Basic information

2020/2217(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure A European strategy for data **Subject** 3.30.06 Information and communication technologies, digital technologies 3.50.04 Innovation	Procedure completed

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**		**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	ITRE	Industry, Research and Energy	KUMPULA-NATRI Miapetra (S&D)	21/04/2020
			Shadow rapporteur MAYDELL Eva (EPP) DANTI Nicola (Renew) BOESELAGER Damian (Greens/EFA) TOŠENOVSKÝ Evžen (ECR) MÉLIN Joëlle (ID) BOMPARD Manuel (GUE/NGL)	

	Committee for opinion		**Rapporteur for opinion**	**Appointed**
	INTA	International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	EMPL	Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ENVI	Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	IMCO	Internal Market and Consumer Protection (Associated committee)	SCHALDEMOSE Christel (S&D)	01/04/2020
	TRAN	Transport and Tourism (Associated committee)	HAIDER Roman (ID)	03/06/2020

AGRI	Agriculture and Rural Development	ZOIDO ÁLVAREZ Juan Ignacio (EPP)	27/05/2020
CULT	Culture and Education	MAXOVÁ Radka (Renew)	22/04/2020
JURI	Legal Affairs (Associated committee)	VOSS Axel (EPP)	12/10/2020
LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (Associated committee)	KALJURAND Marina (S&D)	11/06/2020

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/10/2020	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/10/2020	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
23/02/2021	Vote in committee		
02/03/2021	Committee report tabled for plenary	A9-0027/2021	Summary
25/03/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0098/2021	Summary
25/03/2021	Results of vote in Parliament		
25/03/2021	Debate in Parliament		
25/03/2021	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2020/2217(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Strategic initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55 Rules of Procedure EP 57_o
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/9/02825

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary

Committee draft report		PE657.163	11/09/2020	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE652.570	20/10/2020	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE660.285	12/11/2020	
Committee opinion	IMCO	PE659.085	12/01/2021	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE652.540	27/01/2021	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE652.598	27/01/2021	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE660.120	28/01/2021	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE659.067	18/02/2021	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A9-0027/2021	02/03/2021	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0098/2021	25/03/2021	Summary

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
DANTI Nicola	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	23/09/2020	TIM S.p.A.

A European strategy for data

2020/2217(INI) - 02/03/2021 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the own-initiative report by Miapetra KUMPULA-NATRI (S&D, FI) on a European strategy for data.

Values and principles

Members stressed that the EU must strive for EU-wide data governance and a human-centric, data society and economy based on the Union's values of privacy, transparency and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, empowering its citizens to take meaningful decisions over the data produced by or relating to them. The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the role of and need for high-quality, real-time databases, information and data sharing, as well as shortcomings in the infrastructure and interoperability of solutions across Member States. Therefore, individuals should have full control of their data and be further assisted in enforcing their data protection and privacy rights regarding the data they generate. The right to data portability and the data subject's access, rectification and erasure rights provided for by the General Data Protection Regulation.

Data governance and spaces

The committee supports the creation of a data governance framework and common European data spaces, which should be subject to EU rules and cover transparency, interoperability, sharing, access, portability and security of data, with a view to enhancing the flow and reuse of non-personal data or personal data that is fully GDPR-compliant and securely anonymised in both industrial and public environments and across and within specific sectors.

Members called for the creation of a Commission-led expert group that would have the capacity to help and advise the Commission to set common, EU-wide guidelines on data governance in order to turn interoperability and data sharing into a reality in the EU. They encouraged the Commission to use common European data spaces to enhance trust, adopt common standards and regulations, and encourage the creation of well-formed application programming interfaces (APIs) along with robust authentication mechanisms, and to consider using pre-agreed, clearly specified and time-bound sandboxes to test innovations and new business models as well as new data management and processing tools, both in the public and private sector.

Inseparability of personal and non-personal data

The report recalled that personal and non-personal data, such as industrial data, is not always separable and can be difficult and costly to separate, with the result being that a large amount of data currently remains unused. Data sets in which different types of data are inextricably linked are always treated as personal data, including in cases where the personal data represents only a small part of the data set. Therefore, Members urged the Commission to:

- provide further guidance on the lawful processing of data and on practices on the utilisation of mixed data sets in industrial environments;

- consider establishing a legislative framework and a clear definition of horizontal and cross-cutting personal data spaces alongside other data spaces, and to further clarify the challenge of mixed data sets.

