



“DIGITAL DECADE POLICY PROGRAMME 2030 – THE WAY FORWARD”

31ST JANUARY, 10.00 – 12.00 CET, ONLINE

Digital infrastructures, skills and technologies are imperative for working, learning, entertaining, socialising, shopping and accessing everything from health services to culture. It is by building and deploying technological capabilities in a way that empowers people and businesses that Europe will address digital divides and will become digitally sovereign in an interconnected world.

In this context, the European Commission, Parliament and Council decided to establish, for the very first time, a **human-centred digital strategy: the Digital Decade**.

In March 2021, the European Commission presented a vision and avenues for Europe’s digital transformation by 2030 around four cardinal points: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digital businesses and digital public services. **In September 2021, the Commission proposed a Decision** establishing the [Digital Policy Programme](#). It was **adopted** on [14th December 2022](#), and **entered into force on 9th January 2023**.

Agreeing to establish the **Digital Decade policy programme 2030**, the three institutions endorsed common values-based objectives and concrete targets for Europe’s digital transformation, with a robust governance mechanism and a set of tools to accelerate and deepen Multi-Country projects.

Closely linked to the policy programme, **the Declaration on the Digital Decade rights and principles** was [signed on 15th December](#), which presents a comprehensive set of rights and principles that Member States and the EU will implement jointly to ensure the Union’s digital transformation respects a values-based- framework.

The present webinar aims to present the **Digital Decade Policy Programme (DDPP)** to the broad public shortly after its entry into force, mainly to showcase its importance for various actors and at various levels.

The webinar will be divided into **two parts**:

The first part will shortly focus on the background framework of the DDPP and will touch on:

- ❖ The policy context of the DDPP
- ❖ The objectives and targets
- ❖ The governance mechanism
- ❖ The scope

The second part will zoom on the implementation of the programme. It will and focus on its importance for various actors and at various levels. For this, it will display a:

- ❖ Member States perspective
- ❖ Digital Investor perspective
- ❖ Regional perspective

Agenda

General Introduction

10:00 – 10:05 – Short video on the Digital Decade Policy Programme (DDPP) & Introduction – Ms. Lavinia Bianchi, Communication Officer, DG CONNECT

10:05 - 10:25 – Keynote speech – Ms. Renate Nikolay, Deputy Director-General, DG CONNECT

10:25 – 10:45 – Keynote speech – Ms. Martina Dlabajová, Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur on the Digital Decade Policy Programme

Panel discussion

10:45 – 11:30 – Moderated by Ms. Lavinia Bianchi, Communication Officer, DG CONNECT

Speakers:

- **Ms. Renate Nikolay**, Deputy Director-General, DG CONNECT
- **Ms. Martina Dlabajová**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Ms. Laura Eiro**, Director General of Data Department (Ministry of Transport and Communication of Finland) - *Member State perspective*
- **Ms. Alice Albizzati**, Founding Partner of Revaia – *Digital Investor perspective*
- **Federica Bordelot**, Head of digital transformation at Eurocities – *Local perspective*
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11:30 – 11:40 – Q&A – Moderated by Ms Lavinia BIANCHI, Communication Officer, DG CONNECT

Conclusion

11:40 - 12:00 – Conclusion & ways forward – Ms Renate Nikolay, Deputy Director-General, DG CONNECT

Background Information

Following the speech on the State of the Union of September 2020, during which President von der Leyen announced that Europe should secure digital sovereignty with a common vision of the EU in 2030, the European Commission presented a communication in March 2021 (“2030 Digital Compass: The European way for the Digital Decade”) with a plan for Europe’s digital transformation by 2030. This vision was structured as a digital compass composed by four cardinal points: skills, secure and sustainable digital infrastructures, the digital transformation of businesses and the digitalisation of public services. The Digital Compass Communication also announced that the Commission would present a set of digital principles and rights in an interinstitutional solemn declaration between the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council, based on a proposal from the European Commission.

In September 2021, the Commission proposed a Decision establishing the [Digital Policy Programme](#). It was adopted **in December 2022 and entered into force on 9th January 2023**.

The Declaration on the Digital Decade rights and principles was also [signed on 15th December](#).

The Digital Decade Policy Programme (DDPP) sets out concrete objectives and targets as well as the means to achieve Europe’s digital transformation by 2030. To be more precise, it sets up a mechanism for close cooperation between the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, and the Member States to monitor and ensure progress towards the Digital Decade objectives and targets.

As a first step, the Commission, together with the Member States will develop projected EU trajectories for each target. Member States will then present strategic roadmaps, including national trajectories as well as actions and investments to achieve them.

The policy programme also includes a framework to develop and implement large-scale multi-country projects. They will allow the Commission and the Member States to come together and channel EU, national and where appropriate also private funding to build digital capacities in key areas. The Commission will support the Member States in developing and implementing multi-country projects.

In the present webinar we will discuss the importance of this programme, while focusing on its implementation. To do so we will consult different actors and at different levels. Our aim is to discuss how the implementation is foreseen and what potential challenges it might face.

We will embrace all the contributions, which will feed into a reflection for the upcoming year.

