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Information technology — Cloud computing and distributed platforms — Framework and concepts for organizational autonomy and digital sovereignty

Technologies de l'information — Informatique en nuage et plates-formes distribuées — Cadre et concepts relatifs à l'autonomie organisationnelle et à la souveraineté numérique

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 38, *Cloud computing and distributed platforms*.

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Introduction

Organizational autonomy and digital sovereignty are important, complex and evolving subject areas whose implications have expanded in recent years, as organizations of all types address the challenges inherent to supplying and procuring digital capabilities in evolving environments.

Government objectives and policies can often be addressed through public or private partnerships, as these governments increasingly rely on industry to help address these goals to increase their prosperity while maintaining an appropriate degree of control and independence.

Since the same issues of independence and freedom of action and choice also apply to organizations – including private, public sector and not-for-profit – it is possible that such organizations will need to consider their own independence to achieve their goals.

This document defines a framework for understanding and evaluating the implications of digital sovereignty requirements and restrictions on the organization. It describes how the organization can configure its digital platform to appropriately balance those requirements with its own need for organizational autonomy to achieve its goals. The framework may be used by the organization itself, or by the policy makers and regulators of a sovereign entity which desire to examine the consequences of proposed digital sovereignty requirements and restrictions on organizations and industries.

The audience of this document includes:

a) Organizational leaders (e.g. Chief Information Officer, Chief Data Officer and Chief Compliance Officer), business or technical decision makers and digital platform architects who configure the organization's digital platform to ensure it has the right balance of digital autonomy to support and enable the goals of the organization to be achieved.

b) Policy makers and regulators who wish to understand the impact of digital sovereignty and autonomy matters.

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Information technology — Cloud computing and distributed platforms — Framework and concepts for organizational autonomy and digital sovereignty

1 Scope

This document specifies concepts related to the intersection of digital sovereignty, organizational autonomy, and digital platform, and provides a framework enabling organizations to address these concepts.

This document is applicable to all organizations and policy makers involved in organizational autonomy and digital sovereignty in cloud services and distributed platforms.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 22123-1, *Information technology — Cloud computing — Part 1: Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC 22123-1 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
organization
person or group of people that has its own functions with responsibilities, authorities and relationships to achieve its objectives

Note 1 to entry: The concept of organization includes, but is not limited to, sole-trader, company, corporation, firm, enterprise, authority, partnership, charity or institution, or part or combination thereof, whether incorporated or not, public or private.

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 27000:2018, 3.50]

3.2
digital capability
information technology (3.5) for enabling or supporting a service, product or process of the *organization* (3.1)

[SOURCE: ISO/IEC 38500:2024, 3.10]

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