



EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DATA SPACE



Governance Structure and Data Protection

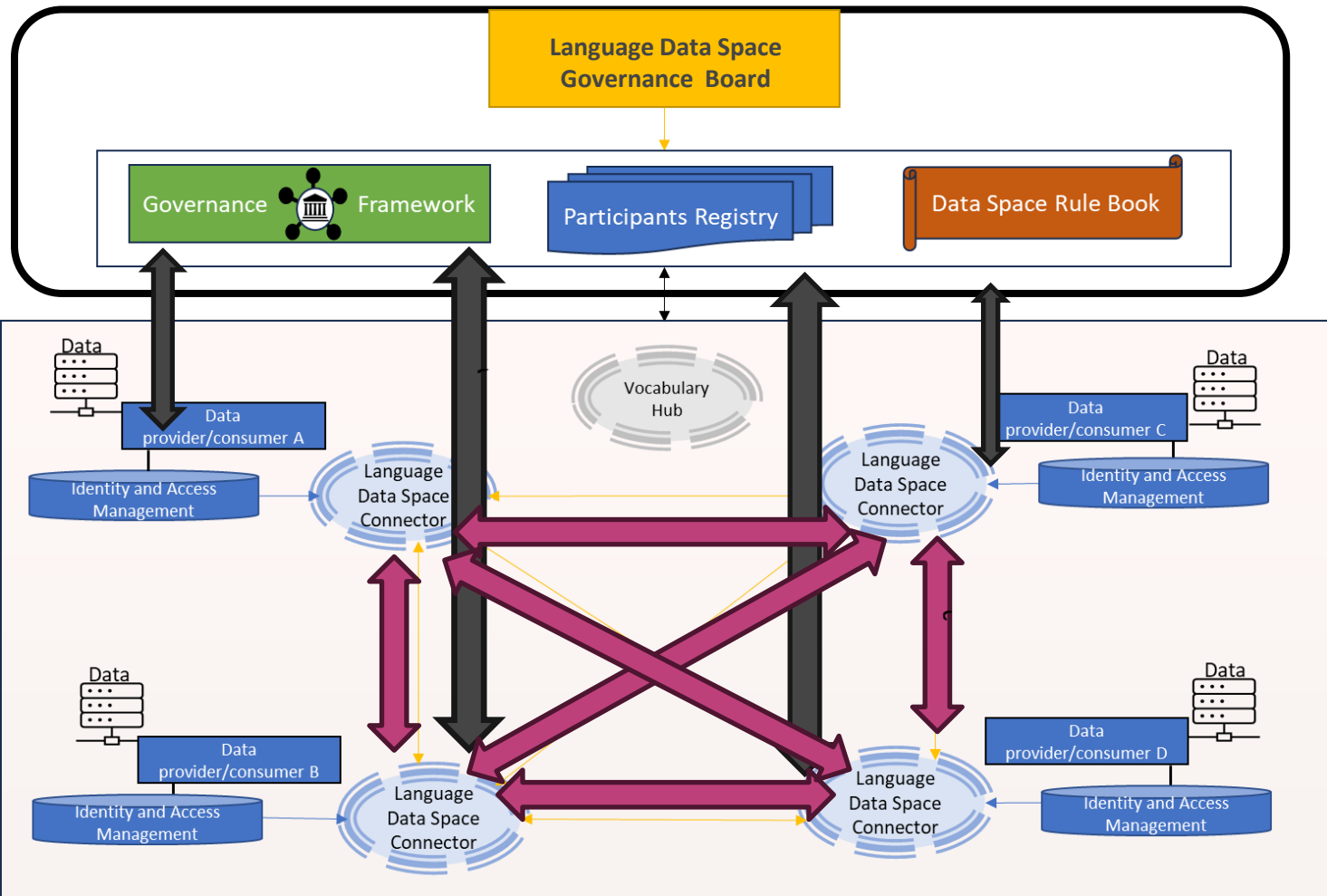
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<https://language-data-space.ec.europa.eu>

Definition of “Governance”

Governance is the overall complex system or framework of **processes, functions, structures, rules, laws and norms** born out of the **relationships, interactions**, power dynamics and communication within an organized group of individuals/**entities** which not only sets the boundaries of acceptable conduct and practices of different actors of the group and controls their decision-making processes through the creation and enforcement of rules and guidelines, but also manages, allocates and mobilizes relevant resources and capacities of different members and sets the overall direction of the group **in order to effectively address its specific collective needs, problems and challenges**

[Definition extracted and adapted from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governance>]



LDS Ecosystem

Governance Board

- In charge of the governance of the LDS infrastructure
- Manages and maintains the infrastructure
- Sets the rules of operations in the LDS
- Receives the applications of participants
- Decides on the accession, suspension, exclusion of Member States to LDS Governance Board
- Subject to EC agreement

Participants – LDS User Group

- The set of legal entities eligible to join and accepted for onboarding to the LDS infrastructure by the Governance Board
- The LDS participants: providers and/or consumers of language data and services
- They commit to complying with the LDS rules, general terms and conditions, and all applicable legislations
- Acceptance, suspension, exclusion, governed by the Governance Board

Governance of the LDS Ecosystem and Infrastructure

LDS Governance ... main scenario

1. The Governance Board is the supreme governing body of the LDS; it is composed of representatives of the Members of ALT-EDIC, Observers and Guests, with different rights and obligations. Each member, observer, and guest nominates one official representative. The observers and guests have no voting rights.
2. The Chair and Vice Chair of the LDS Governance Board, should (preferably) be those appointed by the ALT-EDIC Assembly of Members and according to its own statutes.
3. The *ALT-EDIC Supervision Board*, composed of a small number of MS representatives, is in charge of supervising the activities of the ALT-EDIC team and hence the operations of LDS.

