

Brussels, 12 November 2025

To the attention of the President of the European Commission

To the attention of Executive Vice-President for  
“Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy”

**Subject: Safeguard strong rules for European tech sovereignty**

Dear President von der Leyen,

Dear Executive Vice-President Virkkunen,

The upcoming Digital Omnibus, presented as a drive to simplify EU digital regulations, risks hollowing out the EU's ambitions for genuine technological sovereignty. As Greens/EFA, we call upon the European Commission to reverse course and focus on actual simplification, effectively stimulating our European tech sector.

We note with grave concern that the recently leaked approach on the Digital Omnibus shows that the Commission plans to go far beyond technical clarifications and instead walks back on laws that form the cornerstone of the EU's digital policy acquis.

**Preserve the AI Act**

The leaked changes to the AI Act undermine the very nature of the law by caving in to calls from non-EU industry players to remove important transparency requirements (by removing registration obligations for high-risk providers that seek to evade the law), undermining accountability and enforcement, and getting rid of much needed rules for AI literacy. The Commission must stand strong in defending what was agreed on by the co-legislators. Lobbyists call to weaken transparency rules on energy use and sustainability standards, as well as changes to the fundamental rights impact assessment risk putting EU citizens at harm, while doing very little for fostering innovation. In addition, the considerations for a stop-the-clock due to the delays in the standard-making process reverse any incentives for speedy finalisation of standards. They only play into the hands of those that have made an effort to slow the standardisation of AI technologies down to the detriment of actual enforcement of the rules for high-risk AI systems.

**Protect GDPR**

The leaked changes to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) would neither simplify nor clarify the rules that protect our fundamental rights when our personal data are processed. Instead, they would introduce a carve-out in the definition of “personal data” that will be abused by online data-brokers to claim the GDPR does not apply to them, since they cannot identify us, since they “only” know our device ID or cookie number. Also, the proposed changes to the rules on using information from terminal equipment would even allow the use of such tracking cookies without our consent, which would constitute a massive weakening of the existing protections in the current ePrivacy Directive.

## **Promote the Data Act**

The Data Act just entered into force in September and is a fine balancing act between the need to incentivise data sharing in the EU, including creating a legal design for non-personal data markets, and the desire of companies in traditional industries to protect data silos. A one-sided opening of the Data Act in favour of one particular interest group would be a significant strategic error and contradict the pledge you made towards achieving increased competitiveness. The same can be said about the regime for Data Intermediation Services in the Data Governance Act. Making it voluntary would strengthen large digital platforms (e.g., cloud service providers) who will be able to abuse their market power and bundle data markets with data intermediation services. This would result in greater customer lock-in and entrench the position of non-EU market players who stand in strong opposition to achieving digital sovereignty in the EU. This is contrary to your public statements and commitments.

## **Prioritize European tech sovereignty**

By prioritizing deregulation and competitiveness over strategic autonomy, the omnibus risks weakening the very safeguards that made the EU a global standard-setter in digital policy; from GDPR to the AI Act. Simplification in areas like cybersecurity, data governance, and AI may sound business-friendly, but in practice they ease the path for dominant non-EU tech giants to consolidate control over European infrastructure and data flows, further deepening dependencies on US and Chinese platforms.

Pressured by big-tech and U.S. lobbying and some Member States pretending to seek to cut red tape, the Commission is on the verge of deregulating its way into dependency, further undermining digital sovereignty and eliminating any chance of European actors to grow. Allowing businesses to negate market and security safeguards risks undermining the uptake of the very technology we are trying to foster and incentivize or protect people from. The proposed weakening of the AI Act or potentially in the field of cybersecurity requirements stand in direct opposition to the European Democracy Shield, which bases its plan for protecting EU citizens from foreign interference on the achievements under these laws.

As GreensEFA, we reject any attempt to open our European digital acquis to a deregulation agenda. Instead, the Commission should pursue an honest simplification, streamlining, and clarification plan, serving the needs of EU businesses and people, ultimately leading to better enforcement and legal predictability across the Union. Shortcomings in the current digital policy acquis are not fixed by removing responsibilities from businesses, instead many complaints and concerns can be remedied with targeted clarifications in case of duplicate requirements, clear guidelines and better enforcement. The issues that led to the approval of acts like Data Act and NIS2 have not disappeared. We are still under grave cybersecurity risks and our tech sector is being undermined by big speeches followed by shameful capitulations.

To conclude, as Greens/EFA we believe that the Commission should reflect carefully on its proposals in the upcoming Digital Omnibus and the potential detrimental impact opening key European regulations will have on our sovereignty and democracy.

Yours sincerely,

Terry Reintke - Co-President Greens/EFA

Bas Eickhout - Co-President Greens/EFA

Sergey Lagodinsky - Vice-President Greens/EFA & Co-Chair Greens/EFA Digital Steering Group

Alexandra Geese - Co-Chair Greens/EFA Digital Steering Group

Anna Cavazzini - Chair Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO)

Kim van Sparrentak - IMCO Coordinator & Shadow Rapporteur AI Act

Tineke Strik & Saskia Bricmont - LIBE Coordinators

Markéta Gregorová - GDPR Procedures Rapporteur

Damian Boeselager - Data Act and Data Governance Act Shadow Rapporteur