

March 17, 2026

**Subject: Joint Call for a Sovereign and Resilient European Cloud Policy**

Dear Executive Vice-President,

As the proposed Cloud and AI Development Act (CAIDA) approaches adoption, we, the undersigned CEOs of European digital companies, wish to express our strong support for an ambitious European cloud policy centred on sovereignty, resilience, and fair competition.

This first comprehensive European cloud policy should strengthen Europe's digital capacity by prioritising procurement and investment in sovereign European solutions that foster a competitive cloud ecosystem. If it instead enables "sovereignty washing" or procurement strategies that further entrench the dominance of non-European hyperscalers, it risks undermining the very objectives it seeks to achieve.

To ensure that CAIDA effectively advances Europe's digital sovereignty and industrial competitiveness, we respectfully highlight five key principles and objectives. Supporting considerations are provided in the [annex](#) to this letter.

- 1. Sovereignty must be defined by control, not by EU presence or cybersecurity.** Sovereignty criteria should reflect effective control, ownership of technology, and protection from extraterritorial jurisdiction, in line with the principles applied in the European Defence Fund (EDF) and EDIRPA regulations. Cybersecurity certification alone does not ensure sovereignty, as it does not address exposure to extraterritorial legislation such as the U.S. Cloud Act.
- 2. Where sovereign services are not available, resilience - or operational autonomy - must be ensured.** Services should guarantee operational autonomy by ensuring effective control of and access to our cloud data, infrastructure and workloads – especially in the event of interference by foreign governments or third parties.
- 3. For sensitive data and workloads Europe should introduce reserved procurement shares for European cloud providers.** At the very least, public procurement should follow a clear principle: "Buy European - or Ensure Resilience - or Explain." Large-scale procurement frameworks that effectively exclude European providers should be avoided.
- 4. Europe's cloud policy should reinforce competition,** interoperability, and federated European cloud initiatives, while preventing anti-competitive bundling of AI and cloud services and recognising the importance of open-source software.
- 5. Taxpayer-funded investments in cloud and AI infrastructure should prioritise the European ecosystem,** support the development of alternative local sourcing, including key components such as memory and chips, and incorporate strict environmental sustainability requirements.

We look forward to discussing these proposals with you and your teams on 17 March.

Please accept, Executive Vice-President, the assurance of our highest consideration.

## List of Signatories – as of March 17

1. Arno Schäfer, CEO, UpCloud
2. Stefano Cecconi, CEO, Aruba
3. Svenja de Vos, Co-CEO, Leaseweb
4. Marc Oehler, CEO, Infomaniak
5. Emile Chalouhi, CEO, Opiquad
6. Alexander Windbichler, Anexia
7. Claudio Santiago Abad, CEO, Deda Tech
8. Antonio Giannetto, CEO, Reevo
9. Dirk Schiffner, CEO, Adestis
10. Jake Madders, CEO, Hyve Managed Hosting
11. Frank Karlitschek, CEO, NextCloud
12. Jacqueline van de Werken, Chairwoman, CISPE
13. Mathew Burden, CEO, Black Box Hosting
14. Quentin Adam, CEO, Clever Cloud
15. Dung Ly, CEO, Ikoula Cloud
16. Ruud Alaerds, Managing Director, Dutch Cloud Community
17. Antonio Baldassara; CEO, Seeweb
18. Luana Girolama, CEO Testudo
19. Cristiano Boscato, CEO, Dinova
20. Victor Guerro, CEO, Grupo Gigas
21. Ruben Bryon, CEO, Verda
22. Antoine Fournier, CEO, Thésée Datacenter
23. Eric Haddad, CEO, Numspot
24. David Amorin, CEO, Jotelulu
25. Philippe Notton, CEO, SiPear