

Steering Brief
Visit to the Vatican

This is your first time in the Vatican as Commissioner.

You will attend Pope Francis' General Audience in St Peter's Square and may have the opportunity to exchange words with the pontiff for up to two minutes.

In addition, you will:

- hold a bilateral meeting with State Secretary, H.E. **Cardinal Pietro Parolin** and Secretary for Relations with States (Vatican's Foreign Minister), H.E. Msgr **Paul Gallagher**.

The Holy See Secretariat of State, is the oldest and most important dicastery (Ministry) of the Roman Curia, the administration/government of the Holy See, and through which the pope directs the Roman Catholic Church.

Cardinal Parolin, as head State Secretary is responsible for all the political and diplomatic functions of the Holy See.

- participate in a discussion about "technology and solidarity" with 

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The aim of your visit is to:

- Exchange views with Roman Catholic Church government about digital issues. It would be the opportunity to present progress made for the DSM and find policy synergies with the Holy See.
- Contribute to discussion on how new technologies can advance the promotion of integral human development sharing the experience in the EU.
- Invite (personally – a written invitation will be sent the week of 18th March) the Holy See to attend the Digital Day 2019 (9 April 2019).

Mission Contact:

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Scene setter

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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Invitation the Holy See to attend the Digital Day 2019 (9 April 2019).

By 22 March, an invitation will be sent to [Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted], which is the “Ministry” task to overall restructuring, reorganisation and consolidation of all the realities which deal with communications in order to respond ever better to the needs of the mission of the Church, including all Holy See’s communications systems for example Vatican Internet Service.

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¹ Photos taken can be consulted via <http://www.photovat.com> and then order the ones you are interested in by sending an email to photo@ossrom.va - tel. +39/06/69884797 by indicating the number of the photographs their format and the methods of payment.

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9:00 [REDACTED], [REDACTED] **meets**
Commissionaire Gabriel at Hotel de la Minerva
9:30 – 11:40 (2h40') Attending Papal Public Audience

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Pope Francis



The first Pope of the Americas Jorge Mario Bergoglio hails from Argentina. (83-year-old Jesuit Archbishop of Buenos Aires for 15 years). He took strong stances during the dramatic financial crisis that overwhelmed the country in 2001.

Born in Buenos Aires in 1936, the son of Italian immigrants, graduated as a chemical technician and then chose the path of the priesthood. On 21 February 2001, John Paul II created him Cardinal. As Archbishop of Buenos Aires — a diocese with more than three million inhabitants — he had four main goals: open and brotherly communities, an informed laity playing a lead role, evangelization efforts addressed to every inhabitant of the city, and assistance to the poor and the sick. He was elected Supreme

Pontiff on 13 March 2013.

Speaking Points (word count: 840)

Votre Sainteté,

Je vous remercie pour votre promotion de la solidarité entre tous, y compris par des moyens technologiques.

En tant que membre du Collège européen, je dirige le portefeuille de l'économie numérique. Je conviens que la technologie, comme toute autre activité humaine, a ses limites qui doivent être respectées pour le bien de l'humanité elle-même et exige un sens des responsabilités éthiques.

Je suis confiante que la technologie peut être une force pour le bien afin de relever nos défis pressants dans la

société, tels que le changement climatique ou d'améliorer la manière dont les gouvernements traitent des droits de l'homme et de la migration.



Je reconnais tout à fait que l'Internet est une source de connaissances et de relations jadis impensables mais que, comme le disent de nombreux experts, compromet la recherche et le partage d'informations authentiques à l'échelle mondiale. Les médias sociaux sont parfois utilisés pour diffuser la désinformation à grande échelle, avec un ciblage rapide et précis sans précédent.

La désinformation peut influencer nos opinions et notre prise de décision en interférant dans la vie des citoyens comme un fléau invisible. Alors que les réseaux sociaux jouent un rôle de plus en plus important dans notre paysage médiatique, la désinformation qui y circule peut

polariser le débat, créer ou aggraver des tensions au sein de la société, saper les systèmes électoraux et avoir ainsi un impact significatif sur la sécurité européenne.

La désinformation porte atteinte à **la liberté d'opinion et d'expression, qui est un droit fondamental inscrit dans la Charte des droits fondamentaux de l'Union Européenne**. La liberté d'expression comprend le respect de la liberté et du pluralisme des médias, ainsi que le droit des citoyens d'exprimer leurs opinions et de recevoir ou de communiquer des informations ou des idées sans ingérence des autorités publiques.

La stratégie de la Commission Européenne pour lutter contre la désinformation reflète notre volonté d'améliorer l'accès des citoyens européens à une information objective et de qualité.

Nous suivons un certain **nombre de principes** et d'objectifs généraux: i) améliorer la **transparence** des informations en ligne, ii) promouvoir la **diversité** des informations, iii) renforcer la **crédibilité** des informations en fournissant une indication de leur **fiabilité**, iv) et élaborer des **solutions inclusives**.

Votre Sainteté, nous convenons que les nouvelles technologies telles que l'intelligence artificielle doivent être utilisées pour contribuer au service de l'humanité, que l'humain doit être fermement placé au centre des réflexions et des actions.

L'Union européenne encourage l'intelligence artificielle pour le bien et pour tous. L'UE a publié une **stratégie globale ambitieuse en matière d'intelligence artificielle**. Il comprend un large éventail de mesures organisées autour de trois piliers:

1. Renforcer les **capacités** industrielles et de recherche pour l'IA
2. Se préparer aux **changements socio-économiques** causés par l'IA, notamment en ce qui concerne les effets sur l'emploi et le **marché du travail**, afin que personne ne soit laissé pour compte dans cette évolution
3. Garantir un cadre éthique et juridique approprié pour le développement et le déploiement de cette technologie.

Il est important que l'IA reste en sécurité et puisse être utilisée en toute confiance. La Commission européenne a mis en place un groupe d'experts de haut niveau chargé de rédiger des directives éthiques relatives à l'intelligence artificielle fiable. Ces directives pourraient devenir un exemple international d'IA responsable.



Permettez-moi de vous informer de la troisième édition de la conférence **Digital Day 2019**, qui permettra à l'UE et aux États membres intéressés de mettre en commun leurs ressources pour accélérer les développements numériques dans des domaines clés susceptibles de générer des avantages concrets pour nos économies et nos sociétés. Cette année, l'un **des sujets principaux est la**

coopération pour l'avancement de la numérisation du patrimoine culturel.

Pour cette raison, nous serions honorés d'avoir un représentant de la Curie Romaine à l'événement. **Nous avons envoyé l'invitation directement au** [REDACTED]

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Votre Sainteté,

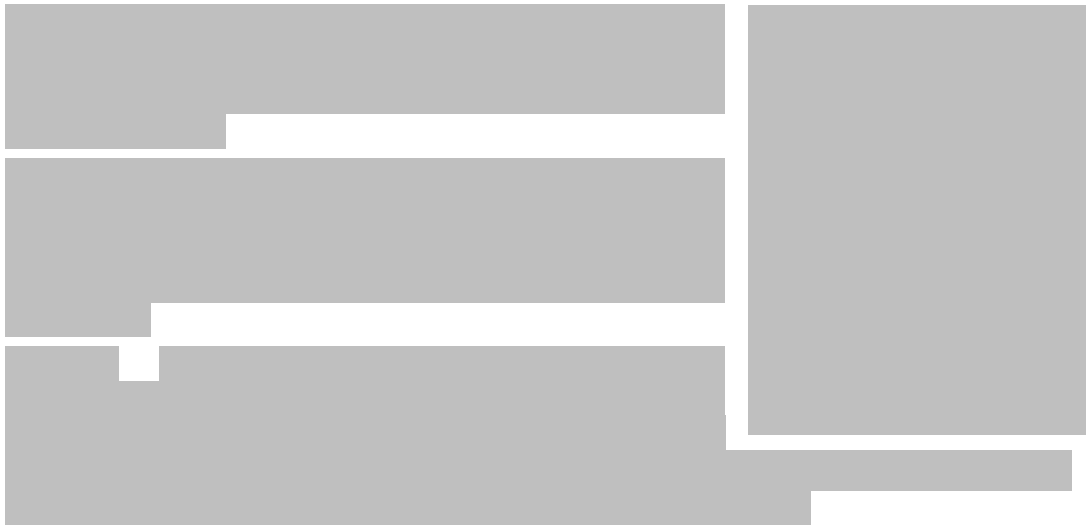
dans l'Union européenne, nous sommes très reconnaissants de pouvoir compter sur le Saint-Siège comme lieu de dialogue et vecteur d'inclusion, de solidarité, de paix et de développement, plaçant l'être humain au centre des relations.

12:30 – 13:00 (30' to 45') Exchange with State Secretary, H.E. Cardinal Parolin and Secretary for Relations with States (Vatican's Foreign Minister), H.E. Msgr Paul Gallagher. Location: Prima Loggia del Palazzo Apostolico

His Eminence Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, Holy See



H.E. Msgr Archbishop Gallagher



Speaking Points (wordcount: 1960)

Vos Eminences,

Je vous remercie pour l'opportunité de m'adresser à vous aujourd'hui sur les questions relatives à la politique numérique. Avant d'entrer dans le vif du sujet, permettez-moi de vous assurer que le dialogue et les relations entre l'Union européenne et le Saint-Siège sont importantes pour nous au sein de l'UE,



Protection of international relations - Article 4(1) (a), third indent



En ce qui concerne mon portefeuille en tant que membre du Collège de l'UE, au début du mandat du président Juncker, l'UE avait promis de créer un Marché Unique Numérique plus innovant. Le marché unique numérique de l'UE vise à réduire les barrières et à offrir davantage d'opportunités de mener des affaires transfrontalières de manière légale, sûre, sécurisée et abordable.

