

Sovereign Cloud Stack

Open Source Cloud & Container Stack for Federated Sovereign Infrastructure (Gaia-X)

Sovereign Infrastructure for Sovereign Data Processing

Dr. Manuela Urban, Kurt Garloff, Dirk Loßack, Eduard Itrich,
Felix Kronlage-Dammers, Bianca Hollery-Pfister (OSB Alliance e.V.)

project@scs.sovereignit.de

CloudLand, Brühl, 2022-06-29

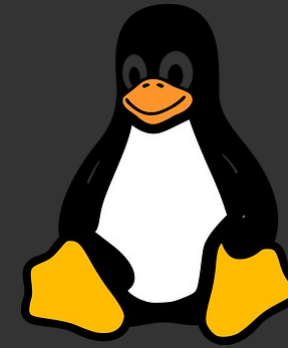
Gefördert durch:



aufgrund eines Beschlusses
des Deutschen Bundestages



Sovereign Cloud Stack
— An OSB ALLIANCE project —



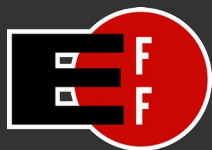
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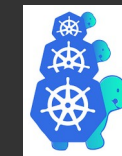
OSB Open Source Business ALLIANCE
Bundesverband für digitale Souveränität e.V.



Supported by:
 Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action
on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag



SPRIN-D



Mainstream truth in EU, mid 2015

A big war in Europe is inconceivable. We don't need well-working defense.

It's OK for Europe to strongly depend on natural gas from Russia.

Britain won't leave the European Union.

The Americans won't elect an immature bully.

It's OK for Europe to strongly depend on US IT platforms.

Safe Harbor sufficiently protects personally-identifiable data transferred to the US.

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Mid 2017

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Mid 2020

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It's OK for Europe to strongly depend on US IT platforms.

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US clouds hosted in European Data Centers are safe to use for personally identifiable data

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Mid 2022

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~~Safe Harbor sufficiently protects personally-identifiable data transferred to the US.~~

???. Privacy Shield **2.0** sufficiently protects personally-identifiable data transferred to the US.

~~US clouds hosted in European Data Centers are safe to use for personally-identifiable data~~

???. Trustee models (EU operated "sovereign" clouds with US tech) fulfill GDPR and sovereignty

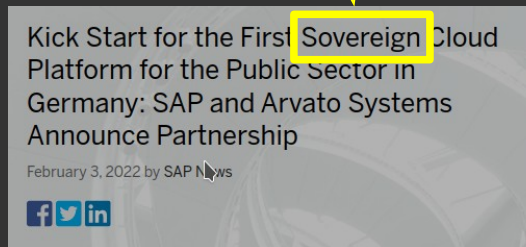
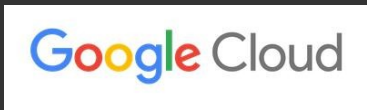
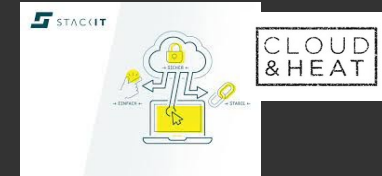
???. Confidential Computing avoid all these problems with trust and sovereignty requirements.

We love illusions ...



... to avoid cognitive dissonance
... to avoid questioning taken decisions

Digital Sovereignty ... What?



Fragmentation



Digital Sovereignty

„There must [...] be a sovereign government. Sovereignty is supreme authority, an authority which is independent of any other earthly authority. Sovereignty in the strict and narrowest sense of the term includes, therefore, independence all around, within and without the borders of the country.“

- LFL Oppenheim, 1905

“Digitale Souveränität eines Staates oder einer Organisation umfasst zwingend die vollständige Kontrolle über gespeicherte und verarbeitete Daten sowie die unabhängige Entscheidung darüber, wer darauf zugreifen darf. Sie umfasst weiterhin die Fähigkeit, technologische Komponenten und Systeme eigenständig zu entwickeln, zu verändern, zu kontrollieren und durch andere Komponenten zu ergänzen.

