



Digital Sovereignty Is Impossible Without Big Tech

*Prof. Lokke Moerel
Freddy Dezeure, Msc*

EU Digital Sovereignty

*How to navigate the tech cold war
without reverting to protectionism*

Prof. Lokke Moerel
One Conference 2021

Sept. 2021

The magic term "technological sovereignty"

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, spoke about the magic term "technological sovereignty" in her "state of the union." We all talk about this in the technology sector. What we mean is that we must not become dependent on China and the United States and must be able to meet our own European needs -- Preferably not just at the European level, but also at the national, or why not, at the regional level.

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German Intelligence Warns of Russian GRU Cyberattacks Targeting NATO and EU

Story by Regtechtimes • 1w • ⌚ 3 min read



Sept. 2024

August 2024

Cybercrime and sabotage cost German firms \$300 bln in past year

By Reuters

August 28, 2024 10:30 PM GMT+2 · Updated 22 days ago



May 2024



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Britain and US sound alarm over growing Chinese cyber threat

By [Michael Holden](#) and [James Pearson](#)

May 14, 2024 6:05 PM GMT+2 · Updated 4 months ago



Dutch Cyber Security Council

June 2024

Advice cyber resilience SME

“SME lack knowledge about cyber risks as well as about what adequate measures are”



‘Verkleinen van de cyberweerbaarheidskloof’

Advies over de cyberweerbaarheid van het Nederlandse midden- en kleinbedrijf

President Biden to CEOs Big Tech

August 2021

“The reality is most of our critical infrastructure is owned and operated by the private sector, and the federal government can’t meet this challenge alone,” Biden said. “I’ve invited you all here today because you have the power, the capacity and the responsibility, I believe, to raise the bar on cybersecurity.”

U.S. National Cybersecurity Strategy

2023

“We must rebalance the responsibility to defend cyberspace by shifting the burden for cybersecurity away from individuals, small businesses, and local governments, and onto the organizations that are most capable and best-positioned to reduce risks for all of us.”

Digital Sovereignty

Should the EU be worried?

The future of European competitiveness

Part B | In-depth analysis and recommendations

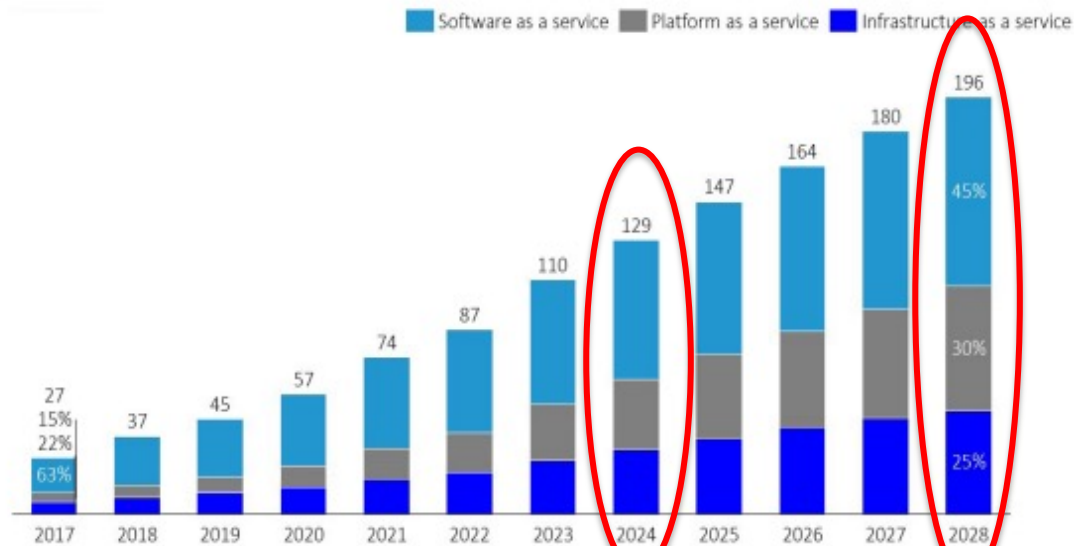
SEPTEMBER 2024



Sept. 2024

FIGURE 6
EU cloud market size

EUR billion



Source: Statista Technology Market Insights, 2024.