Où en sommes-nous aujourd'hui?

30 initiatives législatives liées au DSM (Digital Single Market) ont été présentées par la Commission européenne depuis 2015. 28 initiatives ont été approuvées par le Parlement européen, le Conseil de l'UE et la Commission européenne. Deux initiatives législatives de la Commission sur lesquelles le Parlement européen et le Conseil doivent s'accorder : Proposition visant à renforcer la protection de la vie privée dans les communications électroniques et une Proposition visant à créer un réseau européen de centres de compétences en cybersécurité.

La fin des **frais d'itinérance (roaming)**, la fin du **blocage géographique injustifié**, l'adoption des nouvelles **règles pour le**

secteur des télécommunications, la libre circulation des **données non personnelles**, la **protection des données à caractère personnel** et la **garantie de l'accessibilité** sont des avancées indéniables pour l'Europe.

Après l'entrée en vigueur des nouvelles règles sur l'itinérance l'année dernière, plus de cinq fois plus de données et près de deux fois et demie d'appels téléphoniques transfrontalier (Union européenne / EEE).

Perspectives d'avenir - prochaines étapes

Il est maintenant impératif que la Commission veille à la bonne mise en œuvre et à la bonne application des nouvelles règles dans le DSM aux niveaux et national et transfrontalier.

Ma stratégie repose sur quatre piliers:

1. accompagner les États membres dans la transposition des nouvelles règles;
2. coopérer avec les autorités compétentes concernées en vue de la mise en œuvre cohérente des nouvelles règles;
3. si cela échoue, nous considérons des mesures d'exécution adéquates; et
4. aider les bénéficiaires des nouvelles règles, à savoir les utilisateurs finaux, les fournisseurs et les investisseurs, à tirer pleinement parti des nouvelles règles.

Je suis convaincue que nous avons mis en place le cadre et le mécanisme de coopération adéquats pour l'avenir. Cela inclut la coopération internationale.

Des rencontres comme celle-ci devraient nous aider à identifier des synergies politiques communes. En particulier dans un domaine, la politique numérique, où les nouvelles technologies doivent être utilisées pour contribuer au service de l'humanité et où certains des défis sont transfrontaliers.

Nous considérons le Saint-Siège comme un lieu important de dialogue et un **vecteur d'inclusion, de solidarité, de paix et de développement.** Nous devrions poursuivre ce dialogue couvrant les problèmes mondiaux et les politiques sectorielles telles que celles de mon portefeuille, la société numérique, la recherche et

l'innovation, qui ont finalement un impact important sur la politique sociale.



La stratégie de la Commission européenne visant à lutter contre la désinformation définie dans la communication d'avril 2018 et renforcée par le plan d'action de décembre 2108 reflète notre volonté d'améliorer l'accès des citoyens européens à une information objective et de qualité. Il a été mis au point à la suite d'une consultation multipartite qui a donné d'abondants résultats, notamment les recommandations d'un groupe d'experts de haut niveau constitué plus tôt dans l'année pour conseiller la Commission dans ses travaux.

La désinformation est une information qui peut être vérifiée comme fausse ou trompeuse, qui est créée, présentée et diffusée à des fins lucratives ou dans le but délibéré de tromper le public, et qui est susceptible de porter un intérêt public, y compris l'intégrité des processus électoraux, la transparence des débats politiques, ainsi que d'autres intérêts généraux, tels que la protection de la santé des citoyens de l'Union, l'environnement et la sécurité. Cette notion de désinformation n'inclut pas les erreurs factuelles involontaires, satire, parodiques ou l'expression d'opinions.

Les **objectifs généraux suivants** ont guidé nos actions jusqu'à présent: (1) Améliorer la **transparence** sur l'origine de l'information. (2) Promouvoir la **diversité** des informations pour permettre aux citoyens de prendre des décisions éclairées fondées sur la pensée critique, en soutenant un journalisme de qualité, l'éducation aux médias et en rééquilibrant les relations entre créateurs et fournisseurs d'informations. (3) Renforcer la **crédibilité** de l'information. (4) Élaborer des **solutions inclusives** et efficaces à long terme, telles que la sensibilisation.

Les effets des initiatives entreprises par la Commission se font déjà sentir.

En effet, les principales plates-formes en ligne, notamment Facebook et Google sur Twitter, ont pris des mesures pour limiter la prolifération et l'impact de la désinformation en ligne, en adhérant à un **code de bonnes pratiques d'octobre 2018**. Ce code est une première mondiale: c'est la première fois que le secteur s'accorde sur un ensemble de normes d'autorégulation pour lutter contre la désinformation, sur une base volontaire.

Plus spécifiquement, le code comprend 15 engagements répartis en cinq chapitres visant à:

1. Contrôler les placements publicitaires et réduire les revenus publicitaires générés par les comptes et les sites Web générant de la désinformation;
2. rendre la publicité politique et la publicité plus transparentes;
3. s'attaquer au problème des faux comptes et des robots afin de remédier aux diverses vulnérabilités de leurs services;
4. Donner aux consommateurs le pouvoir de signaler des cas spécifiques de désinformation et d'accéder à différentes sources d'informations, y compris celles respectant les principes du journalisme éthique et professionnel;
5. Donner aux chercheurs le pouvoir de surveiller la propagation et l'impact de la désinformation en ligne en favorisant leur accès aux données détenues par les plateformes.

Je suis particulièrement active dans la mise en œuvre du code avant les élections européennes de mai. Dans ce contexte, le 19 mars, j'ai rencontré des représentants de haut niveau des plateformes en ligne pour souligner, une fois encore, l'importance de ce code et demander que des mesures encore plus efficaces soient prises pour protéger le processus électoral.

Il convient également de rappeler que le plan d'action contient d'autres mesures visant à renforcer le mécanisme interinstitutionnel afin de permettre une réaction plus rapide à la manipulation d'informations qui affectent plus directement les processus démocratiques et qui proviennent souvent de l'extérieur de l'Europe.

La cellule de fusion contre les menaces hybrides, en coopération avec les task forces sur la communication stratégique du service européen pour l'action extérieure et avec le soutien des services des États membres, ainsi que les délégations de l'UE dans les pays voisins, doivent actuellement être renforcées avec **des équipes spécialisées et outils d'analyse de données**.

Un système spécifique d'alerte précoce a été mis en place entre les institutions de l'UE et les États membres pour faciliter le partage de données et l'analyse des campagnes de désinformation, et pour signaler les menaces de désinformation en temps réel.

Le développement continu des **compétences** critiques et numériques, **en particulier des jeunes**, est essentiel pour renforcer la résilience de nos sociétés à la désinformation. Il faut donner aux jeunes les outils nécessaires pour développer une pensée critique, analyser le fonctionnement des médias et interpréter les messages avant de les partager. Par conséquent, l'éducation aux médias doit être améliorée afin de donner aux citoyens les moyens d'agir. Dans le même temps, nous devons aller au-delà de la jeune génération et améliorer les compétences des adultes en matière de médias, qui propagent souvent des informations erronées sans discernement. L'initiation aux médias doit faire partie de l'apprentissage tout au long de la vie car la technologie évolue rapidement: l'actualité est celle d'hier.

Lors de la vérification des faits, les vérificateurs de faits sont devenus un élément essentiel du paysage médiatique actuel pour évaluer la crédibilité du contenu sur la base de faits et de preuves. Afin de respecter l'indépendance des régulateurs, la Commission ne soutiendra pas directement leurs activités, mais leur facilitera plutôt l'accès à une technologie de pointe susceptible d'accroître la capacité des vérificateurs de faits de détecter les informations erronées.

Par exemple, pour compléter ces actions, le programme de recherche et développement Horizon 2020 finance des projets de recherche visant à développer de nouvelles technologies, en particulier dans le **domaine de l'intelligence artificielle, afin d'accélérer la vérification des faits**; technologies multimédias interactives pour une expérience en ligne personnalisable, ou algorithmes cognitifs pour l'analyse d'informations contextuelles, y compris l'exactitude et la qualité des sources de données.



L'Union européenne encourage l'utilisation de l'intelligence artificielle pour le bien et pour tous. L'UE a publié une stratégie globale ambitieuse en matière d'intelligence artificielle. Il comprend un large éventail de mesures organisées autour de trois piliers:

1. Renforcer les capacités industrielles et de recherche pour l'IA
2. Se préparer aux changements socio-économiques causés par l'IA, notamment en ce qui concerne les effets sur l'emploi et le marché du travail, afin que personne ne soit laissé pour compte dans cette évolution.
3. Garantir un cadre éthique et juridique approprié pour le développement et le déploiement de cette technologie.

4. Il est important que l'IA reste en sécurité et puisse être utilisée en toute confiance. La Commission européenne a mis en place un groupe d'experts de haut niveau chargé de rédiger des directives éthiques relatives à l'intelligence artificielle fiable. Ces directives pourraient devenir un exemple international d'IA responsable.

Sur la préservation du patrimoine culturel.