- Digitale Souveränität und Künstliche Intelligenz, Digitalgipfel 2018

Digital Sovereignty – Open Source



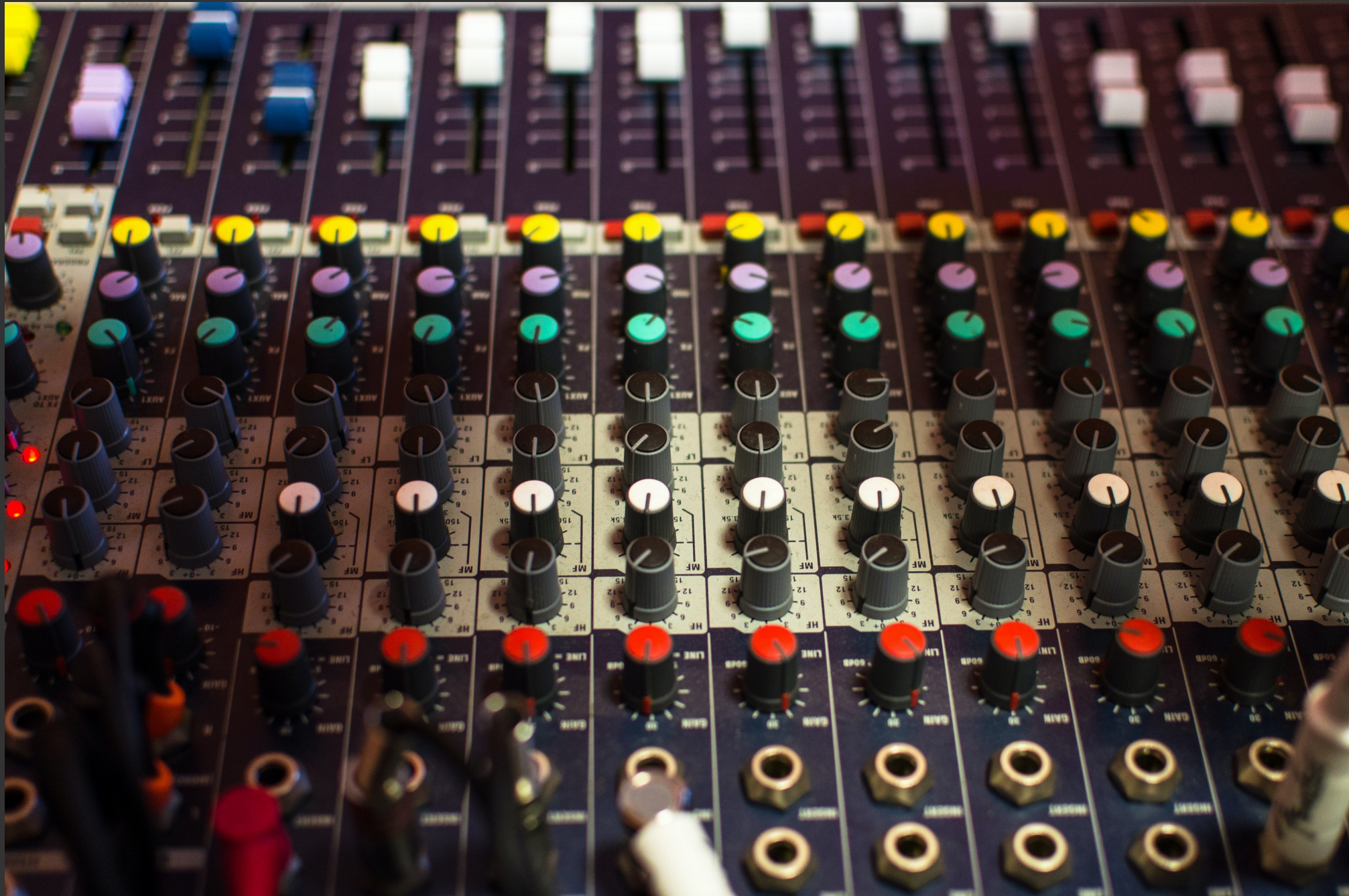
“Digital Technology and Digital Sovereignty [...] and we define it as the capacity to be able to act and to reduce vulnerabilities. So it’s twofold. The one is really to reduce your weaknesses, where others can attack you.

And the other side is to be able to innovate, to develop by yourself, to set your own standards, to define the values you want to see in technology.

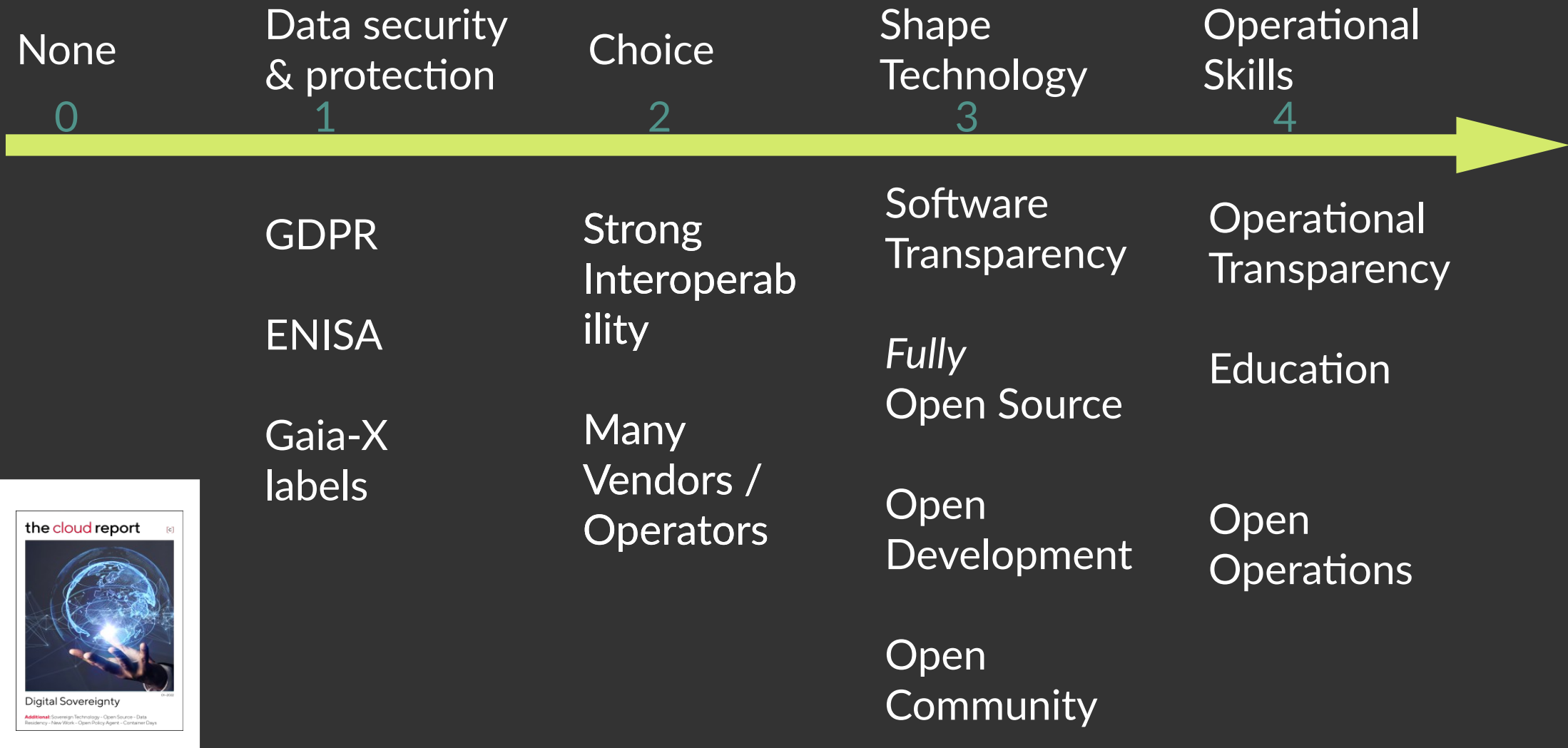
[...]

