Next Generation Internet initiative

The mission of the Next Generation Internet initiative is to reimagine and re-engineer the Internet of tomorrow, reflecting fundamental human values.

Today, the Internet is key to almost any social or economic activity. It is a true value creator that has reshaped the economy and society. This trend is irreversible and the Internet’s essential role for society and the economy worldwide will continue to increase.

The pandemic crisis of COVID-19 showed the importance of Internet resilience. Seamless, secure and privacy-preserving connectivity was crucial to confront unprecedented challenges.

Yet, there are still concerns around personal data and transparency. There is also a demand for the Internet to provide better services and greater user empowerment in shaping up their own online experience. It is crucial that the next generation of the Internet puts people at its centre, so that it can meet its full potential for both the society and the economy.

The Next Generation Internet (NGI) initiative ([http://www.ngi.eu/](http://www.ngi.eu/)) aims to put in place the key technological building blocks of tomorrow’s Internet and to shape the future Internet as an interoperable platform ecosystem that embodies the values that Europe holds dear: openness, inclusivity, transparency, privacy, cooperation, and protection of data. The goal is to empower users with the freedom of choice among a range of open-source decentralised digital solutions.

To this end, NGI provides financial support to grass-root projects covering all layers of the Internet: from open hardware, networking and transport technologies, firmware, operating systems and virtualisation, electronic identities and middleware, decentralised ledgers, software productivity tools, traffic supervision tools, up to over-the-top internet and vertical applications.

Building an NGI ecosystem

Pioneering researchers, developers, high-tech SMEs and start-ups developed the key building blocks of the internet as we know it today. NGI aspires to revitalise and maintain this ecosystem of innovators to build the internet of tomorrow.

Through a number of ongoing NGI projects ([https://www.ngi.eu/about/ngi-projects/](https://www.ngi.eu/about/ngi-projects/)) the cascade funding mechanism is used to fund a large number of highly talented grass-root innovators who are actually changing the course of the internet.

Supporting sovereignty, trust, and European values

The NGI initiative is contributing to the protection of European values expressed by the European

NGI is among the EU initiatives that directly contribute to the development and uptake of digital commons in the area of internet technologies.

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Next Generation Internet portal

(https://www.ngi.eu/)
Next Generation Internet funding opportunities
(https://www.ngi.eu/opencalls/)
Next Generation Internet 'Who's NGI' blog
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The European Commission has launched a targeted public consultation inviting all interested parties to comment on a proposed revision of the Guidelines on State aid rules for broadband networks (the Broadband Guidelines).
Commission publishes study on the impact of Open Source on the European economy
ean-economy)

The Commission has published the results of a study analysing the economic impact of Open Source Software and Hardware on the European economy.

European Commission launches the EU Blockchain Observatory and Forum
ory-and-forum)

The Commission has just launched the EU Blockchain Observatory and Forum with the support of the European Parliament, represented by Jakob von Weizsäcker responsible for the recent report on virtual currencies.

Browse Next Generation Internet
The EU is accelerating the development and uptake of advanced technologies so citizens and businesses can enjoy the full potential of the digital world.
Dig deeper


Extended reality is going mainstream, benefitting more industries and sectors including digital learning, entertainment, health, manufacturing and more.


The .eu top-level domain gives Europe its own Internet identity, boosting EU visibility, increasing user choice of domain names and promoting e-commerce.

See Also


The EU actively cooperates with industry, organisations and academia to unleash the potential of the Internet of Things across Europe and beyond.


The EU wants to be a leader in blockchain technology, becoming an innovator in blockchain and a home to significant platforms, applications and companies.

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