Permettez-moi de vous informer de la troisième édition de la conférence Digital Day 2019, qui permettra à l'UE et aux États membres intéressés de mettre en commun leurs ressources pour accélérer les développements numériques dans des domaines clés susceptibles de générer des avantages concrets pour nos économies et nos sociétés. Cette année, l'un des sujets principaux est la coopération pour l'avancement de la numérisation du patrimoine culturel. Pour cette raison, nous aimerions avoir un représentant de la Curie Romaine à l'événement. Nous avons

envoyé l'invitation directement au [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Vos éminences,

dans l'Union européenne, nous sommes très reconnaissants de compter sur le Saint-Siège comme lieu de dialogue et vecteur d'inclusion, de solidarité, de paix et de développement, plaçant l'être humain au centre des relations.

13:00 – 13:45 (15') Welcome aperitivo. Participating Workshop on Technology, society and governance. Location: Residenza Paolo VI Hotel, Via Paolo VI, 29.

13:45 – 14:45 (60') Discussion with [REDACTED] during working lunch – Topic: Technology and solidarity

Program Workshop on technology, society and governance

Rome– Wednesday March 27th 2019

Program

13h00 – 13h45 Welcome aperitivo for the participants - Residenza Paolo VI Hotel, Via Paolo VI, 29

13h45 – 14h45 Working lunch – **Topic: Technology and solidarity**

The common point of these technologies is to allow businesses to enhance the customization of their products and services through better understanding of personal data and situations. In this new context, how can solidarity be expressed in our societies, and how does that entail in terms of social contract? How will these evolutions shape, in turn, the future of work?

Suggested discussion leaders:

Commissioner Mariya Gabriel

[REDACTED]

15h00 – 17h00 Work meeting - Pontifical Council for Culture, Vatican City (Via Della Conciliazione 5)

Topic 1: State Platforming

Applications of new technologies at State level implies the need to think both technocratic governance and the governance of technology. What does technology evolutions and uses of technology to govern? To what extent does this disruption represent a reconsideration of the notion of nation states?

Suggested discussion leaders:

[REDACTED]

Topic 2: Digital sovereignty and technological fragility

What are the possible leverages to restore this sovereignty? By the use of incentives, soft power, by promoting an evolution of the culture of start ups – or through stronger control from the public authority? Similarly, what are the ways to promote a consideration of the intrinsic fragility of complex

technologies? What resilience, what standards, what plan Bs? How do these issues articulate at the EU level?

Suggested discussion leaders:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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List of participants, out of the European Union delegation

Name & surname	Position	Organization
[Redacted]		
Jadwiga Emilewcz	Minister	[Redacted]
[Redacted]		
[Redacted]		
[Redacted]		
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The Vatican's Dicastery ('Ministry') for Promoting Integral Human Development, in place only since January 2017, is a 'product' of Pope Francis' Curia (government) reform. [REDACTED] is its first [REDACTED]. The Dicastery, not yet working on 'full speed', is a merger of four Pontifical Councils (mid-sized dicasteries): Justice and Peace, Cor Unum (Human and Christian Development), Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, and Health Care Workers. It supports the development of the human being in all its dimensions. Among others, the following policy areas are within its remit: social policy; migration, refugees and human trafficking (under direct supervision of the Pope), development, environment, climate change, health care etc.

the workshop organiser, [REDACTED]



Speaking points

Dear [REDACTED]

Dear all,

- I am thankful for the opportunity to exchange views on technology and solidarity today. I also thank [REDACTED], the organisers, for the invitation.
- Technological development is having a big impact on our societies. The questions and issues that we are facing are indeed great and serious. They have been partly anticipated by science fiction literature and film, echoing humankind's fears and expectations. Today's reflection on this topic is particularly opportune to **place humans and questions that concern all of us at the centre of the reflection**, on how to make technology work as a force for the good, increasing cohesion in the society and trust among each other, trust in government, business and among peoples.
- [REDACTED]
- Big data analysis coupled with artificial intelligence and the necessary computing capacity, can improve the way any product or service is designed, produced or delivered. This has the potential to enable innovative business models, drive economic growth and help governments address policy concerns and societal challenges - from better health diagnostics to climate change.
- Alongside its benefits, the digital transformation raises new and fundamental challenges: position of human vis-à-vis new realities, jobs and skills, privacy and security, established markets, taxation, and public financing.

[EU response to technology challenge]

- The approach that the EU is taking, and that I have pursued as the Commissioner for the Digital Economy, is clear.

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- **This digital transformation must not happen at the expense of core European values, such as open trade, non-discrimination, privacy, dignity or fairness.**
- That is why, for example, the **EU has set out the highest standards of data protection in the world**, and why we aim for the same objective for privacy of electronic communications.
- Overall, for the past (almost) 4 years, the EU has been implementing a Digital Single Market Strategy to give Europe the key pillars for maximising the benefits while mitigating the challenges of the digital revolution.
- With more than 60 initiatives launched by the European Commission, a lot has been achieved in close cooperation with Member States and private stakeholders from industry, academia and civil society.
- We need this cooperation to continue, as there are still key legislative files to conclude and ongoing implementation of non-legislative measures.
- The Digital Single Market is a joint project the success of which depends on the efforts of many responsible players. We need the input of all actors, technical, academic, business and citizens to ensure the future policy goals are focused on the right issues. And even then, we must be prepared to adjust our approach because digital technologies quickly evolve.


[Artificial intelligence]

- Artificial Intelligence is a key driver of technological, economic and societal changes, but it also comes with challenges and concerns.
- Besides improvements of productivity, competitiveness and social models, it is in EU interest to shape technological developments to ensure that its fundamental values tolerance, justices, solidarity and protection of privacy are respected.
- The European Commission advocates AI for the good and for all. It has published a comprehensive and ambitious strategy for AI in Europe. It is organised around three pillars:
 1. Strengthen Europe's technological and industrial capabilities for AI and facilitate its adoption;
 2. Prepare for the socio-economic changes caused by artificial intelligence, especially on employment and the labour market more generally, by encouraging the modernisation of

education and training systems, supporting talent and anticipating changes in the labour market;

3. Ensure an appropriate ethical and legal framework based on the values of the Union and in accordance with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.
 - The Commission has set up a High-Level Expert group, which is drafting ethical guidelines for trustworthy AI, to be presented in April. This work also draws on the discussions in the EU AI Alliance, a multistakeholder online forum open to anyone. These guidelines could become an international example of responsible AI. The High-Level Expert Group will also make policy and investment recommendations to the Commission, due in May.
 - To ensure a coordinated approach, the Commission is working closely with the Member States. They have together drawn up a Coordinated Plan which identifies priority areas of action and investment. The plan will be updated regularly.
 - The challenge is major but all together, the European Commission, the Member States, the industry and European universities, we must take up and make Europe the best place to invest in artificial intelligence, for European citizens, in the respect of our fundamental values.

[Disinformation]

- 
- The strategy of the European Commission to combat the disinformation defined in the Communication of April 2018, and reinforced by the Action Plan of December 2018, reflects our desire to improve the access of European citizens to objective and quality information. It was developed following a multi-stakeholder consultation that yielded rich results, including the recommendations of a high-level group of experts established earlier this year to advise the Commission in its work.
- Disinformation means information that can be verified to be false or misleading, that is created, presented and disseminated for profit or with the deliberate intent to deceive the public and that is likely to carry an public interest including the integrity of electoral processes,

the transparency of political debates, as well as other general interests, such as the protection of the health of Union citizens, the environment or security. This notion of misinformation does not include factual errors involuntary, satire, parody, or the expression of opinions.

- The following general objectives have guided our actions so far: (1) Improve transparency about the origin of information. (2) Promote diversity of information to enable citizens to make informed decisions based on critical thinking, supporting quality journalism, media literacy and rebalancing the relationship between creators and information providers. (3) Strengthen the credibility of information (4) Develop inclusive solutions, effective long-term solutions like awareness raising.
- The effect of the initiatives undertaken by the Commission is already being felt. Indeed, leading online platforms, including Facebook, Google at Twitter, have taken steps to limit the proliferation and impact of online misinformation, by adhering to a Code of Best Practice in October 2018.
- This code is a world first: it is the first time that the sector has agreed on a set of self-regulation standards to fight misinformation, on a voluntary basis.
- I am particular active implementing the Code before the May European elections. In this context, on March 19, I met senior representatives of online platforms to highlight, once again, the importance of this Code and to call for even more effective action on their part to protect the electoral process.

[Future of work]

- Working life in the European Union is being radically transformed by the combined effect of **digitalisation, globalisation** and the **growth of the services sector**.
- Economic growth is back in all Member States. European employment reached the highest level ever recorded with almost 239 million people in jobs. Unemployment is back at the 2008 pre-crisis level, down to 7.3%.
- But we also see a working life in the European Union that is being challenged by the combined effect of digitisation, globalisation and the growth of the services sector.

- The world of work is going through major changes. OECD estimates that 9% of occupations could be automated. This estimate ranges from around 12% of jobs in Austria, Germany and Spain to around 6% or less in Finland and Estonia. These are jobs for which at least 70% of the tasks are automatable.
- It is crucial to look closely at these changes and ask ourselves the difficult question: how can we reinforce our labour law, social protection, labour market institutions, fiscal policies, and education and training to stand the test of the digital economy?
- Workers in atypical contracts may also find it difficult to make their voice heard. Hence a decisive and effective social dialogue is key.
- The challenge for all of us is how to reap the many benefits of these changes while mitigating the risks.
- Digitalisation can have a positive employment impact especially if it is accompanied by a dynamic industrial policy and a favourable business environment complemented by reforms which strengthen the reliance and adaptability of the labour market.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Robotics will be the key drivers of economic and productivity growth in the future, disrupting many current businesses but also creating new ones.
- The combined economic impact of these technological developments is going to be massive, and will include gains in productivity in areas such as healthcare and higher quality of life that will ensure the long term sustainability of our social model and values.
- The EU Digital Single Market strategy aims indeed at fostering the conditions for Europe's scalability and competitiveness in the digital economy, and maximizing the good social impacts of digital technologies in areas such as e-health and e-government.
- Nevertheless, we will need to provide timely and tailor-made support for those facing job loss or transitions. A comprehensive support should be based on up-skilling and re-skilling, access to employment services, income support, and social services.