[Sovereign Tech Fund is specifically for open source software?] Only!”

Who is in control? Who can act?



Levels of sovereignty



The Cloud Report 1/2022 <https://the-report.cloud/>
<https://scs.community/de/2022/03/18/digital-sovereignty-whitepaper/>

A pig with a lipstick ...



Local data centres of non-EU platforms

Cloud Act

Confidential Computing

Data decrypted for processing (exc homomorphic)

Availability issue remains

Local operations (with partner)

Availability issue only partially solved

No choice, no ability to shape

“Open”

Open Standards w/o Open Ref Implementation

Open Core / partial Open Source

Closed communities

No Operational knowledge sharing

“Transparent”

No public Root Cause Analysis

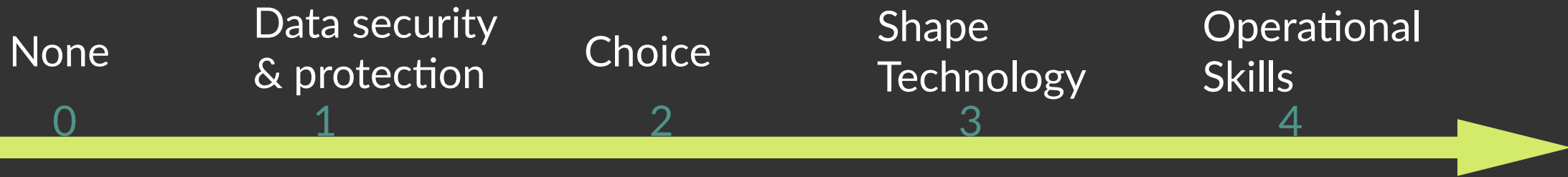
Very filtered public monitoring / status

Regulation meets reality



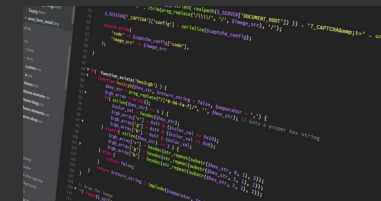
Regulation alone won't cut it

Sovereign Cloud Stack vision



Achieve all levels of digital sovereignty

- 1) GDPR / Data protection / Data security / availability
- 2) Real choice by many (collaborating!) providers with strong interoperability: Standardization, Certification, Federation
- 3) Fully open functional stack (Four Opens, OSS Health Check) as modular reference implementation
- 4) Full transparency over operations stack, operational practices, status, RCAs (Open Operations)



Avoiding fragmentation

Sovereign Cloud Stack project

Started end of 2019

Funded by BMWK (German Fed. Min. for Economic Affairs & Climate Action) since summer 2021

Run by Open Source Business Alliance e.V. with half a dozen employees (growing to a dozen)

Open Community contributions

Paid contractor work (awarded via public tenders)

Closely working with Gaia-X

SCS project is neutral orchestrator within the SCS ecosystem, partners do business as CSP, services providers, etc.

