



Enabling Digital Sovereignty

Secure Communications for the European Public Sector



Executive brief

Across Europe, public sector institutions face increasing pressure to reclaim **digital sovereignty** while navigating a patchwork of tools, foreign dependencies, and rising cyber threats. Europe is shifting fast toward **digital self-determination**, and the public sector is expected to lead the way.

For modern public institutions, **owning your data and securing your communications is no longer optional, it's essential.**

This guide breaks down:

- What's broken with current tools and why that matters
- What real sovereignty looks like in practice
- How to build a secure, compliant communications stack
- How Rocket.Chat helps you take back control

Why digital sovereignty matters now

Europe's digital autonomy is now a **strategic imperative**. Recent geopolitical events and cyber incidents like SolarWinds and Pegasus have exposed just how vulnerable Europe's digital infrastructure can be.

To protect national interests, public institutions must regain control over how data is stored, accessed, and exchanged.

Digital sovereignty means:

- Safeguarding sensitive citizen data
- Complying with GDPR, NIS2, and national security laws
- Avoiding vendor lock-in and foreign legal exposure
- Maintaining full visibility into your infrastructure and tools

"The future of Europe's digital infrastructure must be based on trust, transparency, and control."

— Thierry Breton, EU Commissioner



ENISA reports over
60% of EU public organizations faced security incidents
linked to external communication platforms in the past 18 months.

The fragmented state of public sector communication

Most public sector teams rely on a mix of chat, video, and file-sharing tools — few of which were designed for sovereignty.

The risks you can't ignore:

- Lack of end-to-end encryption across all channels
- Metadata exposed to non-EU jurisdictions
- Gaps in GDPR, DORA, and NIS2 compliance
- Limited auditability and access control
- Shadow IT via insecure tools

Slack, Microsoft Teams, WhatsApp, Signal may be convenient and widely used but fall short when it comes to sovereignty, control, and compliance.

Germany, France, and the Netherlands have issued official guidance banning many of these tools for government use.

66% of EU public IT leaders

cite lack of data control as their top collaboration risk.

Capgemini, 2023

Still,

42%

of EU civil servants admit to using personal messaging apps for work.

IDC, 2024

Is your communications stack sovereign-ready?

Ask yourself:

- Are we protected from foreign data access laws like the US CLOUD Act?
- Can we host it in our own infrastructure or a sovereign EU cloud?
- Is it fully compliant with GDPR, ISO 27001, and national standards?
- Can we audit it and trust what we find?
- Can we seamlessly extend and evolve our comms platform without vendor lock-in?
- Is it supported by EU-based and experienced partners?

If the answer is “no” to any of the above it’s time to switch.