[European Pillar of Social Rights]

- Our policy response at EU level to the challenges posed by new forms of work, enabled by digitalisation, is part of the European Pillar of Social Rights. In Gothenburg in November 2017 we all signed up to this; the European Commission, the European Parliament, all Member States, social partners and civil society.

- The Pillar of Social Rights is about delivering new and more effective rights for citizens. It builds upon 20 key principles, structured around three categories:
 - Equal opportunities and access to the labour market
 - Fair working conditions
 - Social protection and inclusion
- At the European level, all the various instruments available will be mobilised to implement the Pillar:
 - EU legislation with an emphasis on enforcement of the existing provisions, to be updated and complemented where necessary. A concrete example is the draft directive on Work life balance.
 - Social dialogue: engaging with EU social partners to move the policy agenda forward. Concrete examples are the two consultations on the Directive on Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions and access to social protection.
 - Policy guidance: to support implementation and delivery. A concrete example is the Communication on the working time directive.
 - The European Semester: benchmarks will be key to sharing good practices and identifying policy responses to challenges which we all face.
 - And financial support, through the EU funds.

[Skills]

- Skills polarisation is another challenge. There is already a divide between highly-skilled and low-skilled workers. This divide is on the increase, and it is compounding inequalities in the workforce.
- There is a pressing need to support people with insufficient basic skills. In the European Union, there are 70 million such people (the size of a large Member State). For people with poor literacy and numeracy, let alone digital skills, finding a job in the new economy, and keeping it will be impossible.
- We aim to **upgrade the basic skills of over 70 million Europeans**. We are also **facilitating smoother transitions and reskilling** for people changing jobs or careers. We are promoting more and better **vocational education and training**.
- These three elements are the core of the **Skills Agenda** that this Commission adopted and which we are now implementing.

- Recent **Commission legislative initiatives**, such as the proposal for a Directive on transparent and predictable working conditions and a Council Recommendation on access to social protection for workers and the self-employed aim to ensure that workers on digital platforms are not left with inadequate access to social protection due to their labour market status or the type of employment relationship.
- The **next Multi-annual Financial Framework** will be used to maximise the benefits of technological change on the labour market. It is important to focus the **future ESF+** efforts on addressing the needs for (re)skilling, promoting new competencies, and making people grasp the opportunities to be actively involved in the new world of work. The proposed **Digital Europe Programme**, which is the first digital programme dedicated to uptake and deployment and allow co-investment to reinforce Europe's capacities in key digital technology areas, also envisions significant investments to strengthen **advanced digital skills** throughout Europe.
- We are also prepared to embrace the opportunities brought on by artificial intelligence while at the same time address the ethical and socio-economic challenges as outlined in our Communication on artificial intelligence published in April 2018 and the Coordinated Plan (with Member States) on Artificial Intelligence published in December 2018, including by promoting the development of **basic and advanced digital skills**.
- But this is a task for all of us – include the **social partners**. We will need active participation from the workers and businesses. Together, we all have to work towards a new digital economy that is based on excellent working conditions, skilled labour force, and modern and adequate social protection.
- We at the Commission remain committed to continuing this dialogue and work towards a more resilient and inclusive labour market.

15h00 – 17h00 (60') Work meeting - Pontifical Council for Culture, Vatican City. Location: Via Della Conciliazione 5

Topic 1: State Platforming

French AI National Strategy

*Personal
Data -
Article
4(1)(b)*

[Future of Government project]

Finding new ways of governances needs to be an inclusive process, an example of the debate that is promoted by the Commission is the “ Future of Government 2030+ projet – a citizen centric perspective on New Government Models, a project which started in second half of 2017 and ran until closure on 6 march 2019 at the European Parliament.

The project brought citizens to the centre of the scene. The objective of this project was to explore the emerging societal challenges, analyse trends in a rapidly changing digital world and launch an EU-wide debate on the possible future government models. To address this, citizen engagement, foresight and design are combined, with recent literature from the field of digital politics and media as a framework. The main research question of the project is: How will citizens, together with other actors, shape governments, policies and democracy in 2030 and beyond?

Throughout the highly participatory process, more than 150 citizens, together with CSO, think tank, business and public sector representatives, as well as 100 design students participated in the creation of future scenarios and concepts. Four scenarios have been created using the 20 stories emerged from citizen workshops. They served as an inspiration for design students to develop 40 FuturGov concepts. Through the FuturGov Engagement Game, the project's ambition is to trigger and launch a debate with citizens, businesses, civil society organizations, policy-makers and civil servants in Europe.

Speaking points (850 words)

Digital is the current revolution for our society.

It is at the roots of an upcoming “Societal Evolution” of our democracies together with climate change, migration, the rise of inequalities, the crisis of local or regional identity.

Democracy is not a static regime. It is a living form of government, it needs to expand and improve all the time.

It is the duty of all of us to take care of it. But policy-makers have a special responsibility. They must prepare societies to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

This is extremely relevant today given the incredible power of technology in changing our lives for the better or for the worse.

The future scenarios that you have imagined are eloquent.

On one hand, they depict the tendency to a collaborative governance model where digital distributes power from the hands of the few to the hands of the many.

At the same time, they describe a future world of increased “datafication” where users of digital platforms are perceived more as commodities than as citizens.

Recent data breaches and incidents of online interference in democratic elections give us already a dark picture of this not so distant future...

Undoubtedly, there are opportunities and challenges that lie ahead of us. But it is up to public policies to steer them nearer to the public interest before it is too late.

I am convinced that it is high **time to build a new social contract for the digital age.** It will include concrete rights and obligations – explicit rules to protect and empower all under three central pillars: inclusion, convenience and trust.

Digital must be a driver for social and political inclusion as well as for economic growth. Thus, it paves the way for a fully-fledged digital democracy.

Public administrations cannot stay behind in this effort. Their mission is to serve citizens and improve their quality of living on a daily basis. They are by essence pioneers in shaping the future.

This belief is at the core of the **EU eGovernment Action Plan** that aims to achieve an innovative and efficient public administration in Europe by 2020.

The **Tallinn declaration** signed by all EU governments in 2017 is an unparalleled marker of this joint commitment.

Our policies produce already concrete effects. Let me give you an example of a crucial development for the cross-border cooperation of public administrations.

For the first time, we have managed to make the Once Only Principle part of the European legislation with the Digital Single Gateway Regulation. From 2023 on, birth certificates, diplomas, business certificates or permits issued by one administration will not need to be provided again. They will be handed between relevant administrations across the EU on the condition that users have given their consent.

At the same time, we are working to restore trust in the online world.

One of our **most efficient cyber-secure tools is the EU-wide legislation on electronic identification**, which gives access to digital services anywhere in Europe from enrolling to a University course to joining a social media platform.

And it provides all these opportunities while enabling users to share only the absolutely necessary personal data for any given identification and authentication process.

That is how our European approach makes **eID “speak for us and not about us”** and, thus, effectively supporting the implementation of the privacy-by-design while reinforcing the rules of the **General Data Protection** at the same time.

These are only two examples of the legacy of the current European Commission. We know that we have to do more in the next five years after the European elections in May.

Our digital future must be based on rationality, on tolerance, on faith in progress and on the respect of fundamental rights. These values are the very essence of our European project, they are our shield in the current tumultuous world and key for our continent to continue to flourish in the future.

Europe has the power and will to rise to the digital challenges of the contemporary world both politically and technologically. And we combine this determination with the necessary means in the future EU budget.

Through our new Digital Europe Programme we propose to invest €9.2 billion from 2021 to 2027 on the key digital challenges from artificial intelligence to cybersecurity, HPC and advanced digital skills.

We are looking forward to the outcome of the discussions of the co-legislators.