Project page: <https://scs.community/>





Sovereign Cloud Stack and Gaia-X



Gaia-X in One (Big) Figure

Advanced Smart Services

(Cross-) Sector Innovation/ Marketplaces/ Applications

Data Ecosystem

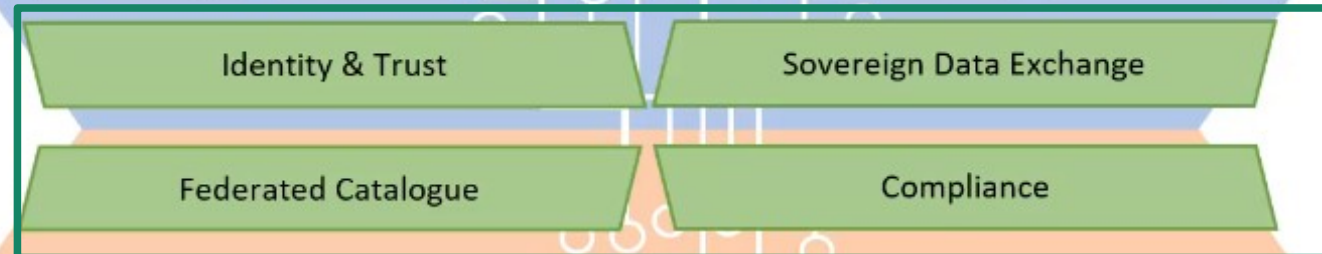


Data Spaces

Interoperable & portable (Cross-) sector data-sets and services

GAIA-X Federation services

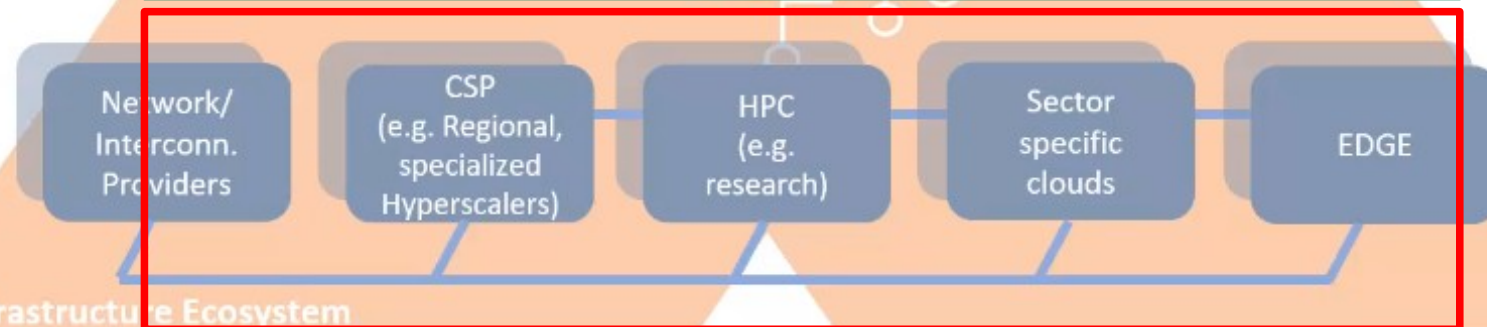
Federated & distributed for interoperability, trust & sovereignty services



GXFS

Portability, Interoperability & Interconnectivity

Technical: Architecture of Standards
Commercial: Policies



SCS

Compliance

Legal: Regulation & Policies

Infrastructure Ecosystem

Sovereign Cloud Stack deliverables

Make it easy to provide a modern sovereign platform

Project to create an open ecosystem & community to deliver a

1. Secure platform
2. that delivers certifiable compatible standards for federatable cloud & container platforms
3. with a complete, fully (4x) open, modular, automated reference implementation
4. along with tools, best practices and transparency for operating these dynamic distributed platform

SCS ecosystem

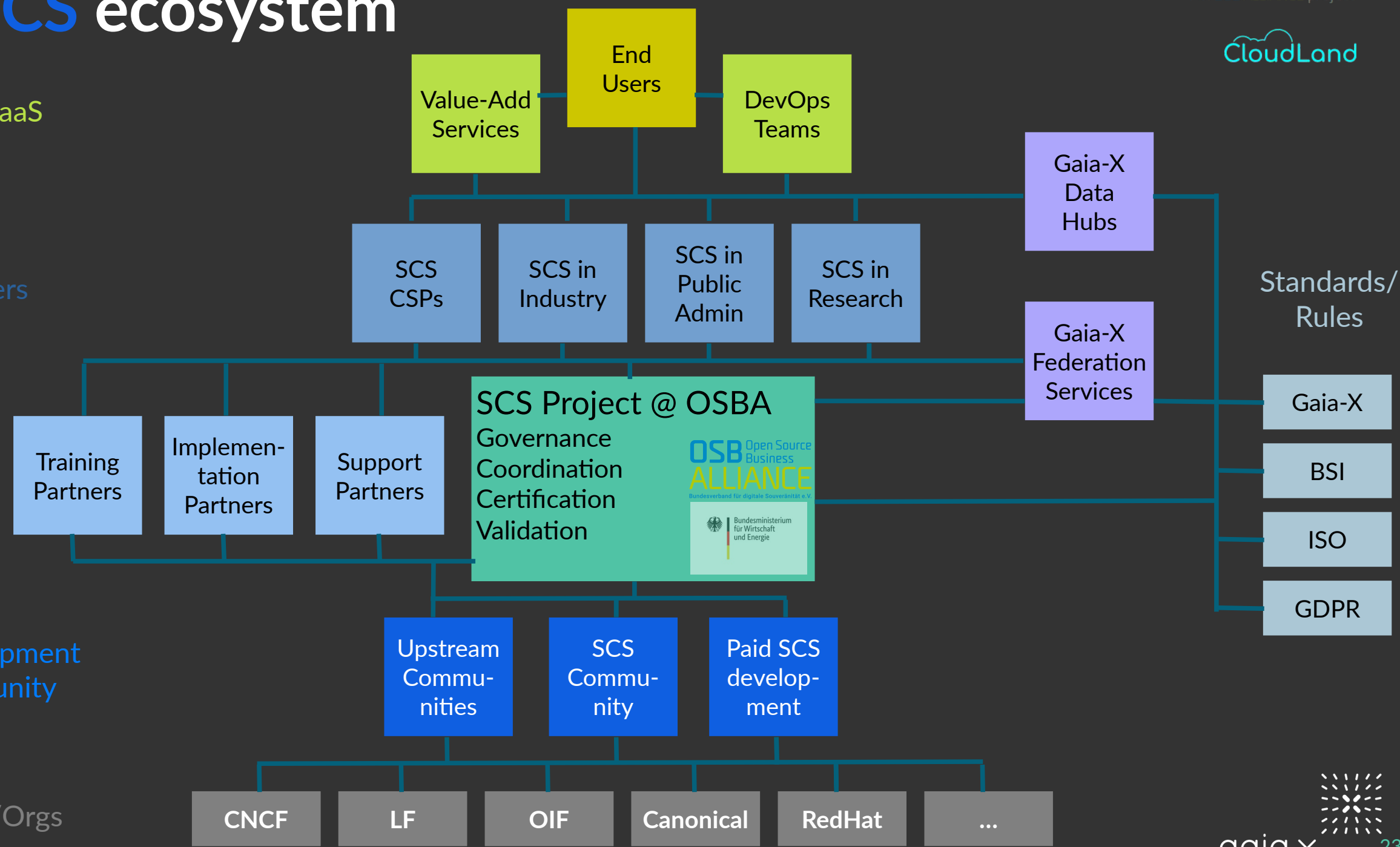
SaaS/PaaS

(Infra) Providers

Services

Development Community

Found/Orgs



1 - Security by Design

Using strong isolation for container clusters

- Different tenants receive their own Kubernetes clusters; by default, no cluster sharing happens
- Underlying VMs, network, storage are separated by strong virtualization barriers

