

## Sovereignty over your own information

Data sovereignty is high on the agenda. It goes further than just the location where your data is stored. At its core, it's about autonomy and control: how much of that sits with the client, how much with the vendor?

That plays out across different dimensions, and it's rarely as obvious as it seems. That's why we put together a checklist for you: 5 questions you can ask your vendor.

### 01 Where is our data stored? Under which legislation?

Don't just ask about the **country** where the datacenter is located. Ask who the cloud provider is and which **legislation** applies to that provider. A European datacenter under an American hyperscaler still falls under the Cloud Act.

Ask about the exact **hosting model** (on-premise, private cloud, public cloud) and how much choice you have in that.

### 02 Who decides the pace of changes to the platform?

How often do **upgrades** happen, and do you have a say in the timing?

Which **new features** come from client requests, and which are decided top-down by the vendor? What happens if you need a **specific functionality** that isn't on the roadmap yet?

### 03 How open is the architecture?

Is there a **full API** available that covers everything the platform's application can do, or only a selected part? Is the API contract kept stable across versions?

Which **open standards** are supported, and how does **integration with other systems** work?

## 04 How can we demonstrably comply with GDPR and NIS2?

What **audit trail** and logging does the platform include by default? Can **retention periods** be automated per type of information?

Who can access which data under which role, and how is that reported? Is the vendor itself **ISO 27001**-certified?

## 05 What does the contract say about exit and data ownership?

Who remains the owner of the data during and after the collaboration? Is there a worked-out **exit scenario**? In what format do you get your data back?

What support do you get for a potential migration, and what does the contract say about that?

### Ready to look beyond the checklist?

These questions give you a framework. But the answers depend on your specific situation: the type of information you manage, the sector you work in and the requirements that come with it.

If you want to see how a platform like MediaHaven scores on these questions, or if you'd like a no-obligation conversation about your selection process: get in touch at [sales@zeticon.com](mailto:sales@zeticon.com).

## About Zeticon

Zeticon builds MediaHaven and InformationHaven, platforms for digital information management. Clients in the public sector, media and business use them for storing, managing and accessing their information.

Find out more at [zeticon.com/en/sovereignty](https://zeticon.com/en/sovereignty).