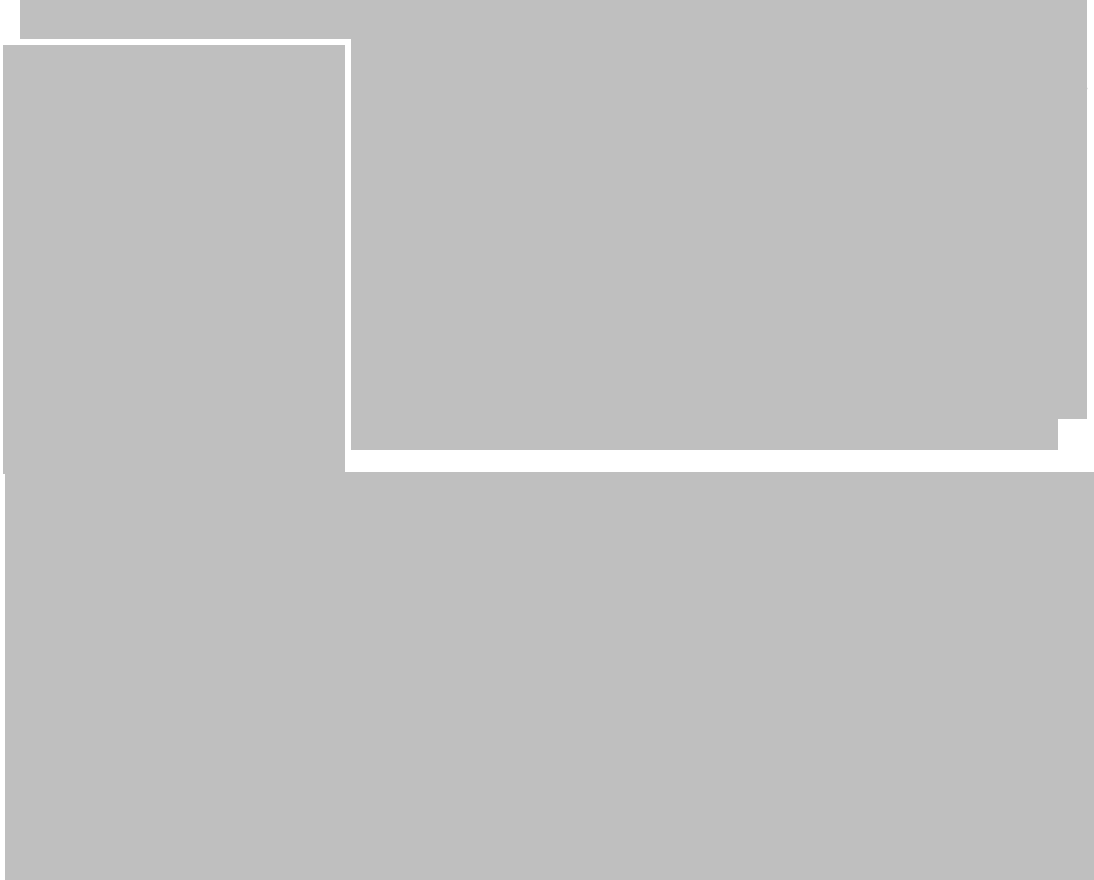
We know also that we have to engage with other continents to influence the global scope of the online environment and its transnational challenges require multi-lateral responses if we want to achieve meaningful solutions.

We also know that it is important to lead the way, making sure this digital transformation does not happen at the expense of core European values, such as open trade, non-discrimination, privacy, dignity or fairness. Only taking the lead and with international dialogue will develop our own way by ensuring the development and use of new

technologies work for the benefit of European citizens and companies in the respect of European values.

Let's become the actors of the societal evolution we want to see happening.

Topic 2: Digital sovereignty and technological fragility



Speaking points (1150 words)

[Digital sovereignty]

Although governments and public authorities do have a legitimate role to play in defending the state of law and the public interest, the Internet does not stop at national borders.

The cross-border nature of the Internet means that policy actions and conditions developing in one country can create spill-overs elsewhere, both positive and negative. Countries have a common interest in considering the effects of policies affecting Internet openness both on their domestic economies and others.

Like other cross-border activities, the Internet poses a series of challenges for the application of laws. The sheer quantity of cross-border transactions of various types taking place online, calls for action on better defining how existing rules apply on the Internet.

Advanced technology (Internet of Things, Cloud Computing, Big Data, mobile technologies) gradually blurs the lines between online and offline activities. However, different services in these areas are regulated differently both on a global level and within the EU.

Many activities on the Internet are increasingly administered by contractual arrangements between private companies and users.

This situation creates conflicts of laws and jurisdictions across many areas such as taxation, public regulatory law, criminal law, civil law, data protection, etc. This is particularly problematic for SMEs who do not have the resources to comply with a patchwork of different rules, and are the targets of the bulk of Cybersecurity attacks.

[Where Europe stands]

It is important to recognise what has been accomplished and what has changed since the launch of the 2015 Digital Single Market (DSM) strategy. I will therefore recap where we stand with the implementation of our main initiatives, and focus on initiatives still under negotiation, and our next steps related to legislative and non-legislative policy initiatives.

The end of **roaming charges**, the **end of unjustified geo-blocking**, the adoption of the **new rules for the telecoms sector**, the **free movement of non-personal data**, the protection of personal data and guaranteeing accessibility are undeniable advances for Europe.

After the new **rules on roaming** came into effect last year, more than 5 times more data and almost two and a half times more phone calls were made cross-border in the EU/EEA.

[Digital Infrastructure – key for sovereignty]

Europe needs massive deployment and take-up of very **high capacity networks**. These networks will make extensive use of optical fibre, 5G technology and large blocks of radio spectrum. The new **European Electronic Communications Code**, which entered into force in December 2018, was an important step in turning this ambition into reality for all. Ensuring the effective

and timely implementation of the **Broadband Cost Reduction Directive** helps to significantly decrease the cost of network roll-out and thus increase the footprint and the pace of deployment of Gigabit networks. In June 2018 we identified a number of recommended actions for Member States to maximise its impact of the Directive.

The current support to broadband roll out by the **European Structural and Investment Funds** amounts to around EUR 6 billion up to 2020 to reach more than 14,5 million households. We have proposed continuing this in the next programming period with a focus on very high capacity networks.

The **Connecting Europe Broadband Fund** will support smaller and riskier projects. Finally, the Commission has also proposed that a EUR 3 bn renewed Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) complements beyond 2021 Member States efforts in digital network investments and digital take-up, and make Europe "5G ready".

[Soft policy]

Soft policy tools is one of the policy instruments used by policy makers (other being hard-legal binding rules)

When hard law instruments (regulations, directives, and decisions) are not desired, policy makers may resort to "soft", more flexible approaches instead. Soft policy tools may include: recommendations, technical standards, communications, self-regulation, pure voluntary bottom-up initiatives and so on. A drawback is the non-binding aspect. Therefore, such policies need to have strong ownership, communication and engagement mechanisms.

[Non-legislative initiatives – Soft Policy]

So far I focused mostly on our legislative initiatives. I will now outline the progress made on some **non-legislative initiatives** which play a major contribution in ensuring all everyone benefits from the digital transformation.

First of all, we must continue to invest heavily in the digitisation of European industries and skills to preserve Europe's prominent role in global value chains. However, if we look at the **take-up of digital technology in the economy** we see that only a fraction of European companies have adopted them. This trend is particularly acute in small and medium-sized businesses. In 2017, only 25% of EU large enterprises and 10% of small and medium-sized enterprises used big data analytics.

That is why the **Digitising European Industry initiative** is so essential in supporting the digital transformation of European companies.

- 15 Member States have launched national initiatives for digitising their industries, including synergies with investments. Several new ones are in preparation.
- 13 Member States have a long-term strategy on Digital Innovation Hubs (DIH). 240 DIHs are currently listed in the EU-wide catalogue. Between 2016 and 2020, EUR 500 Million of Horizon2020 funding will be invested in to cross-border collaboration of DIHs.
- Digital technologies and business models are integrated into industrial platforms and several larger scale piloting initiatives in areas like manufacturing, smart hospitals, energy, agriculture and construction with the support of EUR 300 million of Horizon2020 funding in 2018-2020 and with the facilitation of various standardisation activities.

But more efforts are needed. In 2017, only 1-in-5 SMEs were highly digitised. When asked about the reasons of this limited digitisation, 72% of employers mentioned the "lack of staff with the right digital skills". Also 40% of larger companies report difficulties in finding people with the required digital skills.

[Special attention to start-ups]

By providing a framework for easier access to the full 500 million consumer base, an integrated European Digital Single Market will

also give **European start-ups** a better chance to scale up and build the businesses of tomorrow.

The European tech startup ecosystem is strong, and diversifying across geographical boundaries, but there are challenges in a digital market that is global.

We also see that many tech scaleups are being acquired by larger counterparts due to limited growth funding. This is not ideal if we want the next digital innovators to be in Europe, so we are paying special attention to start-ups:

- First, the new multiannual financial framework proposal includes programs specifically addressing early-stage innovations, growth programmes, ecosystem building and acceleration pilots.
- Second, a wave of new Startup Europe projects are working to help startups and scaleups access new markets, engage investors and corporates, and grow deep tech ventures.
- Third, events like Startup Europe Summit held at *Inter Expo Centre Sofia* on 15 November 2018 will act as meeting points for policy makers and startup founders to discuss the Central and Eastern Europe regional challenges and collaboratively identify solutions and plans of action.

Background

[Startup Europe]

- Europe is home to multiple, thriving companies and startups, fuelled by imagination, technical and scientific excellence. Our role is to support them and the ecosystems they are part of, as it will create more sustainable growth and will power quality job creation in Europe.
- If you go back 10 or 15 years ago Europe had isolated examples of success, such as Skype or Nokia. Today however things are different. The likes of Criteo, Spotify and Zalando are securing global success and reminding the world of European innovation and entrepreneurial excellence.
- Nowadays a large pool of startups across Europe has the ambition to scale up their businesses. In 2017, according to Dealroom, more than €20 billion of venture capital was invested in European companies. The largest level of investment on record.
- The number of EU startups becoming unicorns is constantly increasing. As the tech talent is spread everywhere in Europe it is not surprisingly to see unicorns coming from Central and Eastern Europe region. For instance, in March last year, Robotic Process Automation software provider UiPath from Romania was valued at USD 1 billion.
- At the European Commission we are delivering policies to help more startups become scaleups by addressing the different challenges the companies are facing such as, for instance, the need for financing and an environment conducive to grow.
- We are investing in European startups via different direct or indirect financial mechanisms such as the SME instrument, Business Angels co-investment scheme via European Investment Fund, Horizon 2020 calls.
- In April last year the European Commission and the European Investment Fund (EIF) have launched a Pan-European Venture Capital Funds-of-Funds programme VentureEU to boost venture capital investment in innovative start-up and scale-up companies across Europe.
- Backed by EU funding of €410 million, the funds are aiming to raise up to €2.1 billion of public and private investment. In turn this is expected to trigger an estimated €6.5 billion of new investment in innovative start-up and scale-up companies across Europe, doubling the amount of venture capital currently available in Europe.
- We also work in creating the right environment for startups to grow in Europe by stimulating the creation of different networks at city, region, and country level, offering tailored services to startups as to help them grow cross-border.
- Startup Europe is European Commission's initiative to achieve this. It has helped more than 700 startups to receive direct market access and acceleration support in the last 3 years, attracting over €160 m in private investment.

