

Big data

Data has become a key asset for the economy and our societies and the need to make sense of 'big data' is leading to innovations in technology.



© GettyImages-889994504 laremenko

Big data refers to large amounts of data produced very quickly by a high number of diverse sources. Data can either be created by people or generated by machines, such as sensors gathering climate information, satellite imagery, digital pictures and videos, purchase transaction records, GPS signals, and more. It covers many sectors, from healthcare to transport to energy.

Generating value at the different stages of the data value chain will be at the centre of the future knowledge economy. Good use of data can also bring opportunities to more traditional sectors such as transport, health or manufacturing. Improved analytics and processing of data, especially of big data, will make it possible to:

- transform Europe's service industries by generating a wide range of innovative information products and services;
- increase the productivity of all sectors of the economy through improved business intelligence;
- address more efficiently many of the challenges that face our societies;
- improve research and speed up innovation;
- achieve cost reductions through more personalised services;
- increase efficiency in the public sector.

Find out about previous projects that used big data

Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

Follow the Commission's work on data @DataEcoEU

Latest

PRESS RELEASE | 18 October 2021

EU-US Trade and Technology Council: Commission launches consultation platform for stakeholder's involvement to shape transatlantic cooperation

Today, the Commission launched an online consultation platform on the EU-US Trade and Technology Council (TTC), allowing stakeholders to

share their views and provide common proposals on the work ahead.

PRESS RELEASE | 30 September 2021

Trade and Technology Council: Inaugural meeting agrees on important deliverables and outlines areas for future EU-US cooperation

At the first meeting of the Trade and Technology Council (TTC) in Pittsburgh, the EU and the US agreed on concrete deliverables and outlined the future scope of work. Notably, the EU and the US committed to cooperating closely on shared priorities such as export controls, foreign investment screening, critical and emerging technology standards including Artificial Intelligence, and secure supply chains including on semiconductors. They also agreed to work together on important global trade issues, such as the challenges posed by non-market economies and trade-related climate and environment

DIGIBYTE | 23 June 2021

New European Partnerships launched to deliver on the EU's ambitions for the Digital Decade

To boost research and innovation investments in digital, the Commission has launched new European Partnerships together with industry and academia, under the Horizon Europe programme. The Partnerships will pursue innovative solutions on a large scale, pooling in efforts, resources and investments which will generate long-term positive impact, boost European competitiveness and technological sovereignty, as well as create jobs and growth.

DIGIBYTE | 22 June 2021

New report looks at AI national strategies progress and future steps

This week the European Commission published a new report that takes stock of national strategies on Artificial Intelligence and provides suggestions

for future developments.

Browse Big data

Related Content

Big Picture

A European Strategy for data

The strategy for data focuses on putting people first in developing technology, and defending and promoting European values and rights in the digital world.

Dig deeper

EU-funded R&I projects on data

The portfolio of data projects aims for more effective and efficient management of big data.

See Also

Free flow of non-personal data

The EU wants to ensure a free flow of data in Europe, allowing companies and public administrations to store and process non-personal data wherever they choose.

European data governance act

A European data governance act, which is fully in line with EU values and principles, will bring significant benefits to EU citizens and companies.

Source URL: <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/policies/big-data>