The Parliament

Tech, Digital and AI Summit

With the beginning of the new mandate of the European Parliament and the appointment of the European Commission, there are plenty of possibilities and challenges in the digital sector that need to be addressed.

Our conversations will be focused on feasible approaches, from promoting digital transformation and artificial intelligence to protecting data privacy and cybersecurity.

Can Europe handle these technological breakthroughs while preserving strategic autonomy, increasing competitiveness, and protecting citizens' rights in the digital era?

19 February 2025

The Renaissance Hotel

Rue du Parnasse 19, 1050 Brussels

Gold Partners

FairStandards Alliance   ∞ Meta   Qualcomm

12.30 - 13.30	**Welcome light lunch and registration**
13.30 - 13.35	**Opening remarks by The Parliament and our Platinum Partner**
13.35 - 13.45	**Keynote Address** **With**: Valeriya Ionan, Deputy Minister for Eurointegration, Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine (*online*)
13.40 – 14.00	**Spotlight interview**

14.00 – 14.45
Session I

European Tech Regulation: Enforcement and Business Impact
- Europe's tech strategy is getting real – how are the DSA and DMA getting enforced, and how does that affect Europe's companies?
- How can we balance investment in EU digital infrastructures to meet surging data demands and foster competition, while also determining the appropriate level of regulation for big tech companies offering telecoms services (e.g.,via the EU Connectivity Package) and ensuring competitiveness and security?
- In pursuit of tech sovereignty, how European tech regulations might impact the ability of European startups and tech companies to develop and compete with established global players?

Confirmed speakers:
- Andreas Schwab MEP (EPP, Germany), European Parliament
- Stéphanie Yon-Courtin MEP (Renew, France), European Parliament
- Audrey Scozzaro Ferrazini, Vice-President Government Affairs, Qualcomm
- Renate Nikolay, Deputy Director-General, DG CNECT, European Commission

14.50 – 15.35
Session II

Escaping the middle-technology trap: Dissecting EU Barriers to Innovation and Competition
- How can Europe effectively mobilise public and private investments to support high-risk, high-reward research projects that can drive breakthrough innovations?
- How does the licensing of standards and patents affect small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and startups in the European tech sector and what measures can the EU implement to ensure they have equitable access to essential technologies and avoid being disadvantaged by excessive licensing costs, fostering a competitive tech ecosystem?
- 5G and WiFi networks rely on thousands of patented technologies to work. How can Europe ensure a balanced and efficient licensing environment for standard-essential patents (SEPs) to promote innovation, competition, and the development of new technologies in sectors such as mobile communications, the Internet of Things, and the automotive industry?

Confirmed speakers:

- Adrián Vázquez Lázara MEP (EPP, Spain), European Parliament
- Evelina Kurgonaite, Secretary General, Fair Standards Alliance
- Carlota Reyners Fontana, Director, Markets and cases II: Information Technology, Communication and Media, European Commission
- Maive Rute, Deputy Director-General, DG GROW, European Commission

15.35 – 16.10	**Networking break**

16.10 – 16.55
Session III

Make Europe the AI continent: Securing cybersecurity and fostering a collaborative approach through strategic partnerships
- How can the EU promote a whole-of-society approach to cybersecurity, fostering a culture of security awareness and preparedness among individuals, businesses, and government organisations and making it "the AI continent"?
- Is it possible to strengthen EU cybersecurity resilience by reducing reliance on high-risk suppliers, promoting a strong European cybersecurity industry?
- How can the EU leverage strategic partnerships like the recently concluded EU-Singapore Digital Trade Agreement (DTA) to encourage innovation and competitiveness in the digital age and to remain a frontrunner against China and the U.S.?

Confirmed speakers:
- Aura Salla MEP (EPP, Finland), European Parliament
- Brando Benifei MEP (S&D, Italy), European Parliament

17.00 – 17.45
Session IV

Striking a balance between privacy and competitiveness to boost AI innovation
- How can the EU leverage open data to bolster AI innovation while balancing privacy regulations?
- How can businesses ride the open-source AI wave to sharpen their competitive edge, while navigating the regulatory landscape outlined in the AI Act?
- How can the EU stand out in the global AI race by transforming its high-level standards in data privacy, ethical AI, and cutting-edge research into competitive advantages?

Confirmed speakers:
- Sonia Perez Romero, Head of Unit for Artificial Intelligence, European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)
- Lucilla Sioli, Director, EU AI Office, DG CNECT, European Commission (tbc)
- Marco Pancini, Senior Director, Head of EU Affairs, Meta

17.50 – 18.05	**Spotlight interview**

18.05 – 19.00	**Networking reception**