

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001866/25
to the Commission
Virginie Joron (Pfe)
(8 May 2025)**

Subject: Strategic dependence: Brussels losing its soul in American clouds (cloud services of Microsoft, AWS/Amazon, Google)

The Commission has chosen non-European giants like Microsoft, Amazon Web Services and Google for its software and cloud infrastructure. The consequences are severe and immediate: strategic dependence and transfers of data outside Europe. That, at least, is the opinion of the European Data Protection Supervisor.

This dependence is unnecessary and incompatible with the objectives of European digital sovereignty and strategic autonomy, especially when equivalent solutions are available from European providers, who need to participate in a number of public contracts to develop their expertise and capacities. The Commission must lead by example by prioritising purchases from European providers.

1. What percentage of the contract has the Commission awarded to each cloud service provider so far?
2. When can it legally terminate, even partially, the contracts concluded with Microsoft, Amazon (AWS) and Google, or when do these contracts end?
3. What tangible measures (revising the SIDE III and CLOUD III contract guidelines to explicitly favour European providers when offering equivalent solutions, or introducing a quota for European providers) is it taking to migrate its systems to the open and interoperable solutions of European operators, without waiting for 2026?

Submitted: 8.5.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(1 July 2025)**

The Commission's digital transformation is guided by its cloud strategy ⁽¹⁾, prioritising a secure hybrid multi-cloud approach. The hybrid aspect is delivered through private cloud infrastructure under full Commission control, as the key part of its digital autonomy.

The multi-cloud dimension ensures resilience and mitigates vendor lock-in, with operators awarded via procurement procedures compliant with EU laws, data protection and cybersecurity legislation and international agreements.

Contracts have been awarded to a variety of providers, all of which are EU-based entities. The Commission has included European providers without corporate ties to the United States and makes extensive use of open-source software.

Currently, in line with the objective to avoid dependency, 85% of workloads run in the Commission's private cloud. The remaining 15%, managing non-confidential data, are equally distributed among Amazon Web Services EMEA SARL (AWS) and Microsoft Ireland Operations Limited, and — to a lesser extent — OVHcloud. Contracts concluded with AWS and Microsoft are valid until 2030 and 2031 respectively, with no volume commitment in usage.

Since 2014, successive cloud and software framework contracts ⁽²⁾ have incorporated award criteria reflecting European digital sovereignty initiatives such as references to SecNumCloud that resulted in a contract awarded to OVHcloud.

Looking ahead, the Commission remains committed to leveraging forthcoming legislative and procurement instruments to strengthen EU digital sovereignty and foster innovative EU services.

The upcoming Cloud and Artificial Intelligence Development Act ⁽³⁾ will ensure secure EU-based capacity for critical needs, backed by a single EU-wide cloud policy for the public sector.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/european-commission-cloud-strategy_en.

⁽²⁾ For example, Cloud III or SIDE III.

⁽³⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14628-AI-Continent-new-cloud-and-AI-development-act_en.