Europe's Digital Decade

The EU will pursue a human-centric, sustainable vision for digital society throughout the digital decade to empower citizens and businesses.

European Union 2021
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Digital society and digital technologies bring with them new ways to learn, entertain, work, explore, and fulfil ambitions. They also bring new freedoms and rights, and give EU citizens the opportunity to reach out beyond physical communities, geographical locations, and social positions.

However, there are still many challenges associated with the digital transformation that need to be addressed during the digital decade. The EU must increase its strategic autonomy in tech and develop new rules and technologies to protect citizens from counterfeit products, cybertheft, and disinformation. Most importantly, the EU needs to address the digital divide.
• More (%d)
The Digital Compass

The Digital Decade policy programme is based on the Digital compass. It sets out digital ambitions for the next decade in the form of clear, concrete targets. The Digital compass uses the 4 points of the compass to identify the main goals:

1. a digitally skilled population and highly skilled digital professionals;
2. secure and sustainable digital infrastructures;
3. digital transformation of businesses;
4. digitalisation of public services.
Key policy areas to ensure these goals are met include cloud computing, artificial intelligence, digital identities, data, and connectivity.

The digital compass can also support the EU in meeting objectives in the European Green Deal, helping Europe to reach its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030.

Read the press release on the communication.

**Policy Programme: a Path to the Digital Decade**

The policy programme: a path to the digital decade sets up a monitoring and cooperation mechanism to achieve the common objectives and targets for Europe's digital transformation set out in the 2030 Digital Compass.

The Commission and the member states will work together to develop EU-level trajectories to monitor progress for each target. In turn, the Member States shall propose national strategic roadmaps, outlining their national trajectories and actions to achieve the objectives and targets, including planned regulatory measures and investments.
In view of preparing the proposal for the policy programme: a path to the digital decade, the Commission carried out a targeted consultation. The summary report takes stock of the contributions and presents preliminary trends.

Find out more about the policy programme

Download the factsheet

Download the staff working document

Multi-country projects

Multi-country projects are large-scale projects that can contribute to achieving the digital decade targets. They will allow Member States to come together and pool resources to build digital capacities that they would not be able to develop on their own.

The Commission has identified an initial list of areas for multi-country projects and may update the list, if needed, based on the annual progress monitoring.
Multi-country projects should pool investments from EU funding resources, including from the Recovery and Resilience Facility, as well as from the Member States. Other public and private entities may invest in the projects where appropriate.

The Commission will help Member States identify, set-up and implement multi-country projects. To set-up a multi-country project where there is no other legal instrument, the policy programme foresees a new legal structure, the European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) which will enable swift and flexible implementation.

Digital Rights and Principles

The Commission proposed a declaration on digital rights and principles in January 2022. The draft Declaration covers key rights and principles for the digital transformation. It is shaped around 6 chapters:

1. putting people and their rights at the centre of the digital transformation;
2. supporting solidarity and inclusion;
3. ensuring the freedom of choice online;
4. fostering participation in the digital public space;
5. increasing safety, security and empowerment of individuals;
6. promoting the sustainability of the digital future.

The European Parliament and the Council will discuss the draft Declaration, and endorse it at the highest level in a solemn signature.

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Cyber Defence: EU boosts action against cyber threats

The European Commission and the High Representative have put forward a Joint Communication on an EU Cyber Defence policy and an Action Plan on Military Mobility 2.0 to address the deteriorating security environment following Russia's aggression against Ukraine and to boost the EU's capacity to protect its citizens.
and infrastructure.

PRESS RELEASE | 31 October 2022
Digital Markets Act: rules for digital gatekeepers to ensure open markets enter into force

On the 1 November, the EU Digital Markets Act (DMA) will enter into force. The new Regulation will put an end to unfair practices by companies that act as gatekeepers in the online platform economy.

EVENT | 20 October 2022
4th European 5G Observatory Stakeholder Workshop – 5G in the Digital Decade

This workshop will be an opportunity to review the main findings of the fourth year of the 5G Observatory and to exchange views on the current state of play of 5G deployment as well as the latest market trends and global developments. It will also take stock of where we are in Europe when it comes to the targets of the 5G Action Plan and the Digital Decade strategy.

EVENT | 04 October 2022
Data Sovereignty in the Digital Decade – For a stronger digital Europe in the world

Data Sovereignty: why and how the potential of data should be harnessed to fuel Europe’s Digital Decade and strengthen its global digital presence.

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European Digital Rights and Principles
The Commission has proposed a declaration on European digital rights and principles to promote a digital transition shaped by European values.

Leading the Digital Decade 1-2 June 2021

Leading the Digital Decade, held 1-2 June, was a two-day online event focused on Europe’s digital transformation towards 2030.

The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)

The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) summarises indicators on Europe’s digital performance and tracks the progress of EU countries.

**Components of the Digital Compass**

**Digital skills**

The EU has developed a range of policies and initiatives to increase digital skills in both the...

**Supporting industry**

The EU supports businesses across Europe to adapt to the digital world by coordinating initiatives...

**Connectivity**

The EU’s goal is for Europe to be the most connected continent by 2030.

**Trust Services**

The EU has introduced rules to strengthen trust services and ensure our online activity is secure...

**Digital public services and environments**

The Commission is using digital technologies to improve public services and develop smart cities.

**Artificial Intelligence**

The EU aims to build trustworthy artificial intelligence that puts people first.
Data

Data is everywhere and growing at an unprecedented pace. The Commission has developed a European...

Advanced computing

EU investment in high performance computing and computing technologies will enable Europe to lead...

International Relations

The European Union works with countries around the world and international organisations to ensure...