Sept. 2024

- 3 main action areas, incl. increasing security & reducing dependencies
- Too late for EU to develop systemic challengers to US cloud providers
 - “the investments needed are too large and would divert resources away from sectors and companies where the EU’s innovative prospects are better”
- Need to collaborate between EU/US cloud providers to increase security

Managing the world's infrastructure

Cloud (IAAS): 70% market share

Office automation (SAAS): 100% market share

CapEx: 100 \$bn/year (2024)



Google Cloud

Feb. 2024

ATLANTISCH PERSPECTIEF | TECHNOLOGY DIALOGUES

Digital Sovereignty Is Impossible Without Big Tech

A Call to Action

Freddy Dezeure, Prof. Lokke Moerel, and Dr. George
Webster*

What is the issue?

“Shared Responsibility Model”

- CSPs rely on customers to implement secure settings
- Customers lack capacity and expertise
- Most organizations are not / will never be secure
- Thriving economy of criminals hacking our infrastructure and vendors promising to protect it

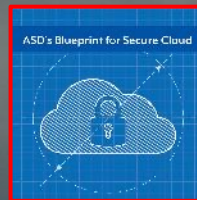
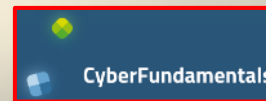
	Responsibility	SaaS	PaaS	IaaS	On-prem
Responsibility always retained by the customer	Information and data	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer
	Devices (Mobile and PCs)	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer
	Accounts and identities	Customer	Customer	Customer	Customer
Responsibility varies by type	Identity and directory infrastructure	Shared	Shared	Customer	Customer
	Applications	Microsoft	Shared	Customer	Customer
	Network controls	Microsoft	Shared	Customer	Customer
	Operating system	Microsoft	Microsoft	Customer	Customer
Responsibility transfers to cloud provider	Physical hosts	Microsoft	Microsoft	Microsoft	Customer
	Physical network	Microsoft	Microsoft	Microsoft	Customer
	Physical datacenter	Microsoft	Microsoft	Microsoft	Customer

Legend: Microsoft (light blue), Customer (dark blue), Shared (diagonal split)

Vendor guidance

<https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-365/security/>
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/security>
<https://aws.amazon.com/security/>
<https://cloud.google.com/security>
<https://workspace.google.com/security/>

Government guidance



CIS_Microsoft_365_Foundations_Bench...

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CIS Microsoft 365 Foundations Benchmark

v3.1.0 - 04-29-2024

Users

Individual efforts to harden infrastructure:

- Internal expertise
- Paid vendor support
- Specialised consultancy

Example lack of SbD

Recent Red Team findings



Ensure 'Users can create security groups in Azure portals, API or PowerShell' is set to 'No'



Ensure That 'Users Can Register Applications' Is Set to 'No'



Ensure 'User consent for applications' is set to 'Do not allow user consent' or
Ensure 'User consent for applications' Is Set To 'Allow for Verified Publishers'



Ensure that 'Restrict non-admin users from creating tenants' is set to 'Yes'



Ensure that 'Users can create Microsoft 365 groups in Azure portals, API or PowerShell' is set to 'No'

Recent Red Team

The screenshot shows the Azure Active Directory settings interface. On the left is a navigation pane with categories: General (selected), Expiration, Naming policy, Activity, Privileged access groups (Preview), Access reviews, Audit logs, and Bulk operation results. At the bottom of the navigation pane is 'Troubleshooting + Support'. The main content area shows a warning: 'User Admin will have read-only access when the value of this setting is 'Yes''. Below this, a red-bordered box highlights the 'Security Groups' and 'Microsoft 365 Groups' settings. Both settings have 'Yes' selected in their toggle controls.

