



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

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*Committee on Legal Affairs*

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**2011/2178(INI))**

26.1.2012

## **OPINION**

of the Committee on Legal Affairs

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on a competitive digital single market – eGovernment as a spearhead  
(2011/2178(INI))

Rapporteur: Jean-Marie Cavada

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Legal Affairs calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- A. whereas eGovernment brings all the technology and uses for online information, guidance and administrative procedures under one umbrella;
  - B. whereas there are no uniform rules on electronic invoicing and for the most part its benefits remain untapped;
  - C. whereas the European Union would benefit from measures being brought in that strengthen the single European market as an operational reality and bring governments, businesses and members of the public real benefits;
  - D. whereas cloud computing is an economic and ecological tool that improves the IT performance of public and private concerns, cuts processing costs and limits storage costs, all of which are clearly benefits, but the connection between the user and the server is insufficiently secure and the user experiences a certain loss of control;
1. Recalls the need to establish at this point in time good practices and methods helpful to the development of eGovernment by laying down interoperability procedures and rules on security and accessibility for all interested parties;
  2. Takes note that cloud computing enables access to a shared hub of IT resources that can be quickly relayed with a minimum of management effort and of service provider interaction, and that the cloud's effectiveness lies in its flexibility, its productivity gains and in protection of the environment, but that first and foremost it must be technically reliable and robust;
  3. Stresses that with increased use of the cloud secure software, supervision of the relocation of IT resources and strict control of access to servers and data are required, and that as a consequence common standards need to be drawn up ensuring that stored data is not accessible to 'cloud' employees nor used for commercial purposes by other parties, and that there are a minimum number of backup points to prevent the loss of data;
  4. Restates that cloud computing needs to be equipped with a system for liability and technical standards (a digital signature for example) incorporating authorisation and certification systems, and that the user has to be informed of where the data is stored and under which legal jurisdiction;
  5. Recalls that the smooth running of the technical infrastructure and the products and services of eGovernment is crucial to the European Union being enabled to espouse the vision and policies necessary for it to remain competitive.

## RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

<b>Date adopted</b>	26.1.2012
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 23 -: 0 0: 0
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Raffaele Baldassarre, Sebastian Valentin Bodu, Françoise Castex, Marielle Gallo, Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg, Klaus-Heiner Lehne, Antonio Masip Hidalgo, Jiří Maštálka, Bernhard Rapkay, Evelyn Regner, Francesco Enrico Speroni, Dimitar Stoyanov, Alexandra Thein, Diana Wallis, Cecilia Wikström, Tadeusz Zwiefka
<b>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</b>	Jan Philipp Albrecht, Jean-Marie Cavada, Vytautas Landsbergis, Kurt Lechner, Eva Lichtenberger, Dagmar Roth-Behrendt
<b>Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote</b>	Eva Ortiz Vilella