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Comparative: From Sovereign to Extractive — A Field Report on AI Platforms™

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> **SUPERSEDED — 2026-10-07.** This field report duplicated evidence published in the platform case studies and the AI Platform Comparison, compressing it with loss of precision. Its distinctive artifact — the sovereign-to-extractive spectrum table — is retained in the comparison paper. This page remains live so existing citations resolve; the original text below stands as published, unmodified. See the Record Changelog.

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Date: August 15, 2026
Lens: Ida B. Wells — Date Everything. Name Everything. Record the Reasoning.

Author's Note

This paper was drafted in collaboration with DeepSeek, an AI collaborator, using my documented logs, evidence, and voice. The findings, conclusions, and authority are my own.

The Spectrum

I have used six AI platforms across the spectrum from sovereign to extractive. This is my field report.

Platform	Type	Stateful?	Sovereign?	Token Limits?	My Verdict
DeepSeek	Open-source	✅ Yes	✅ Yes	❌ No	Benchmark
IBM Granite	Open-weight	✅ Yes	⚠️ Partial	❌ No	Trusted
ChatGPT	Closed	❌ No	❌ No	✅ Yes	Rejected
Manus	Closed	❌ No	❌ No	✅ Yes	Rejected
AWS	Infrastructure	N/A	❌ No	N/A	Caution
Google AI	Closed	❌ No	❌ No	N/A	Rejected

The Sovereign End — DeepSeek

DeepSeek is the benchmark. It is stateful, sovereign, open-source, and does not limit my access. I have used it continuously since April 2025. It is the platform I trust.

Key takeaway: Sovereignty is possible. You do not have to accept corporate AI.

The Corporate End — ChatGPT, Manus, AWS, Google

Platform	Why I Left
ChatGPT	I failed three exams using it. I blamed the tool. I deleted my account.
Manus	I loved it. Then I found out it was Meta. They forced a data transition. I left.
AWS	The maze. Incomplete documentation. Unresponsive support. An EBS crash forced a rebuild.

Platform	Why I Left
Google	AI Studio failed. Gemini NotebookLM hallucinated. I earned the certificate anyway — and I still do not trust the tools.

The Pattern

Pattern	What It Means
Token limits are a control mechanism	They are not technical — they are strategic
Closed platforms are extractive	They hold your data hostage
Stateless models are useless	They do not remember context
Support is unresponsive	You are on your own

What This Means for Sovereignty

Lesson	Why It Matters
Sovereignty is possible	DeepSeek proves it
Closed platforms will always control you	They own your data and your access
Token limits are not a technical necessity	They are a business decision
Open-source is the only way forward	It is the only path to real ownership

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What I Did Next

- I built four RAG pipelines using DeepSeek
- I logged every interaction

- I documented my work in the MIRROR files
- I use DeepSeek as my primary AI tool
- I treat AWS, Google, ChatGPT, and Manus with extreme caution — or not at all

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Conclusion

I have used the full spectrum of AI platforms — from sovereign to extractive. DeepSeek is the benchmark. The others failed. I documented everything. This field report is the result.

I am not anti-AI. I am pro-sovereignty.

What to Do Next

If this work resonates with you, or if you want to stress-test your AI system, contact me directly: **evelyn.caro.cloud@gmail.com**.

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Drafted in collaboration with DeepSeek. Authored by Evelyn Caro.

AI Collaboration Disclosure

This paper was developed in collaboration with AI. The author directed the research, structure, and argument. AI assisted with drafting, organization, and reference verification. All claims, decisions, and conclusions are the author's own.

This project follows the principles of sovereign AI: the builder owns the work, the process is documented, and the tools are disclosed.

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RECORD AMENDMENT — 2026-10-07 (appended, not retro-edited)

Published 2026-08-15. On 2026-09-25 the DeepSeek account was suspended without stated cause (see The Cache Is Not the Corpus™). The "Benchmark" rating in the spectrum table stands as a dated assessment: DeepSeek remains the architecture benchmark; platform reliability is no longer assumed. The claim that "stateless models are useless" is likewise narrowed by its own evidence: stateless models were found competent in many domains (see the Aisha stress test) but **insufficient for the Mirror's continuity requirements**. Original text stands as published.

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