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E-000047/2026

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(26.2.2026)

The Commission welcomes stakeholders' engagement, including through the open letter of 12 November 2025 mentioned in the Honourable Member's question.

The call for evidence (CfE) published on 6 January 2026 for the initiative 'Towards European open digital ecosystems'¹ is designed to gather evidence on barriers and on concrete EU actions to strengthen Europe's open-source ecosystem, including in Artificial Intelligence (AI).

In this context, the CfE refers to the issues raised in the abovementioned letter, namely the limited access of the open-source ecosystem to public procurement and asks what measures could encourage public administrations and other large users to adopt and contribute to open source. Moreover, in line with the Apply AI Strategy²; the CfE also notes constraints in growth capital and support and invites stakeholders to propose funding and policy measures. Furthermore, the CfE points to the limited access of the ecosystem to hosting and infrastructure and it was prepared alongside the forthcoming Cloud and AI Development Act³, which will aim to expand EU cloud and data-centre capacity and promote secure and sovereign cloud and AI services along with other initiatives, such as the AI Gigafactories. Finally, the CfE invites evidence on governance and upscaling frameworks, where contributors may also address conditions for re-use of public sector data, in full respect of privacy and other rights.

All feedback received through the Call for Evidence will be assessed and will inform the Commission communication on a European Open Digital Ecosystems Strategy, which will expand on the current open-source actions under the Apply AI Strategy.

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/16213-European-Open-Digital-Ecosystems_en.

² <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/apply-ai>.

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