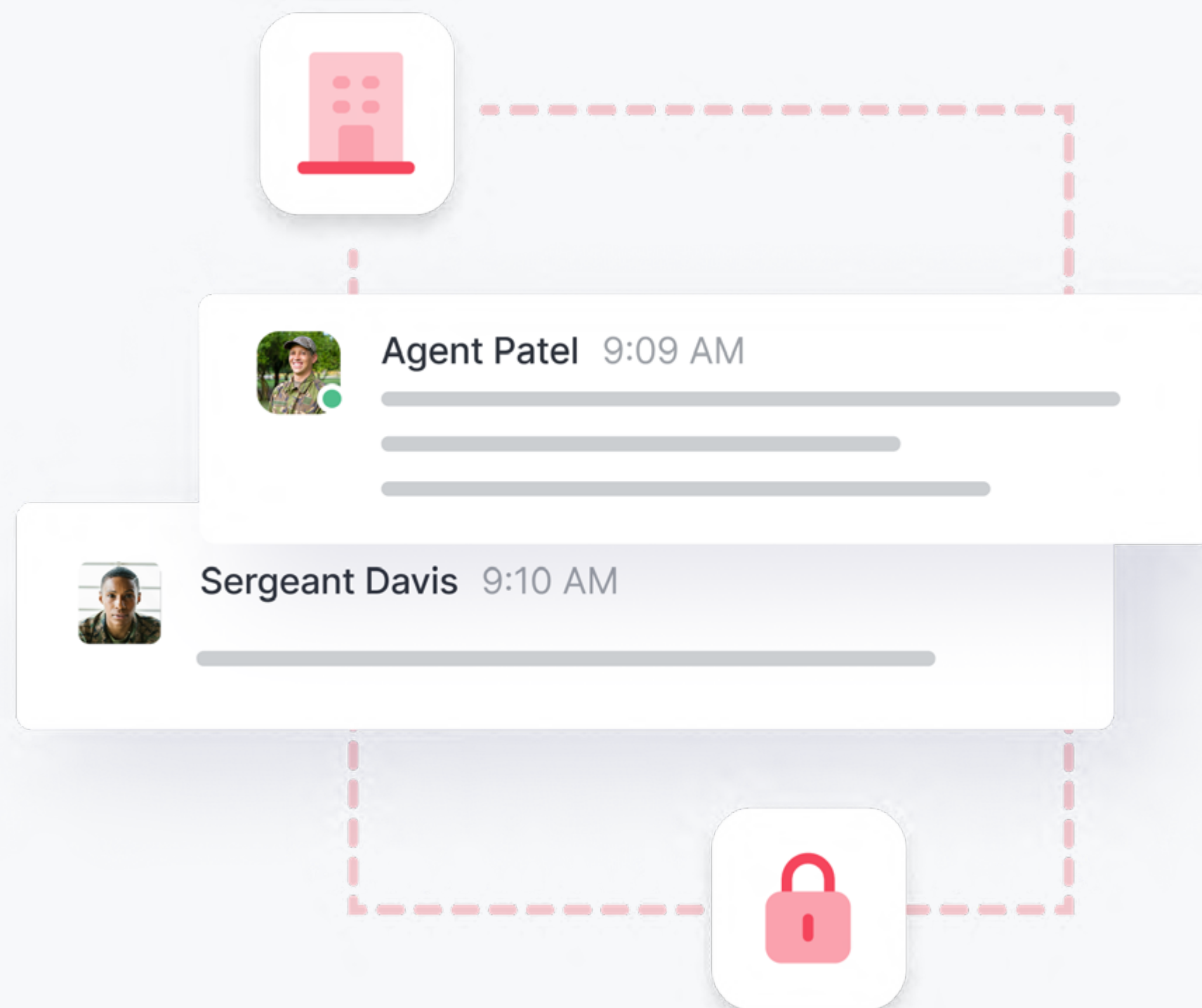
By 2026, over
70%
of EU public entities will require
data sovereignty in communication
platform procurement.

Capgemini Research Institute

Rocket.Chat Secure CommsOS

Rocket.Chat is a secure communications platform built for what sovereignty demands: control, compliance, and customization.

Why public sector teams choose Rocket.Chat 🙌



01 Flexible deployment

Keep data under your jurisdiction, with full control over hosting: deploy on-prem, air-gapped or in trusted EU-based infrastructure, including AWS EU regions.

02 Open source

Fully transparent, auditable, and extensible platform designed for critical EU operations and adaptable to evolving needs.

03 End-to-end security

End-to-end encryption ensures your data stays confidential at all times, backed by strict RBAC and zero access guarantees.

04 Compliance-ready

ISO 27001 certified and built to meet GDPR mandates with comprehensive audit logs, granular access controls, and full data governance capabilities.

05 Federated & extensible

Seamlessly integrate with SAML, LDAP, Matrix, and UK national eID systems, plus build custom apps and workflows with ease.