Data act, access and interoperability

Members urged the Commission to present a data act to encourage and enable a greater and fair B2B, B2G, government-to-business (G2B) and government-to-government (G2G) flow of data in all sectors. Collaborative approaches for sharing data and standardised data agreements should be encouraged to improve predictability and trustworthiness. There is a need for contracts to set clear obligations and liability for the accessing, processing, sharing and storing of data in order to limit the misuse of such data.

Infrastructure and cybersecurity

In relation to cloud service providers, Members called on the Commission to oblige in the future "Cloud rulebook" for service providers to show where they store data. Additionally, the report stated that cloud service providers should not have access to data stored on their servers, unless there is a separate agreement between parties. A more robust cybersecurity is a prerequisite for a stable data economy.

Global rules

Lastly, Members considered that global rules governing the use of data are inadequate. They invited the Commission to come forward with a comparative analysis of the regulatory environment for data in third countries. The report highlighted the need for international rules and standards to foster global cooperation aimed at strengthening data protection and establishing safe and appropriate data transfers, while fully respecting EU and Member States' laws and standards.

A European strategy for data

2020/2217(INI) - 25/03/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 602 votes to 8, with 78 abstentions, a resolution on a European strategy for data.

Members believe that the European data strategy will be a prerequisite for the viability of European businesses and their global competitiveness, as well as for the progress of universities, research centres and emerging artificial intelligence. It will be a crucial step in building a data society that respects EU rights and values, in defining the conditions for the data economy, and in establishing the EU's leading role.

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the role of and need for high-quality, real-time databases, information and data sharing, as well as shortcomings in the infrastructure and interoperability of solutions across Member States. The resolution stressed the vital role of the principle of free movement of data within the EU in realising the full potential of the data-driven economy.

Values and principles

The EU must strive for EU-wide data governance and a human-centric, data society and economy based on the Union's values of privacy, transparency and respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, empowering its citizens to take meaningful decisions over the data produced by or relating to them.

Members want future proposals that involve the processing of personal data are subject to the supervision of data protection authorities pursuant to the GDPR, in order to ensure that innovation also considers the impact on citizens' rights. Any misuse of data, including through mass surveillance, should be excluded.

Governance

Parliament supports the creation of a data governance framework and common European data spaces, which should be subject to EU rules and cover transparency, interoperability, sharing, access, portability and security of data, with a view to enhancing the flow and reuse of non-personal data or personal data that is fully GDPR-compliant and securely anonymised in both industrial and public environments and across and within specific sectors.

Member called for the creation of a Commission-led expert group that would have the capacity to help and advise the Commission to set common, EU-wide guidelines on data governance in order to turn interoperability and data sharing into a reality in the EU.

Data spaces

The Commission and Member States are encouraged to create interoperable sectoral data spaces that follow common guidelines, legal requirements and protocols for data exchange.

The resolution encouraged the Commission to use common European data spaces to build trust, adopt common standards, encourage the creation of well-designed application programming interfaces (APIs) and robust authentication systems, and to consider using pre-agreed data experimentation spaces to test innovations.

Parliament supports the Commission's intention to promote the development of nine common European data spaces for industry (manufacturing), the Green Deal, mobility, health, finance, energy, agriculture, public administration and skills. The concept of European Common Data Spaces could be extended to other sectors such as tourism, cultural and creative industries and cultural heritage.

Mixed data

Recalling that it is not always possible to separate personal data from non-personal data such as industrial data, Parliament called on the Commission and European data protection authorities to provide further guidance on the lawful processing of data and on practices for the use of mixed data sets in industrial environments, in full compliance with the GDPR.

Data act

Parliament urged the Commission to present a data act to encourage and enable a greater and fair B2B, B2G, government-to-business (G2B) and government-to-government (G2G) flow of data in all sectors. The Commission is encouraged to facilitate a data sharing culture and voluntary data sharing schemes, such as the implementation of best practices, fair contractual model agreements and security measures.

Infrastructure and cybersecurity

Parliament called on the Commission and Member States to support the development of European cloud computing offerings and to develop a 'set of rules on cloud computing' that will provide a solid framework for greater clarity and easier compliance with the rules applicable to cloud services, including obliging service providers to disclose where data is processed and stored, while ensuring users' sovereignty over their data.

Members welcomed the Commission's proposal to create a new European Cyber Security Competence Centre.

Global rules

Parliament considered that global rules governing the use of data are inadequate. It invited the Commission to come forward with a comparative analysis of the regulatory environment for data in third countries. The resolution highlighted the need for international rules and standards to foster global cooperation aimed at strengthening data protection and establishing safe and appropriate data transfers, while fully respecting EU and Member States' laws and standards.