Private registry for users

- Make it easy for DevOps teams to enforce their own security vetting processes and control their supply chain
- Vulnerability scanning included in registry solution

Daily patching supported

- The architecture is built for daily patching (or redeployment) without noticeable customer impact
- This creates a practice of keeping the systems up to date especially with respect to security patches

Secure Operational practices

- Document updating, patching, security response, ... processes to help with secure operations

Air gap mode supported

- Deploying and updating without internet connection possible
- Leveraging an internal registry and patch distribution mechanism (includes vulnerability scanning)

Certification

- Budget for security certifications (BSI) with partners – SCS based PlusCloud Open achieved BSI C5 in Nov 2021
- Pen testing planned (and budget allocated)

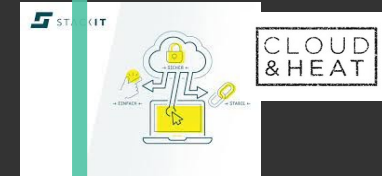
Supply chain security

- Work with researchers on further improving supply chain security (reproducible builds, scanning, ...)

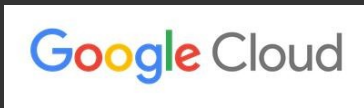


SCS operators ...

CloudLand



SCS



2 - SCS standards & certification

Reuse existing Open Standards

- Must have a fully open and capable (reference) implementation
- Ideally with conformance tests
- Examples: CNCF conformance tests, S3, OIDC, OpenStack powered trademark tests
- Contribute improvements (e.g. tests) back upstream
- Gaia-X self-descriptions (in development)

SCS: Fill gaps (for PaaS/SaaS DevOps teams)

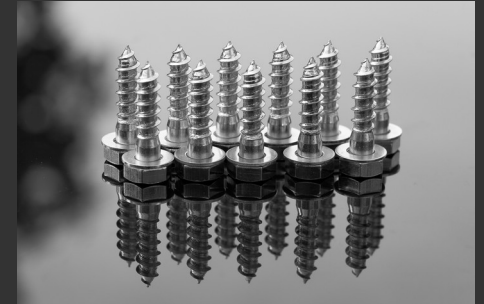
- Done: IaaS flavor naming and standard flavors
- Done: Image metadata
- WIP: Definition of regions, availability zones, ...
- WIP: k8s cluster management (k8s cluster-API)

