DIGITALEUROPE applauds adoption of INI report
"Towards a Digital Trade Strategy" in INTA Committee

Brussels, 23 November 2017

DIGITALEUROPE, the association representing the digital technology industry in Europe, congratulates the International Trade Committee in the European Parliament on adopting the INI Report "Towards a Digital Trade Strategy", expressing a large cross-party support for an ambitious EU Digital Trade Strategy. We would especially like to thank the rapporteur, Ms Marietje Schaake, for her leadership in advancing on this urgently needed discussion.

It is absolutely crucial for the European Digital Single Market Strategy to be mirrored by a solid plan on the global front. As a global leader in trade services, the EU must assume leadership and advocate ambitious digital standards in free trade agreements before others do. The INI report recognizes the importance of provisions on inter alia source code, encryption, data flows and data localization; encouraging the EU executives to take actions. While the European Commission has already tabled various digital trade provisions in its FTA negotiations, e.g. with Japan and Mexico, we now encourage the Commission to complete its proposals with a concrete and predictable text on data flows and provisions abolishing data localisation. In this respect, the INTA committee has succeeded in illustrating how the right balance can be found in order to both enable digital trade and preserve data protection standards.

DIGITALEUROPE urges the Commission Project Team to follow the advice of the European Parliament to draw up provisions and present concrete, predictable and ambitious proposals for an EU position on cross-border data transfers.

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ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. DIGITALEUROPE ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies.`

DIGITALEUROPE's members include in total 25,000 ICT Companies in Europe represented by 61 corporate members and 37 national trade associations from across Europe. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: http://www.digitaleurope.org

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Estonia: ITL
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Germany: BITKOM, ZVEI
Greece: SEPE
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