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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **TWELVE MEMBER STATES JOIN FORCES TO DEVELOP THE NEXT GENERATION OF CLOUD SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Today, 12 European Union Member States (Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia and Spain) published a [joint Manifesto](#) announcing their intention to pre-notify to the European Commission an Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) for cloud technology.

With the support of the European Commission, these 12 Member States have been preparing the project for over a year. **An estimated €7bn worth of public/private funding will be invested in the next generation of cloud and edge computing services, and will help Europe reach technological sovereignty through industrial support measures targeting innovation in the cloud sector.**

This first IPCEI in the digital sphere will provide support to innovation and growth in the cloud and edge computing markets, as well as to non-digital sectors such as healthcare, energy, automotive and industry 4.0. More than 60 projects involving 180 European companies will receive financing from the 12 participating Member States, thus paving the way for creating a continuum spanning cloud and edge services.

This IPCEI will move Europe forward on three of six main strategic priorities, e.g. supporting a new generation of technologies adapted to the digital age, creating an attractive investment environment as well as jobs, and equipping Europe with a modern and climate-neutral economy.



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DE L'ÉCONOMIE,  
DES FINANCES  
ET DE LA RELANCE**

*Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité*

**Bruno Le Maire, Minister for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery:**

*“IPCEIs work. This was the case with the project on electric batteries, which led to the opening of manufacturing plants and created jobs. Wealth is being built right here in Europe. The IPCEI on cloud technology will also be successful. I announced today that France will invest €300m of public funding in the cloud IPCEI, with 11 other Member States joining our pledge. Our objective is for this IPCEI to be pre-notified by spring 2022 at the latest, meaning within just a few weeks from now. This will finally make it possible for us to be truly sovereign in our data storage capabilities.”*

**Cédric O, Minister of State for Digital Affairs and Electronic Communications:**

*“Today, Member States are making unprecedented strides on the strategic topic of cloud and edge computing in an effort to support the development of innovative sovereign solutions, which are strategic for all our economies. This project, which is set to bring together European businesses, laboratories and academics, will create value and jobs all over Europe, while supporting the emergence of French and European tech champions in the cloud sector.”*

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