- Our initiative is supporting directly around 60 local startup ecosystems. The mission of Startup Europe being to build a Scaleup Continent by connecting pools of talent across the EU. The initiative encourages entrepreneurship, startup creation and growth; and connects startups, investors, accelerators, corporates, and universities, involving tech media through grassroots initiatives or networks.
- Startup Europe has mobilised the tech entrepreneurship ecosystems and helped them to have their voice heard in EU policy making. Active dialogue has improved the understanding of the entrepreneurial environment and has raised the political awareness.
- Currently within the Horizon 2020 framework, 7 new Startup Europe funded projects are working together on subjects such: scaling up, raising growth capital, entering into new markets in the EU and internationally, going public (IPO – Initial Public Offering). It is estimated that 3400 startups will benefit from the activities of these projects in the 2018-2020 time frame.
- In the coming years Startup Europe is going to pivot its efforts to deliver a "Scaleup Continent". This will involve boosting the participation of startups in EU-funded Research and Innovation programmes, especially in Deep Tech; strengthening the startups ecosystem in Central and Eastern Europe; and supporting high growth startups to secure market opportunities beyond Europe.

Innovation Radar

- Europe has a great track record in developing new technologies and EU funding plays a major role. At the Commission we want to get more and more examples of 'out of the lab and into the market' thus increasing the number of startups with potential to grow.
- For this we want investors and other organisations supporting innovators to know about these breakthroughs in key technologies such as Big Data, Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity as they arise. We want to link these researchers with Europe's wider innovation ecosystem, to help innovators connect to other entrepreneurs and businesses, investors, incubators and accelerators to speed up their market entry and growth.
- With this in mind we have launched a web-based data-driven tool – the 'Innovation Radar'. This platform makes it easier to discover great EU-funded innovations and the innovators behind them.
- The Innovation Radar platform, presents easily navigable information of the market readiness of EU funded innovations (>3200 innovations have been included at launch). In a few clicks the Innovation Radar makes it possible to discover great EU-funded innovations and the innovators behind them.
- EU Member States have recognised the value and need for such a tool and Ministers from 17 countries have signed an Innovation Radar declaration at Digital Day 2018, Luxembourg included, to demonstrate their commitment to use it to promote

innovative excellence in their countries. To date 20 countries have signed the declaration out of which 19 MSs and Norway.

- These countries share the Commission's ambition of using Innovation Radar to foster the emergence of a dynamic ecosystem around the output of EU R&I programmes. The European Commission will also work closely with the Members States to further develop the data-driven Innovation Radar tool, for example by integrating further data and enhancing the profiles of EU-funded innovators.

Women in digital entrepreneurship

- Studies show that startups (co-)founded by women perform 63% better than all male ones. Nevertheless, according to Atomico report "The state of the European tech", only 6% of their selected European series A and B venture-backed companies have women CEOs.
- More women in digital jobs could create an annual €16 billion GDP boost in the EU. They would improve the start-up environment, as female owned start-ups are more likely to be successful. Businesses would win because diversity at inception leads to better products and services. These are the findings of the latest study on Women in the Digital Age that the Commission has published in March this year.
- European Commission launched in March 2018 a strategy on Women in Digital focusing on 3 areas: Combating stereotypes and promoting role models, Promoting digital skills and STEM education, Women in digital entrepreneurship and innovation

Defensive points

Artificial intelligence

1. Is the level of ambition enough, can Europe really compete with major US technology companies and China?

The European Union has many assets to exploit, and by capitalizing on them, it can remain at the forefront. The EU is excellent in many areas of artificial intelligence, such as AI in physical systems like robots. More than a quarter of all industrial robots and professional service robots are produced by companies headquartered in the EU. The EU is also a leader in manufacturing, health, transport and space. European research is of the highest quality and internationally recognized.

We are not aiming to imitate or directly compete with big American companies or China, but to develop our own way by ensuring the development and use of artificial intelligence for the benefit of European citizens and companies in the respect of European values .

Broad access must be facilitated. Socio-economic, ethical and legal issues must be treated with respect for our values. We must all work together to fight fragmentation and achieve the necessary critical mass in this area.

2. Is the European level the right level for the ethical debate? Should not ethical issues be mainly discussed and decided at Member State level, given the cultural differences between them?

The European level is the most appropriate level for debate and decisions on ethical issues, although of course the debates at the national level are also very important. If decisions are made only at the national level, they may be in many incompatible directions and de facto the lowest ethical requirements will prevail. This would mean that the EU would have no way of enforcing its core values.

3. What are the concrete benefits for European citizens and businesses of the European Artificial Intelligence Strategy?

The objective of this strategy is to stimulate and federate actions aiming to allow a wide access to these technologies. It provides a framework of legal certainty to inspire confidence in European citizens and businesses. In addition, it prevents fragmentation and puts together important investments in a coordinated way.

4. How can European citizens and stakeholders contribute to thinking about artificial intelligence?

You can officially join the European Alliance of European Artificial Intelligence, a forum committed to all aspects of the development of artificial intelligence and its impacts. By joining the Alliance, members will find a dedicated platform (<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/eu-ai-alliance>) where they can contribute to broad and open discussions. On this platform, Alliance members can interact with experts from the High Level Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI HLG) established by the European Commission. Member contributions will be used by the IA in the preparation of ethical guidelines on artificial intelligence and its other work. The platform discussions will directly contribute to the European debate on AI and the development of the European Commission's policies in this area.

5. How to manage fears related to new technologies and artificial intelligence at European level?

Of course, the European Commission is aware of the many questions raised by the introduction of artificial intelligence in our daily lives. The questions are ethical, legal and socio-economic.

Our action plan is to allow the development of Artificial Intelligence in the respect of the fundamental values of the European Union, such as human dignity, pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and the protection of privacy.

The Commission is also legally active. Current regulations are currently under study to see if it is still sufficient in the face of autonomous systems based on artificial intelligence. The important thing is to maintain a good balance between regulation and innovation.

Future of work

How many jobs will be replaced?

- Some experts (e.g. Brynjolfsson and McAfee, 2014), suggest that the technological change we are experiencing in could lead to a decline in overall employment. Other estimates suggest that people displaced by automation will find other employment due to productivity growth (McKinsey Global Institute, 2017).
- There is no consensus on the overall effect on the number of jobs that will be lost or gained through technological progress and digitalization. However, it is clear that there will be winners and losers as some jobs will be replaced and others will be created.
- On a study commissioned by the OECD, Arntz, Gregory and Zierahn (2016) estimate that just 9% of jobs are at a high risk of being automated on average in OECD countries, ranging from around 12% of jobs in Austria, Germany and Spain to around 6% or less in Finland and Estonia. These are jobs for which at least 70% of the tasks are automatable.

What kind of jobs will be replaced?

- Digitalisation is reducing demand for routine and manual tasks while increasing demand for low- and high-skilled tasks and for problem-solving and interpersonal skills.
- Automation has led to the substitution of machines for a substantial part of routine jobs, irrespective of the skill level (OECD, 2013). At the same time, the demand for workers in high-skilled, non-routine jobs has increased considerably in most advanced economies.
- The end result has been a pattern of job polarisation by skill level in many but not all OECD countries (Autor, 2015; Berger and Frey, 2016).

Which sectors and regions will be most affected?

- Cross-country differences in the share of workers at high risk of substitution reflect to some extent differences in how work is organised. Countries where jobs rely less on face-to-face interaction are at higher risks of automation.
- Across all countries, workers with a lower level of education are at the highest risk of displacement. While 40% of workers with a lower secondary degree are in jobs with a high risk of job automation, less than 5% of workers with a tertiary degree are. Thus, automation could reinforce existing disadvantages faced by some workers (Berger and Frey, 2016; Arntz, Gregory and Zierahn, 2016).
- The change in occupational structure may create regional inequalities, as new jobs are created in cities with high concentration of highly-skilled workers, which are usually different cities than those experiencing displacement or job losses (Berger and Frey, 2016).

What will be the effects on working conditions and social protection?

- New forms of employment are spreading with digital technology. While still emerging, they add up to more established non-standard forms of work such as part-time work and fixed-term contracts. In 2016, non-standard employment and self-employment constituted around 39% of total employment (Eurofound, 2015).
- Relative to standard wage and salary employment, workers in non-standard jobs tend to have fewer rights to social protection, receive less training, often have weaker career progression, lack access to mortgage and other forms of credit, and face greater insecurity.
- As workers in the “platform economy” are more likely to have multiple jobs and income sources, the role and meaning of traditional labour market institutions are being challenged. Statutory working hours, minimum wages,

unemployment insurance, taxes and benefits are still modelled on the notion of a traditional and unique employer-employee relationship.

Is there a risk of growing inequality?

- The polarization of the occupational structure into high-skilled and low-skilled jobs and between open-ended and various atypical forms of employment may entail further polarization of the wage structure into high-paying and low-paying jobs.
- These developments could increase the risk of experiencing in-work poverty and the persistence of low income from work (OECD, 2015).

Do no-standard workers and self-employed have access to social protection?

