This action aims to enhance the European genomic data infrastructure by supporting the deployment of advanced tools for data curation and use and its alignment with the European Health Data Space (EHDS). The tools to be developed under this topic must comply to the rules and mechanisms imposed by the Data Governance Act.

Data Space for Manufacturing: This action aims to support the continued uptake and further expansion of the data space for manufacturing. The primary objective is to develop legal, technical and business solutions to pool sufficient data and enable authorized AI developers to have direct or indirect data access to train generative AI models specifically for the manufacturing sector. The data spaces under development needs to comply with the mechanisms and regulation of the Data Governance Act in order to facilitate the creation of a secure and trustworthy data-sharing environment.

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**Related policies and further information**

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- The Data Governance Act is a component of the European Data Strategy
- The Data Governance Act is designed to work together with the Data Act, with the Data Act clarifying the rules for creating value from data generated by connected devices.
- The Data Governance Act complements the Open Data Directive by enabling the secure reuse of certain categories of protected public-sector data, like personal or commercially sensitive data
- The Data Governance Act supports the GDPR by creating legal mechanisms for secure data sharing that also protect personal data and privacy.