General

Expiration

Naming policy

Activity

Privileged access groups (Preview)

Access reviews

Audit logs

Bulk operation results

Troubleshooting + Support

User Admin will have read-only access when the value of this setting is 'Yes'. ⓘ

Security Groups

Users can create security groups in Azure portals, API or PowerShell Yes No

Microsoft 365 Groups

Users can create Microsoft 365 groups in Azure portals, API or PowerShell Yes No

Our call to action

Improving the world's cyber resilience, at scale Implementing baseline security by default

Freddy Dezeure, Prof. Lokke Moerel, and Dr. George Webster

Built-in / opt-out



Tiered approach



Secure baselines **by default** in the user environment, at no additional cost



If (1) not possible, implement secure baselines **by workflow**



If (1) – (2) not possible: offer transparently explained opt-in services (e.g., logging and secure backups)



Timely warnings if defaults are changed and baseline security is not met



Higher tiers of protection for specific industries

Community support



Rijksoverheid



National Cyber Security Centre
Ministry of Security and Justice



CENTRE FOR
CYBERSECURITY
BELGIUM



EUROCONTROL



DCSO

ASML



CYBER SECURITY
COALITION
be

etis

THE COMMUNITY
FOR TELECOM
PROFESSIONALS



Health-ISAC™
Collaborating for Resilience in Healthcare



cecimo
European Association of Manufacturing Technologies



Beltug



PLATFORM
NEDERLAND



Cyber
Weerbaarheidscentrum
BRAAMPOR

FERM

Rotterdam Port
Cyber Resilience

SIEMENS

Allianz



thyssenkrupp

AkzoNobel



NN



Rabobank



BASF

VOLKSWAGEN

AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

WURTH GROUP

HILTI

FRESENIUS

axel springer

WACKER



MGB



BYLDIS



Royal
Swinkels



SCHUBERG
PHILIS



total specific solutions
VERTICAL MARKET SOFTWARE



nviso

sata

MATS



NAV
PORTUGAL



Brunel

CANSO

ADR
AEROPORTI DI ROMA

KION
GROUP

Panel Introduction



Marty Smit
ASML



Andreas Rohr
DCSO



Matthijs van
Amelsfort
NCSC



Hans de Vries
ENISA



Jack Cable
CISA



Bart Asnot
Microsoft



What are the challenges?

What about

EU laws - NIS2, DORA, CRA?

ENISA Cloud Certification Scheme?

CISA Secure by Design pledge?

MSFT Secure Future Initiative?

CISA's Secure by Design Whitepaper



SECURE BY DESIGN

PLEDGE

GOALS



**MULTIFACTOR
AUTHENTICATION (MFA)**



DEFAULT PASSWORDS



**REDUCING ENTIRE CLASSES
OF VULNERABILITY**



**SECURITY
PATCHES**



**VULNERABILITY
DISCLOSURE POLICY**



**COMMON VULNERABILITIES
AND EXPOSURES (CVE)**



**EVIDENCE
OF INTRUSIONS**



SECURE FUTURE INITIATIVE (SFI)



Secure by design

Security comes first when designing any product or service




Secure by default

Security protections are enabled and enforced by default, require no extra effort, and aren't optional



Secure operations

Security Controls and monitoring will be continuously improved to meet current and future threats



What is needed (*also from you...*)?

An imperfect market

Vendors

- Profit driven
- Organised by product
- Concerned about legal risks
- Lobbying for status quo

Community

- Mostly representing mature organizations
- Lacking resources

Regulators

- Organised by country/sector
- Slow and static
- Lacking skills
- Influenced by lobbyists

Customers

- Focused on convenience, and cost
- Lacking skills
- Dealing with legacy
- Scattered

