DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE welcomes the Tallinn Digital Summit. We are committed to work closely with EU leaders to make Europe become global digital lighthouse

Brussels, 28 September 2017

As a trade association representing over 25,000 technology companies of all sizes across Europe, DIGITALEUROPE fully supports the Tallinn Digital Summit. We hope that this Summit is the first of a long series of discussions focusing on Europe's digital transformation at the highest political level.

Cecilia Bonefeld-Dalh, DIGITALEUROPE's Director-General, said: *"We welcome the collaborative approach taken by National Governments and we call for sustained and direct collaboration with the private sector".*

"Digital technologies enable growth and a more inclusive society. A deeper and less fragmented digital single market could leverage EU28 GDP by at least 4.0 per cent - or around 520 billion euro", she added.

For the past 20 years, DIGITALEUROPE has been raising awareness and has been building advocacy campaigns explaining the transformative impact of digital technologies on Europe's economy, industries and society.

On matters to be discussed by national leaders in Tallinn, we would like to recall our clear focus on:

Digital infrastructure & connectivity:

Ubiquitous, high-quality and high-capacity digital networks are a prerequisite for the digital transformation and thus for Europe's ability to reap the benefits of the digital economy and society. There will be no Internet of Things, smart cities, connected driving or data driven economy without a 5G and gigabit-enabled infrastructure.

Yet, big gaps remain in Europe's digital infrastructure coverage. Urgent action is needed for 5G and a "gigabit" society. 5G has the potential to boost the economy by 113 billion while accounting for 2 million jobs by 2025.

DIGITALEUROPE strongly urges Member States to maintain the pro-investment focus for both fixed and wireless infrastructures, including a strong co-investment provision. Strengthened cooperation between Member States on spectrum and better timing coordination is essential for industry. There is also a need for increased transparency and certainty regarding spectrum license conditions and durations, including license renewals.

DIGITALEUROPE also believes that the new Code should provide a proportionate and innovation-friendly approach to services regulation, including a fully harmonised approach in the spirit of the Digital Single Market.

Data flows:

DIGITALEUROPE believes that the EU needs strong rules to restrict data localisation across the continent. Limiting harmful data localisation could be worth 52 billion euros per year (0.37% of GDP).

We welcome the regulation proposal for free flow of non-personal data in the EU presented last week by the European Commission, and call on Member States to support and materialize it. Justified data localisation measures must be limited to what is strictly necessary for public safety.

DIGITALEUROPE also believes that data localisation is an obstacle to trade. We therefore encourage the European Commission to advocate for the "free flow of data" principle globally and to prevent forced data localisation when signing trade agreements.

Cybersecurity:

It is estimated that an average of €265 billion is lost in Europe due to cybercrime not to mention the high cost of restoring normal operations after a serious security breach. Europe must reinforce its cybersecurity capacity by further combining and coordinating efforts across Europe, and by improving security hygiene at all levels of society, business and public sector.

Europe cannot afford for the implementation of the NIS Directive to be fragmented. Expectations in terms of security baseline measures and incident notification requirements for Digital Service Providers need to be actionable and harmonized across Member States.

Criminal investigations on cybercrime, notably on issues of access to electronic evidence across borders, should not lead to the requirement for a service provider to provide back doors which could weaken the security of its service. Such measures would only lead to a weakening of data security and privacy of the entire digital ecosystem

DIGITALEUROPE believes in the importance of common, industry driven, international cybersecurity standards rather than specific European standards. Furthermore, certification and labelling frameworks should be based, to the extent possible, on such international cybersecurity standards, but reflect the security needs relevant for Europe and the affected sectors through pragmatic means that avoids fragmentation as well as avoids unnecessary bottlenecks and costs.

Skills:

The latest DESI index shows that 79% of Europeans go online regularly, but 44% of Europeans still do not have basic digital skills. It is estimated that 75% of value-added job creation in industries comes from digitalisation.

It has become urgent to skill up the workforce and to include digital skills in education curricula. Without the right framework for skills, Europe would miss the opportunity to transform traditional industries with value-added digital jobs.

DIGITALEUROPE is involved in the coordination of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition. It is now time that Member States align their education and skills agenda to ensure a consistent and comprehensive approach across the single market.

--
For more information please contact: **Lionel Sola, Director of Communications and Political Outreach**, **+32 492 25 84 32 or** lionel.sola@digitaleurope.org

DIGITALEUROPE
Rue de la Science, 14 - 1040 Brussels [Belgium]
T. +32 (0) 2 609 53 10 F. +32 (0) 2 431 04 89
www.digitaleurope.org | info@digitaleurope.org | @DIGITALEUROPE
Transparency register member for the Commission: 64270747023-20

2

ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE

DIGITALEUROPE represents the digital technology industry in Europe. Our members include some of the world's largest IT, telecoms and consumer electronics companies and national associations from every part of Europe. DIGITALEUROPE wants European businesses and citizens to benefit fully from digital technologies and for Europe to grow, attract and sustain the world's best digital technology companies. DIGITALEUROPE ensures industry participation in the development and implementation of EU policies.

DIGITALEUROPE's members include in total 25,000 ICT Companies in Europe represented by 61 corporate members and 37 national trade associations from across Europe. Our website provides further information on our recent news and activities: http://www.digitaleurope.org

DIGITALEUROPE MEMBERSHIP

Corporate Members

Adobe, Airbus, Amazon, AMD, Apple, BlackBerry, Bose, Brother, CA Technologies, Canon, Cisco, Dell, Dropbox, Epson, Ericsson, Fujitsu, Google, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Hitachi, HP Inc., Huawei, IBM, Intel, JVC Kenwood Group, Konica Minolta, Kyocera, Lenovo, Lexmark, LG Electronics, Loewe, Microsoft, Mitsubishi Electric Europe, Motorola Solutions, MSD Europe Inc., NEC, Nokia, Nvidia Ltd., Océ, Oki, Oracle, Panasonic Europe, Philips, Pioneer, Qualcomm, Ricoh Europe PLC, Samsung, SAP, SAS, Schneider Electric, Sharp Electronics, Siemens, Sony, Swatch Group, Tata Consultancy Services, Technicolor, Texas Instruments, Toshiba, TP Vision, VMware, Western Digital, Xerox, Zebra Technologies.

National Trade Associations

Austria: IOÖ
Belarus: INFOPARK
Belgium: AGORIA
Bulgaria: BAIT
Cyprus: CITEA
Denmark: DI Digital, IT-BRANCHEN
Estonia: ITL
Finland: TIF
France: AFNUM, Force Numérique, Tech in France

Germany: BITKOM, ZVEI
Greece: SEPE
Hungary: IVSZ
Ireland: TECHNOLOGY IRELAND
Italy: ANITEC
Lithuania: INFOBALT
Netherlands: Nederland ICT, FIAR
Poland: KIGEIT, PIIT, ZIPSEE
Portugal: AGEFE
Romania: ANIS, APDETIC

Slovakia: ITAS
Slovenia: GZS
Spain: AMETIC
Sweden: Foreningen Teknikföretagen i Sverige, IT&Telekomföretagen
Switzerland: SWICO
Turkey: Digital Turkey Platform, ECID
Ukraine: IT UKRAINE
United Kingdom: techUK

DIGITALEUROPE
Rue de la Science, 14 - 1040 Brussels [Belgium]
T. +32 (0) 2 609 53 10 F. +32 (0) 2 431 04 89
www.digitaleurope.org | info@digitaleurope.org | @DIGITALEUROPE
Transparency register member for the Commission: 64270747023-20

3