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2018 Global Cloud Computing Scorecard: Spain Improves in Public Policies for the Development of Cloud Computing

- *Spain ranks 10th out of 24 leading IT economies, one position better in comparison with the last ranking of 2016*

- *New report provides policy roadmap for encouraging cloud adoption that will fuel local economic growth*

- *Advanced and updated privacy and cybersecurity policies set apart leading countries in the Scorecard*

SPAIN - MARCH 6, 2018 — BSA | The Software Alliance today released its annual report, a flagship study about the level of preparedness of countries in relation to the development of cloud computing (2018 Global Cloud Computing Scorecard). The study, which evaluates the current public policies in 24 countries that account for 80% of the world market of information technologies, highlights the improvements carried out in Spain in terms of legal environment and regulations, which allows our country to scale a position in the ranking and move to the tenth place.

The 2018 BSA Global Cloud Computing Scorecard – the newest version of the only global report to rank countries' preparedness for the adoption and growth of cloud computing services – features an updated methodology that better reflects the policies that have helped cloud computing's exponential growth over the past five years, putting additional emphasis on countries' privacy and cybersecurity laws and broadband infrastructure.

In 2018, most countries continue to make improvements, but some markets are falling further behind. Germany scored the highest on the Scorecard – due to its national cybersecurity policies and promotion of free trade – followed closely by Japan and the United States. Bringing up the rear are a small group of nations that have failed to embrace the international approach: Russia, China, Indonesia, and Vietnam.

Spain: Comprehensive privacy and cybercrime legislation, and advances on IT

According to this new report, Spain has comprehensive privacy legislation, although it relies heavily on registration requirements that could act as a barrier for cloud computing services. Spain has up-to-date cybercrime legislation and has ratified the Convention on Cybercrime.

Spain also has comprehensive electronic commerce and electronic signature legislation, and Internet service providers (ISPs) are free from any Internet filtering or censorship.

On the other hand, Spain is a very active participant in international forums and supports international standards development and interoperability. Spain recorded significant gains in information technology (IT) infrastructure in recent years. In the Digital Agenda for Spain, released in 2013, Spain reaffirmed its commitment to achieve the European Commission set targets for all households to have download speeds of at least 30 Mbps by 2020, and 50 percent of households at 100 Mbps by 2025.

Andrés Pi, spokesperson for the Spanish BSA Committee, highlights "this report shows that we are progressing steadily in the right direction, with a focus on innovation and the promotion of cloud computing. However, there are still some minor gaps in Intellectual Property protection, and enforcement can be improved, particularly in relation to the circumvention of technological protection measures. In these aspects we must work."

Cloud Computing Scorecard: a useful tool for countries and to boost cloud computing

"The Scorecard is a tool that can help countries constructively self-evaluate their policies and determine next steps to increase adoption of cloud computing," said **Victoria Espinel**, President and CEO of BSA | The Software Alliance. "Cloud computing allows anyone to access technology previously available only to large organizations, paving the way for increased connectivity and innovation. Countries that embrace the free flow of data, implement cutting-edge cybersecurity solutions, protect intellectual property, and establish IT infrastructure will continue to reap the benefits of cloud computing for businesses and citizens alike."

The Scorecard's key findings include:

- **Advanced privacy and security policies set leading countries apart from lagging markets.** Countries continue to update and refine their data protection regimes, most often in a way that enables cross-border data flows. Several countries, however, still have not adopted adequate privacy laws.

- **Emerging markets continue to lag in the adoption of cloud-friendly policies, hindering their growth.** Examples include regulations that impose significant barriers for cloud service providers, data localization requirements, and a lack of cybersecurity protections.

- **Deviations from widely adopted regimes and international agreements hold back key markets.** Internationally accepted standards, certifications, and testing help improve the security environment for cloud computing, but not every country recognizes such best practices as meeting local standards.

- **Those few countries that have embraced localization policies pay a heavy price.** Data localization requirements act as a barrier to cloud computing, causing negative financial impacts for local markets.

- **Increased emphasis on IT readiness and broadband deployment leads to interesting results.** The ability of countries and companies to leverage cloud computing for growth requires access to a powerful network. While almost all countries continue to work to improve broadband access, the success of those efforts remains very inconsistent.

By examining the legal and regulatory framework of 24 countries, the Scorecard aims to provide a platform for discussion between policymakers and cloud service providers. This dialogue can help develop an internationally harmonized regime of laws and regulations that facilitate cloud computing.

The full, 24-country rankings and detailed findings are available at
www.bsa.org/cloudscorecard.

About BSA

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