

EU policy update

Digital Omnibus Proposal & Data Union Strategy

Marjana Zelic, Senior Research & Policy Officer



Political background

Simplification and political objectives



- **New 2024-2029 Commission mandate:** simplification as a support tool to EU competitiveness.
- October 2025 **Council Conclusions** called for "further ambitious simplification packages", "including on digital".



The Digital Omnibus is the seventh of such packages. EUR 5 billion in administrative cost savings are expected for businesses by 2029.

Digital Omnibus Simplification package

Omnibus = comprising several items

„An omnibus bill is a type of legislation that combines multiple issues into a single document. This approach allows lawmakers to address diverse subjects at once rather than introducing separate bills for each topic. It is a single document that is accepted in a single vote.”

Heavyweight releases at the end of 2025:

- ❖ the Digital Omnibus Regulation proposal,
- ❖ a separate simplification proposal on AI,
- ❖ the Data Union Strategy,
- ❖ a policy roadmap on data and AI,
- ❖ the Environmental simplification package includes a Proposal for INSPIRE simplification





EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 19.11.2025
COM(2025) 837 final
2025/0360(COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulations (EU) 2016/679, (EU) 2018/1724, (EU) 2018/1725, (EU) 2023/2854 and Directives 2002/58/EC, (EU) 2022/2555 and (EU) 2022/2557 as regards the simplification of the digital legislative framework, and repealing Regulations (EU) 2018/1807, (EU) 2019/1150, (EU) 2022/868, and Directive (EU) 2019/1024 (Digital Omnibus)

{SWD(2025) 836 final}

Repealing

Ammending

Free flow of non-personal data Regulation

Regulation promoting fairness and transparency for business users of online intermediation services

Directive on Open data and the re-use of Public Sector Information

Data Governance Act)

GDPR & ePrivacy Directive

Data Act

Establishing a single digital gateway Regulation

Cybersecurity Directive & Resilience of Critical entities Directive

„Digital Omnibus Regulation proposal”

Lead: DG CNECT, Dir. 1 with A2,G1,H2, H4
Parl. Committees responsible: ITRE & LIBE

Digital Omnibus Regulation Proposal

Consolidation of the data rulebook: Four to one

Data sharing of IoT data (connected products & related services), rules on fair data-sharing clauses in B2B contracts, Business to Government data sharing, rules on cloud switching.

Data Act

Re-use of protected data held by public sector bodies increase data sharing (data intermediation services, data altruism), governance (EDIB).

Data Governance Act

Ensure the free flow of non-personal data within the Union (prohibition of data localization requirements), provisions on cloud.

Free Flow of Non-Personal Data Regulation

Re-use of public sector information, including research data and high value data sets.

Open Data Directive



It introduces the rules governing the charging for open government data, formerly governed by Directive (EU) 2019/1024 (Open Data Directive). As a new rule, public sector bodies may charge higher charges for the re-use by very large enterprises. Such charges must be proportionate and their amount based on objective criteria.

Data Union Strategy – unlocking data for AI (19.11.2025)

- „To unlock the full potential of European AI, the Union must treat data as a **core strategic resource** and **invest in secure, high-quality, and interoperable datasets** that reflect European values and standards. Strengthening Europe’s ability to collect, curate, and use its own data is both an economic and security imperative.”



Brussels, 19.11.2025
COM(2025) 835 final

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL**

**DATA UNION STRATEGY
UNLOCKING DATA FOR AI**

European Data Union Strategy



- I. **scaling up access to data for AI**, with initiatives such as **data labs** that offer trusted pseudonymisation services and pool data resources across public and private actors to provide companies and researchers with high-quality datasets.
- II. **streamlining data rules to make sharing data easier** for businesses and researchers, including reforming cookie consent to reduce fatigue while protecting rights.
- III. **strengthening the EU's global position on international data flows** by tackling unjustified trade barriers so that European companies can compete on a level playing field globally.