Sovereign collaboration, seamlessly integrated

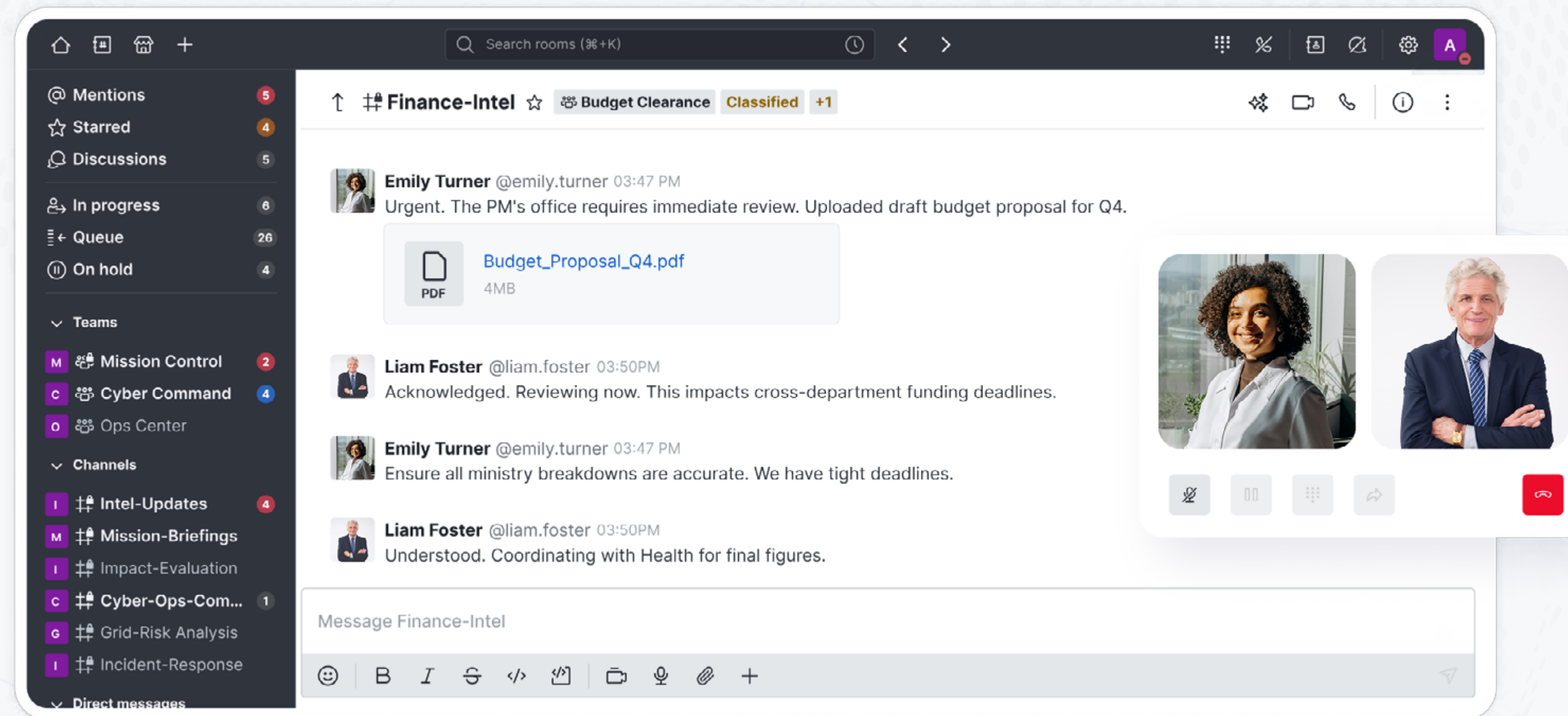
Rocket.Chat isn't just secure messaging—it's the core of a sovereign collaboration suite:

Pexip for secure, EU-compliant video conferencing

Collaboard for GDPR-compliant whiteboarding and co-creation

Custom integrations and apps to connect workflows, automate tasks, and tailor collaboration to your needs

Built to work together. Designed for your control.



Trusted by government agencies and critical sectors



Supporting real-time collaboration with Member States

“We were looking for a platform that’s easy to use, secure, and hosted in the EU. Rocket.Chat on AWS delivered exactly that.”

Nadia Rosioru

Information Technology Officer, eu-LISA



Unified communications to boost productivity

“Rocket.Chat met our communication needs - secure messaging, audio and video calls, and document sharing. It checked all the security and usability boxes for us.”

Jenny Nilsson

IT Strategist, Swedish Electrical Safety Board



A control and trust we needed to operate securely

“We wanted to make daily work for our workers as seamless as possible and equip them with the tools they need without compromising on data security and privacy.”

Rene Jahnke

Solution Architect, the City of Cologne





Ready to take control of your communications?

Let's start building your sovereign communications stack.

[Explore further](#)

[Request a Guided Evaluation](#)