Embedding digital into societal challenges

Estonian Presidency Conference
7 December 2017, Residence Palace, Brussels

The speed and the scale of **digitalisation are accelerating and transforming** the way we design, develop and manufacture products. It is affecting services and the way we deliver services and products. Furthermore, it is enabling new innovation processes and new ways of doing business, introducing new cross-sector value chains and infrastructures. To fully realize the potential of technological progress and freedom of knowledge, data and new skills are essential.

The EU research, development and innovation policy plays an important part in merging physical and digital worlds by maximising the synergies between digital technologies and innovative solutions to societal challenges in areas like health, food, energy, water, bioeconomy and transport. A lot has been done through the EU Framework Programmes, but further steps need to be taken in the coming years to unleash the potential of digitalisation. European industry can build on its strengths in advanced digital technologies and its strong presence in traditional sectors to seize the range of opportunities that technologies such as the Internet of Things, big data, advanced manufacturing, robotics, 3D printing, blockchain technologies and artificial intelligence offer. This will enable our industry to capture a share in the emerging markets for the products and services of the future.

The conference fuels the debate on integrating digital domain into societal challenges, and aims to give messages to the discussions on European research and innovation policy.

Showcases demonstrate how Estonia as a digitally savvy country has reacted to arising challenges with digital research-based solutions. An open poster area will be organised at the conference in cooperation with the universities and science parks of Estonia.

The official website of the conference is https://www.eu2017.ee/cultural-events/embedding-digital-societal-challenges

Moderators of the conference are Richard Hudson and Maryline Fiaschi from Science|Business.

Programme

12.30 Registration and light lunch

13.30 Welcome and opening speeches
Video message by **Mailis Reps,** Estonian Minister of Education and Research
Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

SESSION I: Data as a key enabler for Europe's future

14.00 **Showcases (à 15 min with questions), panel reflection and discussion (with QA from audience)**

Showcase 1: Liisa Past, Cyber CRO at Estonian IT System Authority – **Security as a state of mind**

Showcase 2: Jaak Vilo, Professor of bioinformatics and the Head of the Institute of Computer Science at University of Tartu – **Making sense of BigData**

Panellists

- **Pearse O'Donohue**, Acting Director of Directorate "Future Networks", European Commission, DG CNECT
- **Ain Aaviksoo**, Deputy Secretary General on E-services Development and Innovation, Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs
- **Paolo Grassia**, Head of Regulatory Affairs, European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association

15.30 **Coffee break**

SESSION II: Societal acceptance of digital solutions

16.00 **Showcases (à 15 min with questions), panel reflection and discussion (with QA from audience)**

Showcase 1: Pille Pruulmann-Vengerfeldt, Professor of media and communication at University of Malmö – **Societal acceptance of secure multiparty computation**

Showcase 2: Kristjan Vassil, Vice Rector for Research at University of Tartu – **Sensors, data, decisions. The next generation of predictive public e-services**

Panellists

- **Doris Schroecker**, Head of Unit 'Policy and Strategy' in the Directorate "Industrial Technologies", European Commission, DG RTD
- **Linnar Viik**, Co-founder of Estonian e-Governance Academy and Programme Director of the Central e-Government
- **Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl**, Director General, Digital Europe
- **Mariagrazia Squicciarini**, Senior Economist, Head of Unit at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

17.30 **Conclusions by Indrek Reimand**, Deputy Secretary General for Higher Education and Research, Estonian Ministry of Education and Research

17.40 **Networking reception**