

2 Germany needs a comprehensive digital awakening. We want to leverage the potential of digitalisation
3 in the interests of development opportunities for people, prosperity, freedom, social participation and
4 sustainability. To do so, we shall set ambitious and measurable goals and take realistic and fast-acting
5 measures. Competences in the Federal Government shall be reallocated and consolidated, a central
6 additional digital budget introduced, and legislation shall be subject to a digitalisation check.
7 Administration shall become more digital and consistently oriented to citizens' needs. We shall
8 promote digital innovations and entrepreneurial and social initiative and shall rely on open standards
9 and diversity. We shall strengthen digital skills, fundamental rights, self-determination, and social
10 cohesion. We shall ensure security and respect in times of transformation. We shall derive social
11 progress from technological progress. In doing so, we acknowledge that a digital awakening which
12 secures our values, digital sovereignty and a strong technological location can only succeed as part of
13 a progressive European framework.

14 **Digital State and Digital Administration**

15 People expect the government to provide easily manageable and up-to-date digital services which are
16 user-oriented, free from media interruption, and available nationwide. We shall prioritise automated
17 solutions such as the automated payment of basic child allowance. The further development of the
18 Online Accessibility Act ("Onlinezugangsgesetz", OZG) also encompasses sufficient subsequent funding
19 to support the clear standardisation and harmonisation of IT procedures according to a One-for-All
20 (OfA) principle. As part of this IT consolidation, we shall establish clear responsibilities and centralise
21 the Federal IT budget. We shall transform the Federal IT Cooperation ("Föderale IT-Kooperation",
22 FITKO) into an agile, flexible entity with a perennial global budget. Municipalities must benefit from
23 Federal funds and be able to adopt solutions developed according to the OfA principle. Digitalisation
24 obstacles (requirement for the written form etc.) shall be overcome through general clauses and
25 terminology shall be made uniform (e.g., "Income"). Trustworthy, globally applicable ID management
26 and modernisation of registries in conformity with the constitution shall take priority. Open standards
27 shall be stipulated for public IT projects. As a rule, development contracts shall be awarded as open
28 source contracts, thereby making the respective software fundamentally public. We shall establish a
29 public administration cloud using a multi-cloud strategy, open interfaces and strict security and
30 transparency provisions.

31 **Digital Infrastructure**

32 Our goal is the nationwide provision of fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) and the latest mobile
33 telecommunications standard. Economically viable expansion shall take priority. We shall invest in
34 particular in those places with the greatest backlog, first and foremost in white spots. In conformity

35 with investment protection, we shall enable open access at fair conditions, where necessary in a
36 regulatory manner. We shall accelerate infrastructure expansion with lean digital application and
37 authorisation procedures, standardisation of alternative installation technologies, and the
38 establishment of a nationwide gigabit land register. We shall strengthen consumer protection with
39 guaranteed bandwidths, where necessary with generally applicableThe provider model shall take
40 priority in the case of full public funding. We shall focus on entire clusters and make market
41 consultation processes faster and more binding.e shall provide funding using vouchers in addition to
42 FTTH and in-house fibre optic cable installation where necessary We shall consolidate competences
43 and remits for landline and mobile telecommunications. We shall orientate frequency allocation
44 towards area supply provisions; negative auctions shall also be permitted. We shall accelerate
45 measures to improve mobile and Wi-Fi reception on trains. We are assessing measures to improve
46 digital participation for everyone, e.g., accessibility. We shall ensure network neutrality.

47 **Digital Civil Rights and IT-Security**

48 We shall strengthen civil rights and IT security. Ensuring them is a governmental duty. We shall
49 introduce a right to encryption, effective weak point management with the aim of eliminating
50 vulnerabilities, and “security-by-design/default” guidelines. The government must also be obliged to
51 offer the option of truly encrypted communication. Manufacturers shall be liable for damages caused
52 by negligent IT vulnerabilities in their products. Cyber security strategies and IT security legislation shall
53 be developed further. Furthermore, we shall ensure digital sovereignty, including the right to
54 interoperability and portability, and reliance on open standards, open source and European
55 ecosystems for 5G and AI, for instance. We shall initiate IT security architecture restructuring, shall
56 grant the Federal Office for Information Security (“Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der
57 Informationstechnik”, BSI) more independence, and expand it as a central entity for IT security. We
58 shall obligate all government authorities to report any known vulnerabilities to the BSI and to undergo
59 regular external inspection of the IT systems. The identification, reporting and elimination of
60 vulnerabilities as part of a responsible process, e.g., IT security research, ought to be enabled by law.
61 We object to hackbacks as a cyber defence means in general. Untrustworthy companies shall not be
62 contracted for the expansion of critical infrastructures.

