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EU-US Digital Dialogue - Building the next chapter of transatlantic digital cooperation

Executive summary

Europe and the United States stand at a defining moment for transatlantic cooperation. Digital technologies are increasingly shaping economic growth, competitiveness, security and geopolitical influence.

The past few years have not always been straightforward. Nevertheless, the EU and the United States retain a shared interest in close and constructive cooperation. Together, Europe's strengths across critical technologies and the US innovation ecosystem provide a unique opportunity to make both partners more competitive. We call on the EU and the US to establish a broad and forward-looking Digital Dialogue. Against this backdrop, we acknowledge and welcome the high-level digital engagements between the Commission and the United States Government in July 2026.

The Dialogue should become a pillar of transatlantic cooperation on the technologies that will define our shared future - from AI, semiconductors, cybersecurity and secure connectivity to digital infrastructure, investment and resilient supply chains.

It should also provide an outcome-oriented platform to align on export controls, sovereignty frameworks, investment screening, online safety and other emerging challenges, while supporting coordinated transatlantic alignment in the G7, ensuring cooperation evolves as technology and geopolitics do.

Industry must be at the heart of this process. For both European and American digitalising companies, the transatlantic market – and open access to it – is by far the world's largest bilateral trade and investment relationship, underpinned by €4.9 trillion in mutual investment¹, and is vital for scaling digital, critical and dual-use technologies.

EU and US companies are developing, deploying and investing in technologies that underpin the digital economy. Their complementary expertise will be essential to ensure the Dialogue remains practical, ambitious and capable of delivering tangible outcomes.

DIGITALEUROPE continues to advocate for a stronger transatlantic relationship. From contributing to US consultations on advanced AI export controls and the Framework for Artificial Intelligence Diffusion, to advancing practical proposals for EU-US cybersecurity mutual recognition, we have consistently promoted trusted, coordinated approaches to shared digital challenges. Our establishment of a permanent presence in Washington, D.C. and the launch of the Transatlantic Tech Reception one year ago have further strengthened our ability to convene senior policymakers and industry leaders from both sides of the Atlantic around a common digital agenda. **We stand ready to support the EU and the US in making the Digital Dialogue the next chapter of the transatlantic partnership.**

¹ European Commission, EU-US trade relationship: One year after the EU-US deal on tariffs and trade - Trade and Economic Security





A New Chapter for the Transatlantic relationship

As technology increasingly drives economic security, competitiveness, and geopolitical resilience, closer cooperation between the EU and the US has become more important than ever.

The **Turnberry Agreement** has strengthened certainty for businesses, while the EU's participation in Pax Silica reflects a shared commitment to advancing cooperation on critical technologies. Building on this progress, the EU–US Digital Dialogue should become **the next step in strengthening the transatlantic partnership**.

A broad Agenda for a strong Digital Dialogue with industry at its heart

The strength of the Digital Dialogue will depend on the breadth of its ambition. Artificial intelligence, semiconductors, cybersecurity, digital infrastructure, investment and export controls have become increasingly interconnected. Progress in one area depends on cooperation across many others.

The Dialogue should therefore provide a **comprehensive framework for cooperation that evolves alongside technological developments and geopolitical priorities**, enabling early discussion of regulatory developments and emerging files. Rather than duplicating existing initiatives, it should **connect them, reinforce them and identify new opportunities for cooperation** where both partners can deliver greater impact together.

Industry plays a unique role as a bridge across the Atlantic. Companies operate across both markets, invest on both sides of the Atlantic and have direct experience of evolving policy frameworks. A permanent and structured mechanism for industry engagement will be essential to ensure the Dialogue remains **forward-looking, responsive and impactful**, while translating shared TECH7 and G7 priorities into practical transatlantic cooperation.