Federation

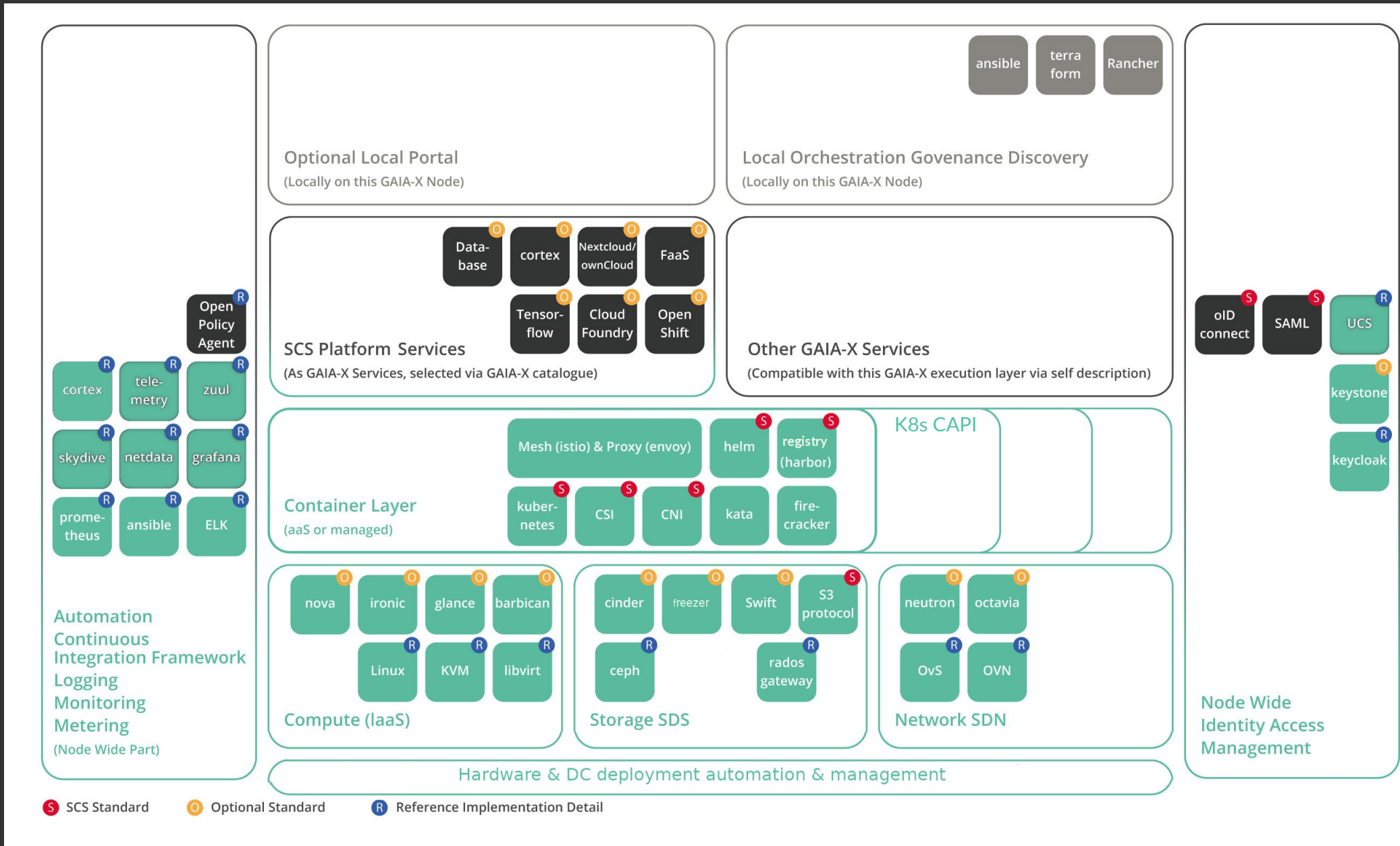
- Allow OIDC user federation

Formal SCS certification program to be launched this summer for CSPs

- SCS compatible: Compatibility / Interoperability testing
- SCS open: Technological transparency (fully open functional stack)
- SCS sovereign (later): Operational transparency



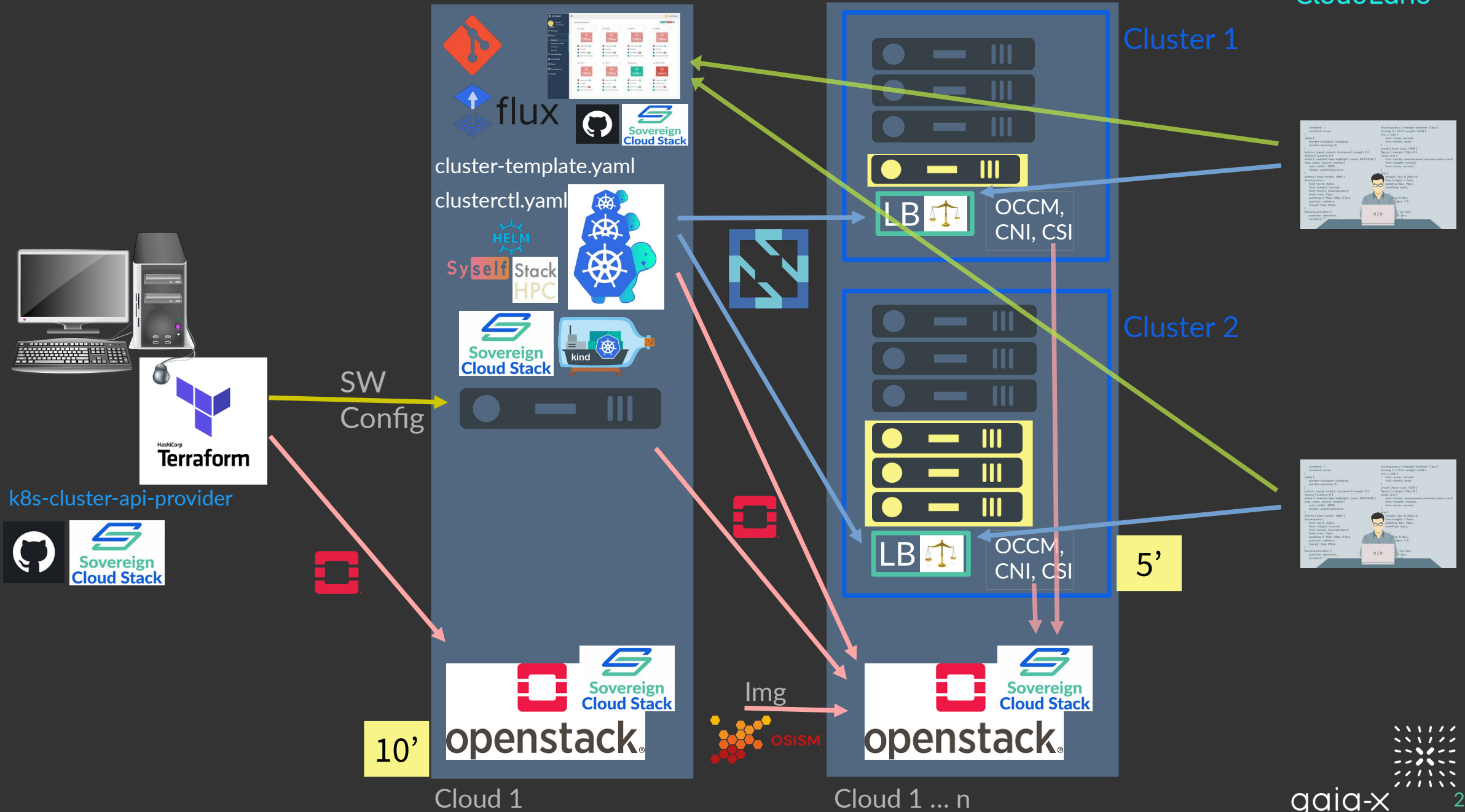
3 - SCS reference implementation architecture



LOKI
=
Linux
OpenStack
Kubernetes
Infra-
structure

K8s Cluster deployment structure - gitops

CloudLand



3 - SCS reference implementation status

Consists of OSI compliant (OSS health check surviving) upstream components

- Participating in & contributing to upstream communities

All SCS work fully OSS (github.com/SovereignCloudStack)

- Modular code, developed by growing community in an agile way

Release R2 (v3.0.0) from 2022-03-23

- Secure, Stable & sustainable base layer (OSISM) w/ Bare Metal automation
- Complete IaaS stack (includes OpenStack Xena)
- Ready for federation (OIDC) & GXFS
- Operational stack (Lifecycle Management, Monitoring, Alerting, ...) included
- K8s Cluster-API based container cluster management (KaaS) – API/CLI only



Roadmap for R3 (Sept 2022)

- Encrypt all data at rest (opt-out possible)
- Standardize k8s cluster management across providers (also for non-SCS IaaS)
- Strengthen CI framework and coverage
- Conformance tests (IaaS)
- Document and validate a set of IAM federation use cases
- Later: PaaS, Edge setups, Network encryption, ...



