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Lessons from 2026: Sovereignty at the public sector

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In the public sector, two drivers have traditionally been key in ICT services:

security and cost-effectiveness

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Now, by adding just one ingredient, sovereignty, there are suddenly many more issues to consider.

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And with that comes a lot of questions.

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An example set of questions from 2026

- What does sovereignty mean?
- How do you measure the level of sovereignty?
- What level of sovereignty should I require?
- Should Europe produce its own chips?
- Does data center ownership matter?

- How do I set sovereignty criteria in a tender?
- How do I know when and how to apply sovereignty criteria?
- Who decides how sovereign I need to be?
- How much does sovereignty cost?
- Who pays for all of this?

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The complexity is evident. At the same time, there are multiple initiatives, both nationally and at the European level, hopefully making sense of it.

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European Commission:

Cloud Sovereignty Framework

Cloud and AI Development Act (CADA)

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Finland:

Ministerial working group set out guidelines for strengthening digital sovereignty

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So where to start the sovereignty journey?

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Portability

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Portability requirement from a City of Helsinki tender

*The solution must support cloud technology that is **portable** between different cloud platforms or to data center capacity provided by the Supplier.**

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Thank you!

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