Technology Sovereignty

Both the EU and the United States are developing approaches to technology sovereignty² and economic security. The EU and the United States should take stock of mechanisms that are already working and **align their approaches to the maximum extent possible**. The US, for example, has established mechanisms such as the Foreign Ownership, Control or Influence (FOCI) mitigation framework and the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP), which allow trusted providers to handle sensitive workloads provided they meet strict security and control requirements, while keeping procurement open to companies from Europe and other trusted allies.

The EU–US Digital Dialogue should support this objective by providing a forum to exchange best practices, address irritants and misconceptions around respective policy measures and identify opportunities for greater convergence. It should also enable early engagement on regulatory developments with cross-border market-access implications, allowing policymakers and industry explore opportunities for alignment, for instance in public procurement, cybersecurity certification and AI frameworks.

² In addition to DIGITALEUROPE's position set out here: [Towards a competitive and sovereign Europe](#), further communication on this topic will follow, developed through the responsible DIGITALEUROPE workstream.



Rather than duplicating existing initiatives, the EU and the United States should work towards an interoperable, secure and resilient technology ecosystem building on the strengths of trusted partners and shared security standards.

The Dialogue should:

- Exchange best practices on technology sovereignty measures and risk-based, outcome-oriented criteria to trusted providers;
- Promote trusted technology ecosystems that strengthen resilience while supporting innovation and investment; and
- Strengthen cooperation on interoperable, secure and resilient technologies, drawing on the strengths of trusted partners while supporting their use and, where necessary, adaptation for critical security and defence applications.

Artificial Intelligence

Artificial intelligence is reshaping global competitiveness and will be central to future economic growth, security and innovation. Europe and the United States have **complementary strengths across the AI value chain**, creating a **unique opportunity to deepen transatlantic cooperation**. This is also reflected in [DIGITALEUROPE's contribution to the US consultation on the American AI Exports Program](#), which called for a trusted transatlantic AI ecosystem that leverages the strengths of both partners.

The Turnberry Agreement strengthens the transatlantic framework for AI and semiconductors through commitments on both investment and trade. These include the EU's intention to invest in advanced AI computing capacity, including through the purchase of at least **\$40 billion** worth of U.S. AI chips for European computing centres, alongside US commitments to cap any future Section 232 tariffs on EU semiconductors at **15%**. The EU's participation in **Pax Silica** is a positive step in this direction, demonstrating how trusted partners can work together to strengthen AI capabilities and the technologies that underpin them. Transatlantic cooperation on next-generation semiconductor design, advanced packaging, and materials science should be prioritized, while also exploring shared funding mechanisms for AI innovation hubs and design centers.

Frontier AI models for cybersecurity, such as Mythos, have triggered fundamental questions on model access, model validation and implications for vulnerability management. The US and the EU should promote a trusted and secure global approach to frontier AI models.

Building on the initial discussions held at the G7 on **testing frontier AI models among trusted partners**, the Digital Dialogue should:

- promote further cooperation across the AI ecosystem - from research and computing infrastructure to semiconductors, standards, talent and investment; and
- facilitate exchanges on the testing and evaluation of advanced AI models and the implications of export controls.

Cooperation should focus not only on the frontier but on the diffusion and adoption of AI across the economy. The Dialogue should therefore also open a workstream on transatlantic AI skilling, including public and private commitments on workforce reskilling.



Joint Dual Use Investments

Strong investment ties are the foundation of the transatlantic economy. With **€4.9 trillion in mutual investment**³, the EU and the United States remain each other's most important investment partners. Despite global turbulence, bilateral trade continued to grow in 2025, confirming the resilience of this relationship.