SCS adoption

Two public clouds in production with complete SCS IaaS/Ops/IAM stacks since > 1 year



PlusCloud achieved BSI C5 certification in Nov '21

Adoption continues...

- Soon (2022-08): Third public cloud (with full SCS); TLRZ in 2023
- PoCs in industry and with public sector IT providers (DE: dataport, DVS = Deutsche Verwaltungscloud Strategie)
- Gaia-X lighthouse projects
- Modules used by various partners (see logos on homepage)
- Ecosystem of service companies emerging (training, consulting, implementation, support, ...)
- Standards adoption via certification program (WIP)
- SCS Gitops Container Management definition also with non-SCS-IaaS providers (WIP)

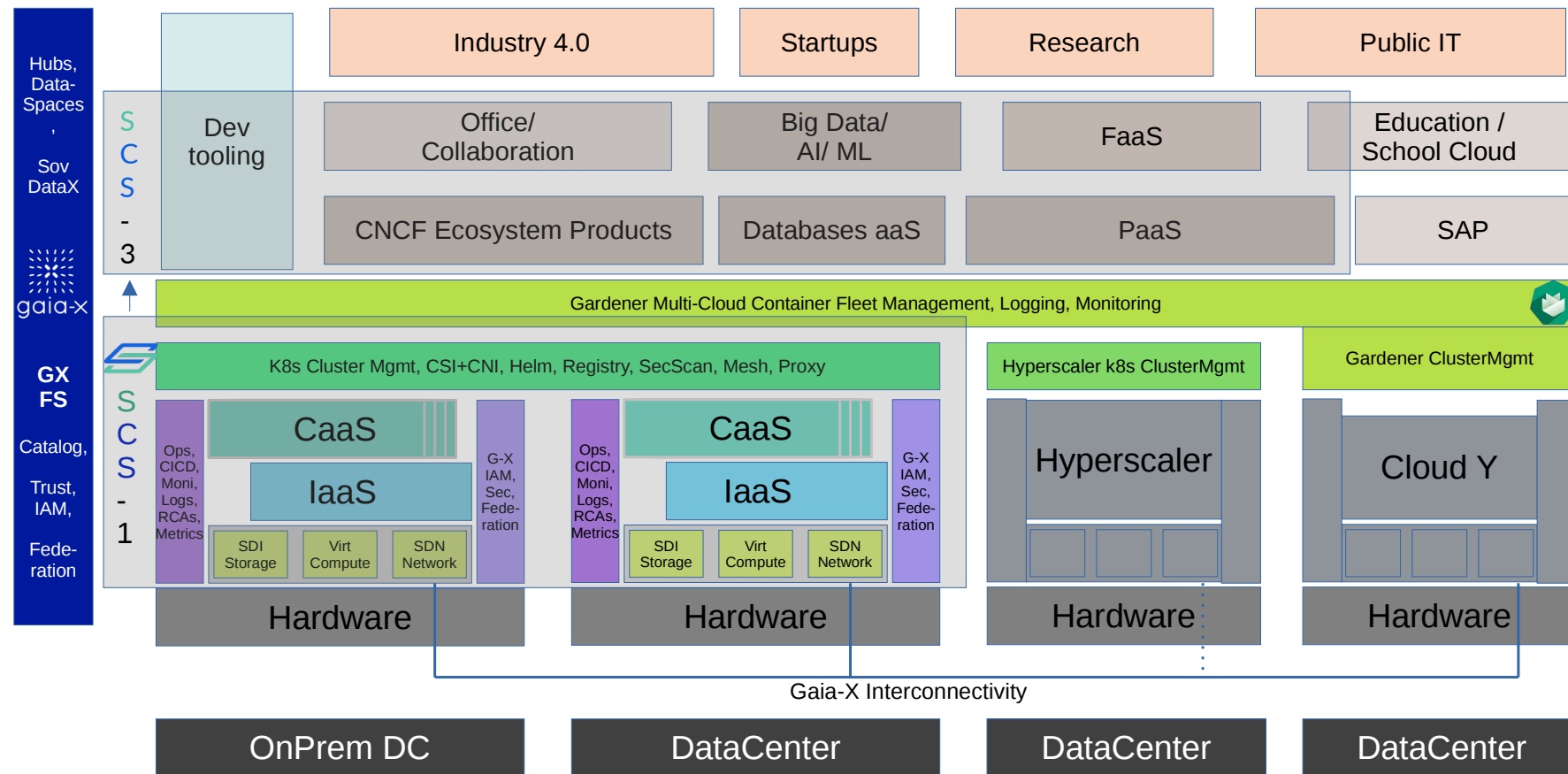
SCS validated in Gaia-X Hackathons and Betacloud and PlusCloud customers

- Gaia-X Self-Descriptions developed and provided (Srv. Char. WG / Bachelor thesis @ C&H)

Gaia-X Federation Services

- SCS used as Dev and Validation platform for Gaia-X Federation Services, integrated offerings planned