Alignment of the LDS and ALT-EDIC Governance

- To harmonize the governance of ALT-EDIC and LDS, the LDS Governance Board comprises the ALT-EDIC Assembly of Members and Observers as well as representatives of the Guests.
 - Representatives of the ALT-EDIC Members will automatically become their representatives within the LDS Governance Board.
 - Representatives of the ALT-EDIC Observers will automatically become their representatives within the LDS Governance Board.
 - Representatives of the Guests will have to be nominated by the ministries in charge of Industry or Digital/Data Economy according to the national policies.

The Commission has a veto right on the decisions of the Assembly of Members related to actions financed under centrally managed European Union programmes, including LDS.

LDS Members and Observers

- The LDS Governance Board will establish rules and procedures that specify the members and observers' rights and obligations.
- These will follow the ALT-EDIC statutes regarding, e.g.,
 - Accession to membership in LDS.
 - Withdrawal of a member, observer, or guest.
 - Exclusion (termination) and suspension of a member/observer.
 - Voting rights.
 - Other rights and obligations (e.g., to support and promote the use of the LDS infrastructure within the EU data economy).
 - Resolutions of disputes.

LDS Members and Observers – Transitional Period

- **The EC is keeping all rights and obligations.**
- The LDS Governance Board will establish rules and procedures that specify the members and observers' rights and obligations.
- These will follow the ALT-EDIC statutes regarding, e.g.,
 - Accession to membership in LDS.
 - Withdrawal of a member, observer, or guest.
 - Exclusion (termination) and suspension of a member/observer.
 - Voting rights.
 - Other rights and obligations (e.g., to support and promote the use of the LDS infrastructure within the EU data economy).
 - Resolutions of disputes.
- **The EC will organise the transfer of the LDS (technical, know how, governance) to the ALT-EDIC at the end of the existing procurement.**

Governance of Participation in the LDS Infrastructure

– to be decided by the Governance Board –

Main objectives of LDS

- Establish a digital marketplace for language data (and services).
- Enable secure and trustworthy data transactions between participants while supporting trust and data sovereignty.
- Allow participants to autonomously manage data sharing conditions.

Eligibility Criteria for Membership

- EU-based legal entity, established by law of an EU country (to be decided by the Governance Board).
- The details of the eligibility criteria are part of an appendix to the LDS by-laws that defines the rules for participation (to be drafted and adopted by the Governance Board)
- Acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions of the LDS and Compliance with EU regulations.
 - General Terms and Conditions elaborates on participation management (acceptance, rejection, withdrawal, suspension, exclusion, regular review, resolution of disputes, liabilities, etc.).

Data Product Governance, Governance of Relationships between Participants

Local/Central Catalogue of Offerings

- LDS as a marketplace expects participants to manage their own local catalogue of offerings.
- This local catalogue contains the data assets offered to other participants.
- The LDS Connector enables preparing and managing the local catalogue (editor etc.).
- The local catalogue is visible to other participants (can be restricted on a data asset basis).
- All transactions are carried out in a peer-to-peer approach through the two parties' connectors.
- All local catalogues are harvested to compile the LDS central catalogue (can be restricted locally).
- The LDS central catalogue will be publicly available online as an information resource.

Data Exchange Policies

- In most cases, participants will make their assets available subject to specific terms and conditions.
- LDS recommends certain data exchange policies.
- LDS also recommends possible data licenses to data providers and consumers.
- LDS already supports the Creative Commons and Apache family of licenses.
- LDS provides templates for data exchanges policies.
- LDS can assist participants to define their own licenses or policies if needed.

Transactions and Liabilities

- All transactions are conducted between the two participants involved only.
- Participants are responsible for setting up their pricing policies and licensing conditions (even when using the LDS recommended templates).
- LDS will not interfere in these operations (no monitoring, supervision, or awareness of transactions).
- Personal data processing activities carried out in Data Transactions are under the sole controllership of the Participants
- LDS will not be charging transaction fees (to be confirmed by the Governance Board).

LDS Infrastructure Support and Helpdesks

Legal & Technical Helpdesks

- First-line support regarding legal and technical issues, provided by the LDS consortium.
- Legal and technical advice and assistance to all stakeholders involved in the LDS marketplace.
- Maintenance of the legal and technical requirements of the LDS in agreement with the EC.

Helpdesks

Legal Helpdesk

Guidance and answers to legal questions related to:

- Collection and sharing of language resources and language models
- Licensing schemes, legal documentation and agreements
- Intellectual Property Rights clearance
- Data Protection Requirements and confidentiality aspects
- Validation of the legal compliance of LRs (rulebook)
- Update of FAQs section

→ (Not to be treated as EC legal position).

Technical Helpdesk

Some Technical topics:

- Support for application and onboarding
- General troubleshooting and assistance on using LDS
- Technical support for data providers
- Exceptional LDS registration requests
- Provision and maintenance of technical documentation and functional agreements in LDS
- Support for the validation of the technical compliance of data sets made available through the LDS
- Update of FAQs section

Contact Details

Helpdesk contact form

Select topic to specify type of request, whether legal, technical or any other matter (general, website, etc.)

https://language-data-space.ec.europa.eu/help/lds-legal-and-technical-helpdesks_en



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

https://language-data-space.ec.europa.eu/help/faq_en



Common European Language Data Space

Thank you!



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