



TABC Position Statement on Cross-Border Data Flows

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The EU and the US are leading the transition into the digital economy and information society with trade in goods and services being ever more accomplished or supported digitally. Technologies such as cloud computing, the Internet of Things and Big Data are only some of the recent examples of innovation and technology that have global implementations that are supported by local and global data flows. These are issues of relevance across industries and geographies.

TABC supports the development of horizontal and binding commitments on all of the following principles related to the free flow of data:

1. We support the cross border free flow of data, which is essential across all industries to enhance economic growth, job creation and social prosperity.
2. With the objective of enhancing trust of users and certainty of companies, and thus trade in goods and services, it is essential that businesses comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to data protection and data security.
3. Restrictions on data flows and associated infrastructure create risks for global business that must be recognized by governments, and their effects should be minimized by policymakers in trade agreements, legislation and regulatory proceedings. Restrictions on data flows must be consistent with the provisions set forth in GATS Article 14.

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