The Digital Dialogue should

- pursue the recommendations of the TECH7 Joint Declaration, this should include digital infrastructure supporting AI and other critical technologies, including computing capacity, cloud infrastructure, data centres and resilient energy systems.
- To maximise the impact of these investments, Europe should also establish a dedicated **EIB–EIF investment stream** that is open to investing in startups with both European and US investors that make a meaningful contribution to the EU economy - for example, through joint investment in dual-use technologies.⁴

Export Controls

Trusted digital value chains rely on **coordinated approaches to economic security**. As export controls increasingly shape access to AI, semiconductors, encryption, quantum communications and other strategic technologies, the EU and the United States should deepen cooperation to ensure that security measures reinforce, rather than fragment, transatlantic innovation and supply chains. At the same time, the ability of European industries to develop, maintain, upgrade and, where appropriate, export European-developed capabilities without disproportionate third-country constraints should be ensured.

We support shared priorities on investment, technology adoption and proportionate, risk-based regulation. Security risks can be managed through trusted-partner frameworks. DIGITALEUROPE has consistently advocated for targeted, risk-based AI export controls developed in close cooperation with trusted partners. In our response to the [U.S. consultation on export controls on advanced AI chips](#), we called for this approach and subsequently welcomed the withdrawal of the AI diffusion rule as a positive step.

A permanent industry-to-government forum on export controls should become a core pillar of the Digital Dialogue, enabling policymakers and industry to exchange expertise on emerging technologies, implementation challenges and geopolitical risks, and ultimately leading to the set-up of a coordination mechanism. Industry can help ensure that policy objectives are achieved without creating unnecessary barriers to trusted transatlantic trade. Consistent with the recommendations of the [TECH7 Joint Declaration](#), greater cooperation among trusted partners can strengthen economic security and keep sensitive technologies out of the reach of adversaries while avoiding unnecessary fragmentation, reducing compliance burdens for international companies and supporting innovation across the transatlantic economy.

³ European Commission, [EU-US trade relationship: One year after the EU-US deal on tariffs and trade - Trade and Economic Security](#)

⁴ For investment in technologies of strategic relevance to security and defence refer to DIGITALEUROPE's position paper: [Breaking Fragmentation: Advancing Secure Cross-Border Digital Interoperability in European Defence - DIGITALEUROPE](#)



Cyber

A secure digital ecosystem is the foundation of a competitive digital economy. As cyber threats become more sophisticated, the EU and the US should deepen their cooperation to strengthen resilience and build greater trust. Both the United States and the European Union explicitly recognize that strong cybersecurity depends on working with trusted partners, as reflected in the [EU Action Plan on Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence](#) and the [U.S. Cyber Strategy for America](#).

The Digital Dialogue should work towards the relaunch of the **EU–US Cyber Dialogue**, creating a dedicated platform for strategic cooperation on cybersecurity. The EU-US Cyber Dialogue should serve as the vehicle to advance work towards the **EU–US Cybersecurity Mutual Recognition Agreement**, as committed under the Turnberry Agreement. Building on DIGITALEUROPE's paper [“A Practical Path to EU–US Cybersecurity Mutual Recognition”](#), this would support greater compatibility, reciprocity and risk-based alignment between EU and US cybersecurity approaches, leveraging international standards and aligning key requirements, including on incident reporting, while advancing mutual recognition of equivalent assurance mechanisms and conformity assessments.

As a practical step, both sides should identify and align overlapping technical requirements and assessment methodologies where equivalent security outcomes can be demonstrated, helping to build and maintain a trusted allied supply chain and providing a foundation for broader **mutual recognition**. It should also strengthen information sharing and operational collaboration between governments and industry, maintaining strong security outcomes while reducing unnecessary duplication.⁵

Trusted connectivity

Beyond cybersecurity, the Digital Dialogue should promote cooperation on **trusted connectivity**, including secure digital infrastructure, cloud services, subsea cables and next-generation networks. Closer cooperation on **5G and 6G standards** and spectrum policy, including by building on initiatives such as the [2026 Call to Action on 6G Leadership and Security](#) signed by several EU Member states, will be essential to maintain transatlantic leadership in next-generation connectivity technologies. Building resilient and trusted digital infrastructure together will strengthen economic security, reinforce supply chain resilience and support a more competitive transatlantic digital economy.