- The self-employed generally have no formal coverage concerning unemployment benefits in nine Member States, in four countries regarding sickness benefits and in eleven countries regarding accident and occupational injuries insurance.
- Non-standard workers are usually formally covered by social security in the same way as standard workers. However, in some countries specific categories of non-standard employees are not mandatorily covered for some or all branches of social security. The main groups for whom this is the case in a significant number of countries are casual and seasonal workers, as well as trainees and apprentices. Furthermore, there are a number of national categories to which restrictions apply in the concerned Member State, including 'marginal part-timers' and 'marginal freelancers' in Austria, 'mini-jobbers' in Germany and 'civil law contracts for a specific task' in Poland.
- In addition, the self-employed and non-standard workers often encounter difficulties in fulfilling the eligibility conditions for receiving benefits from insurance-based

schemes (e.g. due to interrupted contribution periods, or an insufficient number of working hours).

- A lack of transparency regarding social protection rights is also documented: if generic information about social security schemes is provided in most MS, personalised information, including an overview of rights and obligations and the possibility to obtain information through online simulation tools, is only available in about half of the MS

How are platform workers covered by social protection?

- According to a recent survey of 1 2000 platform workers, lack of access to social protection is a major concern for them. Nearly 70% of all platform workers report not having access to schemes that cover maternity, childcare, and housing benefits. 63% do not have access to unemployment benefits, whereas a significant proportion of platform workers had been unemployed in the past five years. In the same vein, almost half of platform workers do not have access to old age schemes (56%), to disability schemes (60%) and to sickness benefits (47%).
- Lack of social protection was found to be especially severe among platform-dependent workers, i.e. those who got more than half (50%) of their personal earnings through completing online micro tasks. They represented a quarter (25%) of the sample. However, gaps in social protection coverage were also significant among platform workers who have another form of employment and source of income: they were also significantly at risk of not having access to either unemployment benefit (61.2%) or sickness benefit (46.1%). These findings tend to suggest that the corresponding individuals' "other job" was also a non-standard form of employment, offering limited access to social protection (Forde et al. 2017)

ANNEX I. Note verbale confirming the meeting.



NOTA VERBALE

La Segreteria di Stato porge distinti ossequi all'Eccellentissima Delegazione dell'Unione Europea e, nell'accusare ricevimento delle Note Verbali del 22 febbraio 2019, ha l'onore di significare che l'Em.mo Cardinale Pietro Parolin, Segretario di Stato, riceverà congiuntamente con S.E. Mons. Paul Richard Gallagher, Segretario per i Rapporti con gli Stati, la Sig.ra Mariya GABRIEL, Commissario per l'economia e la società digitale, mercoledì 27 marzo p.v., alle ore 12.30 (Prima Loggia del Palazzo Apostolico), dopo il "baciamento" dal Santo Padre concesso alla medesima Commissario lo stesso mercoledì, il cui necessario biglietto dovrà essere ritirato presso il Portone di Bronzo nel pomeriggio di martedì 26 marzo.

La Segreteria di Stato profitta dell'occasione per rinnovare all'Eccellentissima Delegazione dell'Unione Europea i sensi della sua alta considerazione.

Dal Vaticano, 25 febrero 2019.



Eccellentissima
Delegazione dell'Unione Europea
presso la Santa Sede
ROMA

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*Protection of
international
relations - Article
4(1)(a), third
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Contact: [Redacted] (EEAS, [Redacted])

*Personal Data -
Article 4(1)(b)*

*Protection of
international
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Annex IV. Message of the Holy Father Francis - From social network communities to the human community

ANNEX to EEAS contribution

Message of the Holy Father Francis for the 53rd World Day of Social Communications,
24.01.2019

The following is the Pope's message for the 53rd World Day of Social Communications, which this year will be held in many countries on Sunday 2 June, *Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord*:

Message of the Holy Father

«We are members one of another» (*Eph 4:25*).

From social network communities to the human community

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Ever since the internet first became available, the Church has always sought to promote its use in the service of the encounter between persons, and of solidarity among all. With this *Message*, I would like to invite you once again to reflect on the foundation and importance of our being-in-relation and to rediscover, in the vast array of challenges of the current communications context, the desire of the human person who does not want to be left isolated and alone.

The metaphors of the net and community

Today's media environment is so pervasive as to be indistinguishable from the sphere of everyday life. The Net is a resource of our time. It is a source of knowledge and relationships that were once unthinkable. However, in terms of the profound transformations technology has brought to bear on the process of production, distribution and use of content, many experts also highlight the risks that threaten the search for, and sharing of, authentic information on a global scale. If the Internet represents an extraordinary possibility of access to knowledge, it is also true that it has proven to be one of the areas most exposed to disinformation and to the conscious and targeted distortion of facts and interpersonal relationships, which are often used to discredit.

We need to recognize how social networks, on the one hand, help us to better connect, rediscover, and assist one another, but on the other, lend themselves to the manipulation of personal data, aimed at obtaining political or economic advantages, without due respect for the person and his or her rights. Statistics show that among young people one in four is involved in episodes of *cyberbullying*.^[1]

In this complex scenario, it may be useful to reflect again on the metaphor of the *net*, which was the basis of the Internet to begin with, to rediscover its positive potential. The image of the net invites us to reflect on the multiplicity of lines and intersections that ensure its stability in the absence of a centre, a hierarchical structure, a form of vertical organization. The networks because all its elements share responsibility.

From an anthropological point of view, the metaphor of the net recalls another meaningful image: the *community*. A community is that much stronger if it is cohesive and supportive, if it is animated by feelings of trust, and pursues common objectives. The community as a network of solidarity requires mutual listening and dialogue, based on the responsible use of language.

Everyone can see how, in the present scenario, *social network communities* are not automatically synonymous with community. In the best cases, these *virtual communities* are able to demonstrate cohesion and solidarity, but often they remain simply groups of individuals who recognize one another through common interests or concerns characterized by weak bonds. Moreover, in the *social web* identity is too often based on opposition to the other, the person outside the group: we define ourselves starting with what divides us rather than with what unites us, giving rise to suspicion and to the venting of every kind of prejudice (ethnic, sexual, religious and other). This tendency encourages groups that exclude diversity, that even in the digital environment nourish unbridled individualism which sometimes ends up fomenting spirals of hatred. In this way, what ought to be a window on the world becomes a showcase for exhibiting personal narcissism.

The Net is an opportunity to promote encounter with others, but it can also increase our self-isolation, like a web that can entrap us. Young people are the ones most exposed to the illusion that the *social web* can completely satisfy them on a relational level. There is the dangerous phenomenon of young people becoming “social hermits” who risk alienating themselves completely from society. This dramatic situation reveals a serious rupture in the relational fabric of society, one we cannot ignore.

This multiform and dangerous reality raises various questions of an ethical, social, juridical, political and economic nature, and challenges the Church as well. While governments seek legal ways to regulate the web and to protect the original vision of a free, open and secure network, we all have the possibility and the responsibility to promote its positive use.

Clearly, it is not enough to multiply connections in order to increase mutual understanding. How, then, can we find our true communitarian identity, aware of the responsibility we have towards one another in the online network as well?

“We are members one of another”

A possible answer can be drawn from a third metaphor: that of the *body and the members*, which Saint Paul uses to describe the reciprocal relationship among people, based on the organism that unites them. “Therefore, putting away falsehood, speak the truth, each to his neighbour, for we are members one of another” (*Eph 4:25*). Being *members one of another* is the profound motivation with which the Apostle invites us to put away falsehood and speak the truth: the duty to guard the truth springs from the need not to belie the mutual relationship of communion. Truth is revealed in

communion. Lies, on the other hand, are a selfish refusal to recognize that we are members of one body; they are a refusal to give ourselves to others, thus losing the only way to find ourselves.

The metaphor of the body and the members leads us to reflect on our identity, which is based on communion and on “otherness”. As Christians, we all recognize ourselves as members of the one body whose head is Christ. This helps us not to see people as potential competitors, but to consider even our enemies as persons. We no longer need an adversary in order to define ourselves, because the all-encompassing gaze we learn from Christ leads us to discover otherness in a new way, as an integral part and condition of relationship and closeness.

Such a capacity for understanding and communication among human persons is based on the communion of love among the divine Persons. God is not Solitude, but Communion; he is Love, and therefore communication, because love always communicates; indeed, it communicates itself in order to encounter the other. In order to communicate with us and to communicate himself to us, God adapts himself to our language, establishing a real dialogue with humanity throughout history (cf. Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*, 2).

By virtue of our being created in the image and likeness of God who is communion and communication-of-Self, we carry forever in our hearts the longing for living in communion, for belonging to a community. “Nothing, in fact, is as specific to our nature as entering into a relationship one with another, having need of one another,” says Saint Basil.^[2]

The present context calls on all of us to invest in relationships, and to affirm the interpersonal nature of our humanity, including in and through the network. All the more so, we Christians are called to manifest that communion which marks our identity as believers. Faith itself, in fact, is a relationship, an encounter; and under the impetus of God’s love, we can communicate, welcome and understand the gift of the other and respond to it.

Communion in the image of the Trinity is precisely what distinguishes the person from the individual. From faith in God who is Trinity, it follows that in order to be myself I need others. I am truly human, truly personal, only if I relate to others. In fact, the word “person” signifies the human being as a “face”, whose face is turned towards the other, who is engaged with others. Our life becomes more human insofar as its nature becomes less individual and more personal; we see this authentic path of becoming more human in one who moves from being an *individual* who perceives the other as a rival, to a *person* who recognizes others as travelling companions.

