Codebook for the IPDD Project Database
Version of July 2025

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Introduction

The Industrial Policy for Digital Development (IPDD) project is an initiative dedicated to understanding the relationship between industrial policy and digital development. Its core interest lies in examining how these policies intersect with areas such as sustainability, national security, and geoeconomic considerations. The project's goal is to investigate the power of

industrial policy in fostering both digital and sustainable progress across nations in the Global South and North, with a specific emphasis on the dynamics within emerging economies.

The IPDD Project is funded by the Qatar National Research Fund of the Qatar, Research, Development, and Innovation (QRDI) Council.[1]

Methodology

The IPDD database is a collection of industrial and digital laws and policies. Each entry (policy or law) includes the following columns:

- **Law/Policy Name:** The official title of the documented law or policy.
- **Link to the source/text of the law:** A direct hyperlink to the original document or its official online source (in the rare cases where a direct link is unavailable, a link to a different source is provided).
- **Country/Territory:** The specific nation or recognized territory to which the law or policy applies.
- **Type (Law/Policy):** Categorization of the entry as either a legally binding "Law" or a guiding "Policy" document.
- **Type (Area/Sector):** The primary area of focus of the law or policy (e.g., e-commerce, digital platforms).
- **Digitalization:** Indicates whether the law or policy explicitly addresses or promotes digital technologies, infrastructure, or services.
- **Sustainability:** Indicates whether the law or policy incorporates environmental considerations, promotes green technologies, or aims for sustainable development outcomes.
- **National Security:** Indicates whether the law or policy has explicit provisions or implications for national security interests, such as cybersecurity, strategic industries, or data sovereignty.
- **Published Date/Date of Adoption/Date of Last Amendment:** The original publication/adoption date of the law or policy, or the date of its most recent amendment, if applicable.
- **Entry into Force:** The date on which the law officially came into effect.

[1] Industrial Policy for Digital Development (IPDD) Project: Digitalization, Sustainability and National Security in the New Geoeconomic Order (ARG01-0524-230314).

As of July 2025, the database contains 1454 laws and policies from 186 jurisdictions. The scope of the project is to incorporate in the database all major laws and policies promoting, enabling, but also regulating digital development. In the context of the IPDD database:

- **Law:** A law is a formal rule enacted by a legislative body at the national level. Laws are **legally binding**, meaning that they are enforceable by the state through its judicial and administrative systems. Non-compliance with laws can result in penalties, such as fines, sanctions, or legal action.
- **Policy:** A policy, on the other hand, is a broader statement of intent, a set of principles, or a course of action adopted by a government. Policies may be formulated by various government bodies (e.g., ministries, agencies). While policies aim to guide decision-making and behavior, they are not always **legally binding** in the same way that laws are. However, policies can have significant influence, shape regulations, and often serve as the foundation for future legislation.

Policies and Laws for Digital Development: The laws and policies fall under **ten** distinct categories listed here:

1. Artificial Intelligence
2. Blockchain
3. Cybersecurity (excluding criminal laws as they do not serve an industrial policy purpose)
4. Data Protection (this does not include data governance policies which, depending on the specifics of the situation, either pursue an industrial goal or seek to develop the digital economy)
5. Digital Economy (this category includes several laws and policies that directly enable and prioritize structural transformation that enables digital upgrading; for instance, digital transformation strategies, digital trade strategies, or data sharing and accessibility initiatives are included here)
6. Digital Platforms
7. E-Commerce
8. Industrial (although this is a broad category, entries under this category clearly display a strategic purpose for the structural transformation of the economy; for instance, telecommunications and e-telecommunications laws and policies may serve such a purpose)
9. National Security

10. Semi-Conductor

Why Were These Categories Chosen?

The selected categories reflect the core focus of IPDD on areas that are:

- **At the Forefront of Digital Transformation:** Topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Digital Platforms, and E-Commerce represent key drivers and expressions of the ongoing digital revolution.
- **Critical to the Digital Ecosystem:** Cybersecurity and Data Protection serve as foundational pillars for ensuring trust, integrity, and security in digital environments.
- **Enablers of Broader Economic Development:** Categories such as Digital Economy, Industrial Policies, and National Security/Semi-Conductors capture the use of industrial and sectoral strategies to foster digitalization and enhance technological sovereignty. In particular, the inclusion of national security and semi-conductor policy reflects the growing convergence of digital and strategic industrial objectives. While traditional industrial policy focused on manufacturing sectors and competitiveness, the rise of digital technologies has fundamentally reshaped industrial priorities and approaches.
- **Shaping International (Economic) Law:** These domestic policy and legal developments are increasingly influencing the formation of new norms and frameworks at the international level, particularly within international economic law.