Trusted connectivity also depends on trusted and secure cross-border data flows. Data flows are a crucial enabler of the transatlantic economy, underpinning digitalization, innovation and competitiveness across sectors. As highlighted in [DIGITALEUROPE's Data Flows and the Digital Decade](#), the EU and US should work together to provide legal certainty and predictability for transatlantic data flows.

Digital Health and Life Sciences

Digital technologies are transforming healthcare and reshaping health systems. AI, interoperable health data and robust digital infrastructure can improve diagnostics, accelerate research, enable more personalized care, and strengthen resilience to shocks such as pandemics and climate-related events.

⁵ For highly sensitive security and defence applications DIGITALEUROPE's position is outlined here: [Breaking Fragmentation: Advancing Secure Cross-Border Digital Interoperability in European Defence - DIGITALEUROPE](#)



In line with the recommendations of the [TECH7 Joint Declaration](#)⁶, the EU-US Digital Dialogue should promote cooperation on the **safe deployment of AI-enabled health technologies, health-data interoperability and cyber resilience across healthcare systems**. Cooperation should support practical adoption of internationally recognized standards, testing, and lifecycle-management approaches for regulated digital health and medical technologies, while fully respecting the independent legal frameworks and responsibilities of EU and US regulators.

Online Safety

Online safety is a shared transatlantic priority and an important pillar of a trusted digital ecosystem. We welcome President von der Leyen's strong focus on protecting and empowering children online in her 2026 State of the Union address and share the ambition to create a safer digital environment for young people. We support a risk-based and proportionate approach that effectively protects users, particularly those who are most vulnerable, while enabling a positive user experience and fostering innovation, as outlined in DIGITALEUROPE's paper [Protecting children online: response to the draft guidance](#).

Building on the G7 commitment to a safer and more secure digital space for minors, the EU-US Digital Dialogue should facilitate exchanges between policymakers and industry **on online safety, including risk mitigation, transparency and safety-by-design**. By working together, the EU and the United States can advance trusted approaches to online safety that reinforce legal certainty, support innovation and strengthen confidence in the digital ecosystem.

Conclusion

Recent developments, including the high-level engagements between the European Commission and the US Government in Washington D.C. in July 2026, signal an important opportunity to establish a permanent framework capable of strengthening innovation, competitiveness and economic security on both sides of the Atlantic.

The time has now come to build on this momentum. We call for a **broad and forward-looking EU-US Digital Dialogue** that will serve as the flagship platform for cooperation across the full digital agenda. It should remain practical, flexible and outcome-oriented, bringing together policymakers and industry to address shared challenges, seize new opportunities and deliver tangible results.

By working together, the EU and the US can reinforce their technological leadership, strengthen resilient digital value chains and build a more secure and competitive transatlantic digital economy.

DIGITALEUROPE stands ready to support the EU-US Digital Dialogue. Placing industry at the heart of the Dialogue will be essential to ensure it remains practical, forward-looking and focused on delivery. Through DIGITALEUROPE's industry expertise, members and presence on both sides of the Atlantic, including our Washington, D.C. office, we look forward to working with policymakers to ensure the Dialogue becomes a lasting platform for strategic cooperation and concrete delivery.

⁶ For more detailed recommendations on international cooperation on digital health and lifesciences, see pages 11-12 on <https://cdn.digitaleurope.org/uploads/2026/05/TECH7-Declaration-France-28-May-2026.pdf>



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About DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE is the leading trade association representing digitally transforming industries in Europe. We stand for a regulatory and investment environment that enables European digitalising businesses across multiple sectors and citizens to prosper from digital technologies. We wish for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital talents, investment and technology companies. Together with our members, we shape industry positions on all relevant policy matters and contribute to their development and implementation. Our membership represents over 56,000 businesses who operate and invest in Europe. It includes corporations and scaleups who are global leaders in their field of activity, as well as national trade associations from across more than 30 European countries.