From a “like” to an “amen”

The image of the body and the members reminds us that the use of the *social web* is complementary to an encounter in the flesh that comes alive through the body, heart, eyes, gaze, breath of the other. If the Net is used as an extension or expectation of such an encounter, then the network concept is not betrayed and remains a resource for communion. If a family uses the Net to be more connected, to then meet at table and look into each other’s eyes, then it is a resource. If a Church community coordinates its activity through the network, and then celebrates the Eucharist together, then it is a

resource. If the Net becomes an opportunity to share stories and experiences of beauty or suffering that are physically distant from us, in order to pray together and together seek out the good to rediscover what unites us, then it is a resource.

We can, in this way, move from diagnosis to treatment: opening the way for dialogue, for encounter, for “smiles” and expressions of tenderness... This is the network we want, a network created not to entrap, but to liberate, to protect a communion of people who are free. The Church herself is a network woven together by Eucharistic communion, where unity is based not on “likes”, but on the truth, on the “Amen”, by which each one clings to the Body of Christ, and welcomes others.

From the Vatican, 24 January 2019

The Memorial of Saint Francis de Sales

FRANCISCUS

[1] To stem this phenomenon, an International Observatory for Cyberbullying Prevention will be established with its headquarters in the Vatican.

[2] *Detailed Rule for Monks*, III, 1: PG 31, 917; cf. Benedict XVI, Message for the 43rd World Communications Day (2009).

ANNEX V. Background on Disinformation

Action Plan

On 5 December 2018, the Commission and the High Representative, in cooperation with the Member States, adopted an Action Plan with further specific proposals for a coordinated EU response to the challenge of disinformation, including appropriate mandates and sufficient resources for the relevant Strategic Communications teams of the European External Action Service.

This Action Plan was presented to the European Council on 13-14 December. The Plan takes stock of the progress made so far and follows up on the call made by the European Council in June 2018 to protect the Union's democratic systems. It sets forth actions in 4 broad areas:

1. **Improved detection:** Strategic Communication Task Forces and the EU Hybrid Fusion Cell in the European External Action Service (EEAS), as well as the EU delegations in the neighbourhood countries will be reinforced with significant additional specialised staff and data analysis tools. The EEAS' strategic communication budget to address disinformation and raise awareness about its adverse impact is expected to more than double, from €1.9 million in 2018 to €5 million in 2019. EU Member States should complement these measures by reinforcing their own means to deal with disinformation.
2. **Coordinated response:** A dedicated Rapid Alert System has been set up among the EU institutions and Member States to facilitate the sharing of data and assessments of disinformation campaigns and to provide alerts on disinformation threats in real time. The EU institutions and Member States will also focus on proactive and objective communication on Union values and policies.
3. **Online platforms and industry:** The signatories of the Code of Practice on Disinformation should swiftly and effectively implement the commitments made under the Code, focusing on actions that are urgent for the European elections in 2019. This includes in particular ensuring scrutiny of ad placements and the transparency of political advertising, stepping up efforts to close active fake accounts, and labelling non-human interactions (messages spread automatically by 'bots'). The Commission, with the help of the European group of regulators in charge of audio-visual media services, is ensuring a close and continuous monitoring of the implementation of the commitments.
4. **Raising awareness and empowering citizens:** In addition to targeted awareness campaigns, the EU institutions and Member States will promote media literacy through dedicated programmes. Support will be provided to national multidisciplinary teams of independent fact-checkers and researchers to detect and expose disinformation campaigns across social networks.

The European Council has called for the prompt and coordinated implementation of the Action Plan and for swift and decisive action at both European and national level on securing free and fair European and national elections.

The European Council invited the EU Council of Ministers to continue work on this issue and to report back to in March 2019.

April Communication on Tackling online Disinformation

The Commission issued on 26th April 2018 a Communication on *Tackling online disinformation: a European Approach*.

The Communication reflects the Commission's commitment to improving European citizens' access to quality and unbiased information online. It was developed following a multi-stakeholder consultation which delivered rich results, notably the recommendations of the independent High Level Group.

The Commission's approach seeks to be both inclusive and action-oriented in order to achieve a speedy reduction in the volume of fake news. It incentivised market players and civil society to take immediate action.

"Disinformation" is verifiably false or misleading information disseminated for economic gain or to intentionally deceive the public that may cause "public harm," defined as threats to democratic, political and policy-making processes as well as public goods such as health, environment and security. It excludes reporting errors, satire parody or clearly identified partisan news and commentary.

The Communication signals the paramount importance the Commission attaches to the next European elections. The set of actions foreseen in the Communication are of self-regulatory nature to ensure a swift response to the problem and are designed to fully protect freedom of expression.

On 5 December 2018, the Commission adopted a Progress Report that takes stock of the actions announced in the April Communication. Briefly, online platforms and the advertising industry have agreed on a Code of Practice on Disinformation to increase online transparency and protect citizens, especially with a view to the EU elections in 2019. An independent network of fact-checkers is being created to strengthen the capability to detect and debunk false narratives. Sustained efforts, at EU and national level, are ongoing to increase the levels of media literacy in order to empower citizens and improve their critical thinking. Support to quality journalism also contributes to dilute disinformation and provide citizens with high-quality information from diversified sources. The Commission will continue to monitor and report on the implementation of these measures, in particular the Code of Practice.

Further Detail on Communication Actions

I. Code of Practice on Disinformation

A Code of Practice on Disinformation for online platforms, the online advertising sector, and advertisers (Code) is one of the key actions announced in the Communication. The Code of is a self-regulatory set of commitments that platforms and advertising sector will apply on a voluntary basis to fight disinformation.

In May 2018, the Commission convened a multi-stakeholder forum on disinformation (Forum), composed of industrial and civil society stakeholders, to draft the Code. In September, the Forum finalised the Code, published on 26 September 2018.

The Code includes 15 commitments centred around five chapters addressing the following areas:

1. Scrutiny of ad placements and disrupting advertising revenues of accounts and websites that spread disinformation.
2. Making political advertising and issue based advertising more transparent
3. Addressing the issue of fake accounts and online bots

4. Empowering consumers to report disinformation and access different news sources, while giving prominence to authoritative content
5. Empowering the research community to monitor the spread and impact of online disinformation

On 16 October 2018, the Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel received from the Code's signatories roadmaps for the implementation of their commitments under the Code. Google, Facebook, Mozilla and Twitter presented individual roadmaps with concrete actions to be carried out ahead of the EU elections. These include transparency tools for political advertising, training for political groups and electoral authorities, European election centres, and stronger cooperation with fact-checkers.

The trade associations EACA, EDIMA, IAB Europe, UBA and WFA have also signed the Code of Practice, committing to uphold the Code's objectives.

The Commission will actively monitor the implementation of these roadmaps ahead of the EU elections. The Code of Practice should contribute to a transparent, fair and trustworthy online campaign ahead of the European elections in spring 2019, while fully respecting Europe's fundamental principles of freedom of expression and media freedom and media pluralism. The Code complements the Commission's Recommendation on election cooperation networks, online transparency, protection against cybersecurity incidents and fighting disinformation campaigns, which was presented by President Juncker in his 2018 State of the Union Address.

This is the first time worldwide that the industry has agreed on a set of self-regulatory standards to fight disinformation, on a voluntary basis.

II. EU Fact-checking network

A new H2020 coordination and support action named SOMA is supporting the creation of such networks. In particular, it is providing a technology infrastructure to support fact-checking activities in Europe during and after the European elections and will organise initiatives that help to bring together a European community of fact-checkers. SOMA was launched on 1 November 2018.

A first meeting, which have seen the participation of fact checkers from 15 Member States, has taken place on the 20th of March. The meeting has discussed cross-border disinformation campaigns. Participants have discussed how to use the platform provided by SOMA in order to cooperate at European level.

As a second step, the Commission will provide, through the Telecom CEF 2019 Work Programme a secure European online platform on disinformation to fact-checkers and relevant academic researchers. The platform should offer cross-border data collection and analysis tools as well as access to EU-wide data. It will also enable its members to act as "trusted flaggers" of search and social media platform content.

At the moment, the Commission is drafting the tender specifications based on fact-checkers' requirements and state-of-the-art technology. As for the access to the new platform, requirements should be clear and transparent and support public trust in the work of the platform. At the same time, access should be provided to a wide range of fact-checkers with diverse backgrounds reflecting the European media landscape. The platform must fully support the editorial independence and integrity of fact-checkers and academics.

III. Media literacy

Higher level of media literacy will help Europeans to identify online disinformation and to approach online content critically. Actions will focus on raising awareness about disinformation campaigns, including through public diplomacy and resilience-building via long-term actions that support media literacy and quality journalism, and empower civil society.

Notably, the Commission will encourage fact-checkers and civil society organisations to provide educational material to schools and educators. The Commission has organised a European Week of Media Literacy in March 2019 to foster cross-border cooperation amongst media literacy practitioners.

IV. Harnessing technology

In longer term the Commission is dedicated to delivering new technological tools to Europeans to detect, report, and counter false information. To this end, we will use our Horizon 2020 programme to the fullest with the goal of bringing new innovations to the market faster and supporting new extended partnerships between researchers and companies. Examples:

- Supervised use of artificial intelligence to speed up tagging of disinformation;
- Technologies for media to enable a customisable and interactive online experience in order to help citizens discover content and identify disinformation;
- Innovative technologies, such as blockchain, to help preserve the integrity of content and validate the reliability of information;
- Cognitive algorithms to handle contextually-relevant information, including the accuracy and the quality of data sources

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