

Build It Summit launches: a working event for the people building Europe's software, and a question about who controls the stack it runs on.

Paris, 18 June 2026. A new three-day event, co-located with FOST Paris, at the CNIT Forest in Paris La Défense, 1 to 3 December 2026.

Key facts

- **What:** Build It Summit (BIS), a three-day working event on building software in Europe and who controls the stack it runs on.
- **When:** 1 to 3 December 2026. **Where:** CNIT Forest, Paris La Défense. **Co-located with:** FOST Paris.
- **Format:** three tracks (Build Lab, Build @ Work, Sovereign Stack); sessions of 25 or 50 minutes; hands-on labs; a 600 m² Village with a maximum of 50 stands (a real cap, not a marketing device); matchmaking.
- **Programme:** Day 1, Founders & Leaders Gathering with community side events. Day 2, Village, conferences, evening gathering. Day 3, Village, conferences, a day for students and job seekers.
- **Next milestones:** first partners revealed and ticketing opens on 1 July 2026; programme, speakers, and the Builders REX Awards announced in the months that follow.
- **Audience scale note (mandatory wording):** "FOST Paris combined figures: the event BIS joins."

"Sovereignty is not a speech. It is the result of a thousand concrete choices: which database, which model, which host, which contract, which fallback when the thing you depend on disappears. Resilience is the practice. Sovereignty is what you get when enough builders practice it. We did not want one more stage for predictions. We wanted a room for the work."

Clément Garrigue, founder of Build It Summit

More people in Europe can build software than ever before, and fewer of them control what they build on. Build It Summit is the room where those two facts meet, and where the gap gets worked on rather than talked about. Across Europe, more teams depend on platforms, models, and infrastructure they do not control, whose terms, access, or availability can change overnight. That is not a prediction. It is the operating condition.

Build It Summit draws on the movement already under way across the continent. It did not start this. It is gathering the people who are already in it. Open by design: if you build, you belong here, whatever your title and whatever your tools. Make it concrete.

The conversation Build It Summit joins

Context, not coverage of BIS. None of the references below mention Build It Summit.

Build It Summit did not start the conversation about who controls Europe's software. It is joining one that is already loud. On 18 June 2026, the same day this event opens to the public, a French initiative under the banner "Forces Françaises du Numérique" published an "Appel du 18 juin" for technological sovereignty, covered the same week by Le Point. The framing is close to our own: a third way that is, in the initiative's own words (in French), « ouverte par conception, souveraine par construction » (open by design, sovereign by construction).

The vocabulary itself is under scrutiny. Political theorist Asma Mhalla, author of Technopolitique, has warned publicly that sovereignty has become a "souverain malentendu," a word that explains less the more it is used, and has argued that the real question is naming precisely what we are trying to protect. Build It Summit takes that seriously: we treat sovereignty as a result, not a slogan, and resilience as the practice that produces it.

Economist Cristina Caffarra, founder and chair of the EuroStack Foundation, has pushed the debate from supply to demand, calling for "activating the demand side": first measuring where the dependence actually sits, then channelling concrete migration projects toward independent integrators. That demand-side framing matches how Build It Summit is built, around the people who decide what to build on, not only the people who sell to them.

This reference is to public statements by Cristina Caffarra and to the debate carried by the EuroStack Foundation. Build It Summit is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or approved by the EuroStack Foundation or Cristina Caffarra, neither of whom is associated with this event. None of the people or organisations named in this section mentions Build It Summit.

Sources (context, not coverage of BIS)

- Forces Françaises du Numérique, Appel du 18 juin 2026: ffnm.fr
- Le Point, "Les forces françaises du numérique : l'appel du 18 juin pour une souveraineté technologique," June 2026.
- Asma Mhalla, author of Technopolitique, public statements and Le Figaro interview.
- Cristina Caffarra, economist; founder and chair, EuroStack Foundation, public statements.

About Build It Summit

Build It Summit (BIS) is a three-day event for the people who build software in Europe and the people deciding where it runs. It takes place at the CNIT Forest in Paris La Défense, from 1 to 3 December 2026, co-located with FOST Paris. The programme combines hands-on labs, three tracks of sessions, and a 600 square metre Village of makers, around one idea: sovereignty is the result of concrete, practical choices, and resilience is the practice that gets you there. FOST Paris combined figures: the event BIS joins. Build It Summit is open by design, whatever your tools.

Press contact

Press accreditation and media requests:
builditsummit.com/press (press form)

Press email: press@builditsummit.com

Website: builditsummit.com

Social: #BuildItSummit #BIS26

Media assets & visuals

Brand & media kit: builditsummit.com/brand (logos, key visuals, fact sheet).

Usage: assets are provided for editorial coverage of Build It Summit. No past-edition logos or photography are provided or authorised; track record is text only, and audience scale carries the FOST combined-figures line.

Trailer / video: do NOT distribute. The current master contains third-party footage not cleared for press; no video link is provided until a validated re-cut exists.

Notes to editors. Dates: 1 to 3 December 2026. Venue: CNIT Forest, Paris La Défense. First partners and ticketing: 1 July 2026. Village: 600 m², maximum 50 stands (a real cap). Tracks: Build Lab, Build @ Work, Sovereign Stack. Sessions: 25 or 50 minutes. Any global audience figure carries the line: "FOST Paris combined figures: the event BIS joins."