

## EuroISPA Manifesto for the 2024 European elections

### Empowering an innovative and fair European Internet ecosystem to boost EU competitiveness

EuroISPA is committed to fostering the growth of an innovative and fair European Internet ecosystem.

With the next mandate in mind, our manifesto aims to provide a framework to protect the interests of Europe, promote the benefits of a free and open Internet, and support the development of a cohesive and competitive European Union (EU).

By addressing four key areas and outlining specific priorities for each one, we urge the EU to focus on the joint implementation of these priorities, if we are to enhance EU competitiveness and ensure a thriving digital landscape.

We call on European Legislators to focus on the following points to strengthen the Internal Market through better policymaking.

### About EuroISPA

Established in 1997, EuroISPA is the world's largest association of Internet Services Providers Associations, representing over 3,300 Internet Service Providers (ISPs) across the EU and EFTA countries. EuroISPA is recognised as the voice of the EU ISP industry, reflecting the views of ISPs of all sizes from across its member base.

EuroISPA's mission is to:

- Secure Europe's leading position in the Internet industry and protect and promote its interests within it;
- Help deliver the benefits of the Internet to individuals whilst meeting the legitimate concerns around the more vulnerable members of society;
- Encourage the continued development of a free and open telecommunications market, which is essential to the healthy development of the Internet.

## Foundations for a fully functioning Internal Market

### 1. Review and Enhance Legislation

It is essential to conduct a comprehensive review of existing legislation and implementation methods to identify areas of improvement and ensure proportionality. At the same time, we encourage policymakers to be bold in making our law-making system fairer, more transparent, and more efficient.

### 2. Unify the Digital Single Market

We call for a content-neutral digital Single Market based on innovation-friendly and general legislation, which would allow European digital businesses to scale up and compete at a global level.

### 3. Treat ISPs Fairly

Regulatory frameworks should be designed to avoid legislative overlaps and to take into consideration the potential impacts on companies of all sizes.

### 4. Define the Reach of Delegated Powers

We believe in defining clear, proportionate, appropriate, and justified powers delegated to the European Commission. Furthermore, delegated statutes should not amend key aspects of legislation.

### 5. Prevent Internet Fragmentation

All legislative work should be conceived in a way that prevents Internet fragmentation, maintains clear and open standard processes and the multistakeholder model, and is conducted through an active participation in global standards.

### 6. Support Law Enforcement Authorities

Lawmakers should acknowledge the challenges faced by law enforcement authorities in the digital context and provide proper funding and support from the EU to ensure the lawful and accountable application of the rule of law.

## Long-Term Vision on Privacy Online

### 1. Establish Strong Data Foundations

Build upon the success of the GDPR and establish robust foundations for international data flows and data protection. Address challenges related to the EU-US relationship and cloud-related legislation.

### 2. Conduct Inclusive Discussions

Involve European consumers and businesses in discussions on data flows and anticipate the impact of a framework challenged by courts on European businesses.

### **3. Establish a Forum on the Future of GDPR and e-Privacy**

The Forum should set specific targets to improve the outcomes of the legislation, such as cost-effective implementation, reduced administrative complexity, and effective citizen protection.

## **Harmonised European Strategy for Cybersecurity**

### **1. Enhance EU Coordination**

Provide a space for better EU coordination on cybersecurity, including trust-based coordination between national cybersecurity authorities.

### **2. Develop Risk-Based Guidelines**

These should be conceived for the safe use of cloud services, considering cyber and information security aspects, and ensure their practical implementation.

### **3. Support Encryption and Security**

Update the EU strategy to support the development of encryption and security methods for digital communications.

### **4. Promote Transparency in Vulnerability Data Handling**

Ensure companies can monitor how vulnerability data collected by authorities is handled and distributed, even across borders, by promoting transparency and accountability.

## **Legislative Coherence for Digital Infrastructure**

### **1. Promote Infrastructure Resilience**

Support the capacity of the current EU infrastructure to provide for the needs of Europeans today and to ensure the EU can respond effectively to future technological needs.

### **2. Strive for a Level-Playing Field**

Ensure technology neutrality when regulating actors of the digital ecosystem, overcoming reliance on telecoms regulation, and strive towards digital regulation that is efficient, relevant, and proportionate.

### **3. Foster Emerging Technologies and Standards**

The EU should maintain active spectrum policies in international conferences and collaborate with businesses to secure leadership in 6G global standards, and play a leading role on the development of emerging technologies such as AI, quantum technology, blockchains or virtual worlds.

#### 4. Streamline the Permit Process and Digital Services

Mandate EU countries to digitise the entire permit process and establish a single service point. This also includes adopting a "digital first" approach and embracing the "ask once only" principle, ensuring efficient and user-friendly digital services for citizens.

#### 5. Nurture Competition in the Internet Sector

Competition on the infrastructure and service level has been key for innovation, diversity, and quality in the EU digital market. Maintaining it should thus remain a high priority on the EU agenda and be duly considered in any new legislative initiative.

### Closing remarks: Building a prosperous and inclusive European Internet ecosystem

EuroISPA calls upon the European Union to prioritise the development of an innovative and fair European Internet ecosystem. By focusing on the areas outlined in this manifesto, the EU can enhance its competitiveness, safeguard fundamental rights, and enable the benefits of new technologies. We emphasise the importance of legislative coherence, data protection, cybersecurity, and digital infrastructure to ensure a prosperous digital future for Europe. Let us work together to create a vibrant and inclusive Internet ecosystem that serves the interests of all European citizens.



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