63 **Use of Data and Data Law**

64 We shall leverage the potential of data for everyone by supporting the expansion of data
65 infrastructures and working together with industry, science and civil society to launch tools such as
66 data trustees, data hubs and data donations. We shall strive for improved access to data, in particular
67 to enable innovative business models and social innovations in digitalisation for start-ups and SMEs. A
68 Data Institute will drive data availability and standardization, establish data fiduciary models and

69 licensing. Insofar as local governments require access to company data in the fulfilment of their public
70 service duties, we shall provide this at fair conditions in conformity with competition law. We shall
71 strengthen standardised and machine-readable access to self-generated data for all those who
72 participated in its creation. The necessary legal foundations for these measures shall be provided by a
73 Data Act. We shall promote anonymisation technologies, ensure legal security through standards, and
74 criminalise illegal de-anonymisation. We shall introduce a legal right to open data and improve the
75 data expertise of public authorities. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a good
76 international standard. In the interests of improving data protection enforcement, we shall strengthen
77 European cooperation, institutionalise the data protection conference in the Federal Data Protection
78 Act (“Bundesdatenschutzgesetz”, BDSG), and, where possible, grant it legally binding decision-making
79 authority. We shall introduce employee data protection regulations to achieve legal clarity for
80 employers and employees and to effectively protect personal rights. We are committed to the swift
81 adoption of an ambitious E-Privacy Regulation.

82 **Digital Society**

83 We shall support digital volunteering, make it more visible, and strengthen it legally. Civil society shall
84 be better involved in digital policy projects and shall support civil society in areas such as diversity and
85 civic tech in particular. Within the auspices of the Digital Services Act, we are committed to protecting
86 communication freedoms, strong user rights, clear reporting procedures, access to very large
87 platforms’ data for research purposes, the verifiability of their algorithmic systems, and clear
88 regulations against disinformation. We shall comprehensively revise the legal framework (including
89 the Telemedia Act (“Telemediengesetz”, TMG) and Network Enforcement Act
90 (“Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz”, NetzDG)) on the basis of the European guidelines. We shall promote
91 the establishment of platform councils. We object to general monitoring obligations, measures for
92 scanning private communication, and an identification obligation. We shall preserve anonymous and
93 pseudonymous online use. We shall implement legislation against digital violence to remove legal
94 obstacles for affected persons such as information duty loopholes and introduce extensive advisory
95 services. We shall establish legal framework conditions for electronic reporting procedures and for
96 private procedures and shall enable account blocking by judicial order. We shall assess the
97 establishment of a Federal Agency for Digital Education.

98 **Digital Key Technologies**

99 We shall become the driver of a strong technology location based on European values, which attracts
100 talent whilst securing our nation's future sustainability and prosperity. We shall measurably boost
101 investments and set priorities in Artificial Intelligence, quantum technologies, cyber security,
102 Distributed-Ledger-Technology (DLT), robotics and other future technologies. We shall strengthen

103 strategic technological sectors, e.g., through Important Projects of Common European Interest
104 (IPCEIs), and shall forward the announced EU Chips Act. Together with our European partner nations,
105 we shall promote cooperation between strong European research locations, in particular into AI, and
106 shall establish institutional freedoms. As a learning, technology-promoting nation, we shall implement
107 digital innovations in administration and establish the necessary legal basis and transparency. We
108 support the European AI Act. We follow a multi-level, risk-based approach, uphold digital civil rights,
109 in particular freedom from discrimination, define liability regulations, and avoid innovation-impeding
110 ex-ante regulation. Biometric recognition in public spaces and automated state scoring systems using
111 AI shall be precluded in accordance with European law.

112 **Sustainability in Digitalization**

113 We want to leverage the potential of digitalisation to generate more sustainability. We help to reduce
114 resource consumption by promoting digital twins (e.g. working on a virtual model of an analogue
115 product). We shall align computer centres in Germany with ecological sustainability and climate
116 protection requirements, for instance by harnessing waste heat. New computer centres shall be
117 climate neutral as of 2027. Public computer centres shall introduce an EMAS (Eco Management and
118 Audit Scheme) environmental management system by 2025. Certifications such as the Blauer Engel
119 shall be standard for government IT procurement. It shall be mandatory for replacement parts and
120 software updates to be available for IT devices' useful lives. This must be made transparent to users.

121 **Digital Economy**

122 We support a level competitive playing field and are committed to ambitious Digital Markets Act (DMA)
123 regulations which must not be allowed to fall behind existing national legislation. That also includes
124 uniform European interoperability obligations and fusion control regulations. We shall strengthen the
125 Federal Cartel Office's authority in dealing with platforms. We shall promote digital start-ups in late-
126 phase financing and strengthen the Venture-Capital location. We want to increase the number of
127 female founders in the digital sector. To do so, we shall introduce a scholarship for female founders
128 and earmark part of the future fund for them. Public tendering and procurement procedures shall be
129 simplified for GovTech and EduTech start-ups. We shall make employee equity participation for start-
130 ups more attractive. We shall strengthen Germany as a games location and continue to promote it.
131 We shall assist SMEs with digitalisation by providing uncomplicated funding and more support for IT
132 security, GDPR-conform data processing and the use of digital technologies.