Speakers' bios

Renate NIKOLAY: is now Deputy Director General in DG CNECT. From November 2014 to November 2022, she served as Head of Cabinet of Věra Jourová, now Vice-President for Values and Transparency and before Commissioner for Justice and Consumers. Renate Nikolay has been working on matters such as rule of law, media freedom or disinformation. She also played a key role in the adoption of the data protection reform, the negotiations on an EU-US data transfer arrangement, the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor and the Code of Conduct with platforms on online hate speech. Between 2011 and 2014 she led the Unit of interinstitutional and international relations in DG Justice dealing with legislative files and international negotiations such as the ones with the US on data protection in law enforcement. Prior to that she was advisor in the Cabinet of the first High Representative/Vice President Cathy Ashton where she led on the relations with the European Parliament in setting up the European External Action Service and on relations with Asia, in particular China. From 2004-2009 she was member of the Cabinet of the Trade Commissioners Peter Mandelson and Baroness Cathy Ashton where she was part of the negotiating team in the trade talks in the multilateral trade round of the World Trade Organisation (the Doha Round) and the EU-South Korea Free Trade Agreement which was finalised in 2009. She started her career in the European Commission in the Directorate General for Trade in November 2003 dealing with the accession negotiations of Vietnam to the World Trade Organisation and the Trade Policy Committee with the Member States. Prior to that she was a diplomat in the German Permanent Representation in Brussels and worked as private Secretary to the German G7 Sherpa in the German Ministry of Economics. She holds a law degree (Erstes und Zweites Staatsexamen) from the Free University in Berlin and a master as a Fulbright Scholar in Washington DC. She was also an Erasmus Scholar in France/Grenoble.

Martina Dlabajová: (Renew Europe/ANO) has been a member of the European Parliament since 2014. She is the Renew Europe coordinator in the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the co-chair of the SME Intergroup in the European Parliament and the chair of Renew Europe SME Taskforce. In her previous term she initiated the Intergroup for Creative Industries and was appointed its Vice-President. In her work she mainly focuses on SMEs, family businesses, creative industries, digitalisation and its impact on labour market and research and innovation. She is a regular keynote speaker at highly respected international events focusing on digital transition and its impact on industry. In 2020 she received "The Digital Single Market Award". She worked on Digital Decade Policy Programme as Rapporteur in the European Parliament. Martina Dlabajová is also a great supporter of young people and is the author of the project of successful motivational traineeships for young people called "PročByNe?" ("Why Not?").

Laura Eiro: is Director General of the Data, Safety and Security Department at the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Finland. Her department is responsible for data economy and digitalisation policy, Intelligent Transport Systems, transport automation, transport safety and cyber security. Laura Eiro serves as Secretary General of the Ministerial Working Group on Developing the Digital Transformation, the Data Economy and Public Administration as well as one of the Chairs of the inter-ministerial Digital Office. Previously she has worked at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in several expert and managerial positions. She has also worked at Finland's Permanent Representation to the EU, at Intelligent Transportation Society of Finland and at the

Ministry of Finance as Secretary General of the Finnish Technology Advisory Board. Laura Eiro holds a Master's Degree in Law.

Alice Albizzati: is the co-founder of Revaia, a leading sustainable growth investor. Revaia invests in European growth-stage companies with global ambitions and sustainable leadership such as Aircall, Frontify and Deepki, helping them navigate throughout entire life cycles from the growth stage to IPO and beyond. Alice has participated in the financing, structuring and oversight of more than 35 growth companies throughout her career. Prior to founding Revaia, Alice was an investor at Verlinvest in New York, a family-owned consumer-focused investment firm, where she led investment into growth companies such as Vita Coco, Frichti, and Sir Kensington's. Previously, she was an investor at LBO France and Bpifrance. Alice sits on the boards of Deepki and Hublo. Alice has been consistently recognised as an investor and a young leader by the industry. Some distinctions she has received include Private Equity International's 40 Under 40 Future Leaders of Private Equity, Best Young Private Equity Personality of 2021 at the Private Equity Exchange & Awards, Les Echos' French Tech personalities of 2021 and France Invest's "Coup de Coeur trophy" of 2019. Alice graduated from Ecole Polytechnique in Paris and also studied at Bocconi University in Milan and McGill University in Montreal.

Federica Bordelot: is head of digital transformation at Eurocities. She supervises the policy and project work of the digital team providing direction to the activities of the Eurocities Digital Forum, flagship initiatives like Living-in.EU and Cities for Digital Rights coalition. As senior policy advisor she also leads on key strategic policy dossiers on data, AI and the platform economy. She supports Eurocities general policy activities and represents the network in international conferences and events. Before joining Eurocities, in March 2015, she worked for five years as communication manager for a network of European regions on EU space policies. She studied international relations at the universities of Bologna and Liège and she holds a Master's degree on EU policies and institutions from the University of Rome.

Lavinia BIANCHI (Moderator): works as a Communication Officer at the European Commission since June 2021, and more specifically in the Investments in High-Capacity Networks Unit of DG Connect (Unit B5). Her work focuses on communication efforts around the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) - Digital programme, as well as on stakeholder management on the Futurium platform for different policy programmes, in particular the Digital Decade Policy Programme. She is also part of the team managing the Laptops for Ukraine initiative with the Ukrainian Ministry of Digital Transformation and DIGITALEUROPE. Before the Commission, Lavinia was interned at the European Parliament and at the media company EURACTIV.