Broader Goals of the Mapped Digital and Industrial Laws and Policies

All the entries refer to a law or policy that pursues one, or more, of the following three goals (or touches upon one of the following three elements): digitalization, sustainability, and/or national security.

Digitalization

A law or policy will pursue digitalization goals if it seeks to achieve digital development through industrial processes, such as the widespread facilitation of paperless business processes. Goals range from aspects such as innovation in the use of artificial intelligence technologies, to enhancing connectivity, enabling the development of digital infrastructure (e.g., the use of blockchain technology, the development of data centers), or the development of digital skills to address the digital divide. The database can help answer questions such as:

- **Is the law or policy designed to enable industrial upgrading through the use of digital technologies?**
- **Does the integration of digital technologies lead to enhanced productivity and/or innovation?**

Sustainability

Digitalization is not just a technological shift but also potentially an enabler of sustainability goals. The IPDD project will use the IPDD database to analyze the twin transition through its focus on digitalization and sustainability within digital and industrial policy. The database can help answer questions such as:

- **Are there integrated policies that explicitly aim to achieve both digital and sustainability goals simultaneously?**
- **How do different countries and territories approach the twin transition within their industrial and digital policy frameworks?**

National Security

As industrialization processes increasingly seek to address national security considerations, the database also determines whether a specific law or policy pursues such goals. This can range from addressing digital sovereignty concerns (for instance, control over data transfers outside the state's territory) to cybersecurity considerations. It particularly refers to enhancing resilience in the face of exposure to external influences, such as cyberattacks or risks of espionage. In this context, the database can help answer questions such as:

- **Are industrialization goals seeking to improve resilience in the face of increasing digital threats, often of a cross-border nature?**
- **Is the law or policy part of a broader strategy to enable the state to have control over its digital development and autonomy (through control over data, digital infrastructure etc.)?**

While the pursuit of national security is a feature of multiple categories of laws/policies (for instance, telecommunications law that seek to achieve industrial base development may also pursue secondary, national security goals), the database also refers to national security as a category of laws/policies. The latter only refers to those initiatives, or legislative/regulatory developments, that directly pursue national security goals (such as national security strategies that refer to digital development goals or foreign investment screening acts).

Columns/Variables

1. Laws and Policies

- **Description**: The designation of the law or policy.
- **Type**: Text
- **Examples**: *Andorra Digital Transformation Programme (PdTDA 2.0)* or *Data Protection Act* (Zimbabwe)

2. Link

- **Description**: URL link to the (full) text of the law or policy.
- **Type**: URL (Text)
- **Example**: https://www.veritaszim.net/sites/veritas_d/files/Data%20Protection%20Act%205%20of%202021.pdf

3. Country/Territory

- **Description**: The jurisdiction under which the law or policy applies.
- **Type**: Text
- **Example**: *Andorra* or *France*

4. Type (Law/Policy)

- **Description**: The type of legal instrument. It specifies whether it is a law or policy.
- **Type**: Text
- **Categories**: Law, Policy

5. Type (Area/Sector)

- **Description**: The specific area or sector the law or policy pertains to.
- **Type**: Text
- **Categories**: Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Data Protection, Digital Economy, Digital Platforms, E-Commerce, Industrial, National Security, Semi-Conductor

6. Digitalization

- **Description**: Indicates whether the law or policy addresses digitalization.
- **Type**: A binary indicator (TRUE or FALSE) showing whether the law or policy addresses digitalization.
- **Example**: TRUE

7. Sustainability

- **Description**: Indicates whether the law or policy addresses sustainability.
- **Type**: A binary indicator (TRUE or FALSE) showing whether the law or policy addresses sustainability.
- **Example**: TRUE

8. National Security

- **Description**: Indicates whether the law or policy addresses national security.
- **Type**: A binary indicator (TRUE or FALSE) showing whether the law or policy addresses national security.
- **Example**: TRUE

9. Published Date/Date of Adoption/Date of Last Amendment

- **Description**: The date when the law or policy was published, adopted, or last amended.
- **Type**: Date (YYYY)
- **Example**: 2005

10. Entry into Force

- **Description**: The date the law entered into force.
- **Type**: Date (YYYY)
- **Example**: 2007