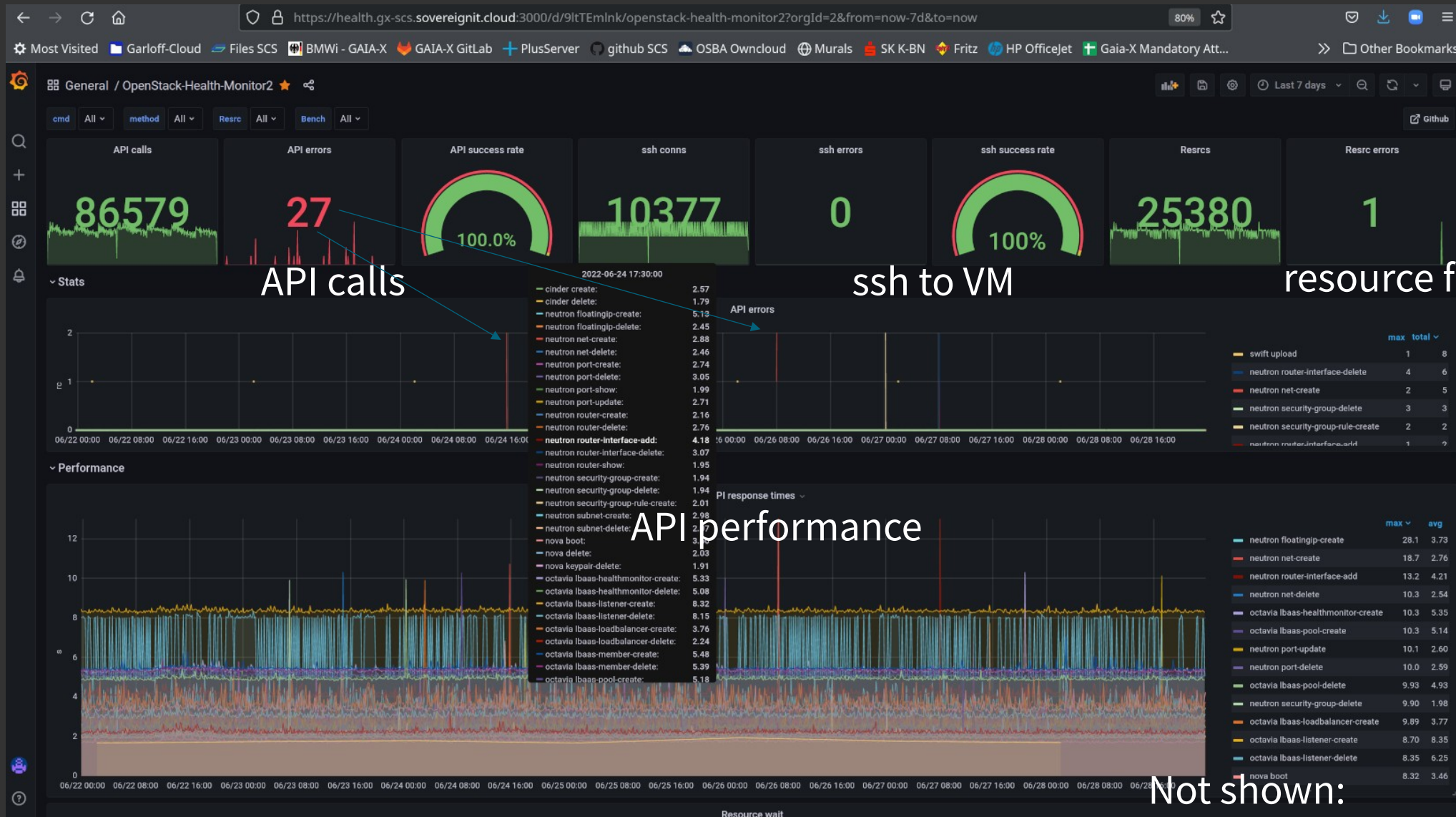
2/3 - Building federated clouds



Adapted from
Acatech
Whitepaper on
Digital Sovereignty
(3/2021)

4 - Operations:

Measure what you want to manage ...



openstack-health-monitor: Behavior-based monitoring

Not shown: resource performance



Wanted: Open Operations culture

You're not alone in operating your stack!

Share knowledge

e.g. monitoring setup and config

Share status

e.g. health & performance monitoring

Share challenges

e.g. fraud detection

Public Root Cause Analysis

e.g. outages

SCS resources:

Blog

OperationalDocs

Operator Lean Coffee

Tools:

e.g. Health-mon dashboard

Next: RCA templates

Link collection

Join the growing SCS community!

As CSP or industry IT department

- Join discussions / community
- Adopt standards and/or technology (code)

As OSS infrastructure software developer

- Contribute / Participate in community
- Apply for a job in our OSB Alliance team



As interested company

- Build SCS expertise, respond to tenders
- Build business model around SCS expertise

As PaaS/SaaS developer

- Develop / Test against SCS standards

As IT consumer

- Request true sovereignty from your platform
- Avoid the pitfall of reinterpreting reality to make it feel better

More information:

Homepage:

<https://scs.community/>

Github:

<https://github.com/SovereignCloudStack>

<https://github.com/OSISM>

Upstream: OIF, CNCF, LF

(CloudExpo, OIF summit, CloudLand, ...)

Gaia-X: MVG OWP, Hackathons,
WGs FS/OSS, Svc. Char.

Email: project@scs.sovereignit.de

Matrix: SCS rooms

<https://matrix.to/#/#scs-general:matrix.org>

Predicting the future (2024)

~~A big war in Europe is inconceivable. We don't need well-working defense.~~

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?? ~~Trustee models (EU operated "sovereign" clouds with US tech) fulfill GDPR and sovereignty~~

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