

## **Preamble**

We, the 12 Member States and the participating undertakings of the IPCEI-CIS, hereby commit to jointly establish a true Multi Provider Cloud Edge Continuum laying the groundwork for seamless usage of cloud and edge services across European providers. This continuum will be positioned under the trademark 8ra. 8ra will offer unprecedented equal and open access to the most advanced cloud and edge technologies for European businesses and citizens. Given this aim we will strive to disseminate the results to all EU Member States as well as to the whole European business ecosystem.

**1.** Under this initiative we deliver important contributions to the EU objectives by

- researching and developing the necessary technological advances needed to implement a distributed European cloud and edge infrastructure,
- facilitating to reach the EU target of 10.000 climate neutral highly secure edge nodes deployed by 2030,
- enabling users (including SMEs) to experience an entirely new dimension of cutting edge technologies

and thereby enabling the European Union to take digital leadership.

**2.** 8ra outcomes will create new business opportunities through improved data interoperability, data portability, and a reduction of existing lock-in effects.

**3.** 8ra strives for a global usability of the developed solutions and actively engages into dialogue with industrial and governmental partners from other countries.

**4.** The 8ra partners commit to develop open solutions that overcome the current technological, operational, and organizational hurdles that prevent the seamless operation of services across providers and national borders. These solutions will enable novel AI applications and will foster a new dimension of data economy.

**5.** The 8ra partners commit to collaborate on all technical, operational, and organizational levels to jointly develop the necessary open and accessible solutions, e.g., through open-source software development, freely available operational blueprints, and active dissemination activities to build a vibrant and open cloud edge community covering all industrial sectors.

**6.** The 8ra partners have a clear focus to significantly improve the security and reliability of existing and future digital infrastructures and services by jointly developing state-of-the-art cybersecurity solutions and common standards throughout the entire 8ra cloud edge continuum.

**7.** The 8ra partners further commit to act on the basis of common values such as

- Do-No-Significant-Harm Principle regarding environmental impacts
- Respecting citizens personal rights, e.g., data protection
- Transparency regarding developed technologies.

## **Epilogue**

We will speak with one voice of the goals of 8ra to have a positive impact on the market. Right from the start of the IPCEI-CIS we will establish a governance structure which enables the sustainable continuation of 8ra beyond the duration of the IPCEI-CIS project. This is of paramount importance for the broad acceptance of 8ra. The existing partners are just the core of the 8ra community and we will grow the community by integrating new industrial partners and Member States.