

Input statement

Digitisation in the service of economic democracy and the citizen

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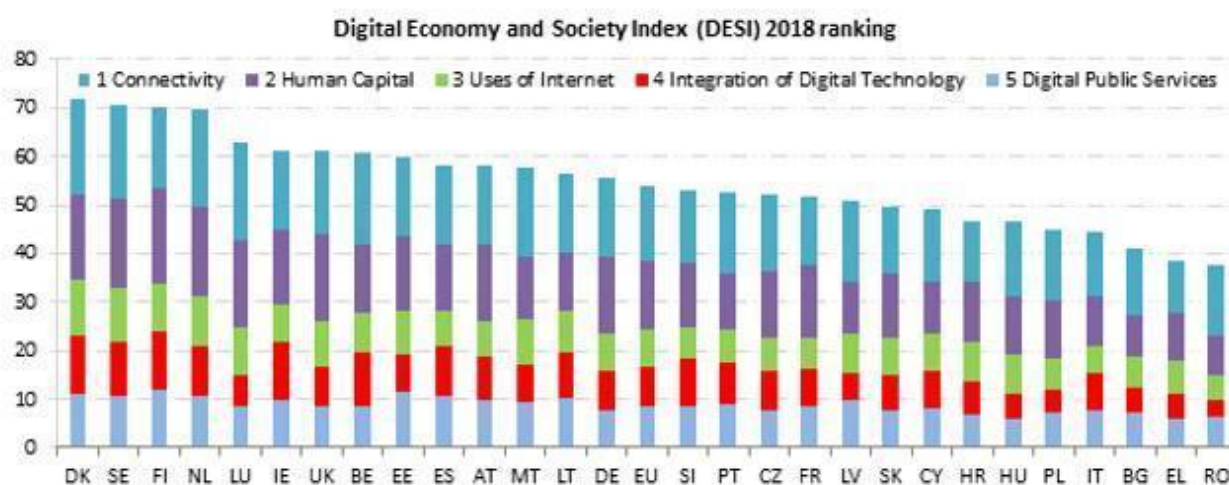
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for plenary session 4 - ROUND TABLE

*“THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION IN THE SERVICE OF
ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY AND THE CITIZEN”*

Thesis 1:

Digitalization is more than just another communication channel. Digitisation covers all areas of our lives. This is shown by the digitisation index DESI of the European Commission.



Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/desi>

Overview of the DESI results 2018: [europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-3737_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-18-3737_en.pdf)

Thesis 2:

The dimensions of the digitisation index of the European Commissions show that a broad package of measures is needed for social change. These are the development of the digital infrastructure, measures for digital education, in the area of research and innovation, to strengthen the digital economy and to expand the digital services of public services.

Thesis 3:

E-government has many forms. The opportunities and risks of e-government are becoming more complex from step to step and go far beyond the aspect of data protection. The introduction of new media is often accompanied by high expectations, which is particularly evident at present in the expectations at level 3 as an instrument against disenchantment with politics in those forms that aim to strengthen direct democracy.

Translated with www.DeepL.com/Translator

- **Level 1:** Electronic information provision as one-way communication: electronic government information (e.g. websites, Facebook, Twitter etc.), open government data (e.g. geodata, statistical data, electronic information systems, health information services) and electronic accountability (e.g. budget information, annual accounts, electronic citizen reports, electronic court of audit reports).

This level is partially implemented. There is some catching up to do in open government data and accountability.

- **Level 2:** interactive public administration (e.g. electronic registration register, e-invoices, electronic building application, electronic tax declaration, electronic complaints procedure, electronic ID cards: electronic citizen card, electronic vaccination card, electronic driving licence, electronic health card) and interactive digital public infrastructure services (e.g. smart meters).

This stage is under construction.

- **Level 3:** E-participation is still too selectively anchored and the positive approaches to strengthening direct democracy require clarification of the status of representative democracy, as well as measures to increase participation rates and how to protect electoral secrecy in e-voting.

Forms of e-participation range from citizens as watchdog (e.g. citizens' reports of road damage, illegal waste mountains) or initiatives by expert organisations of civil society (e.g. tax payer for common sense, EU Charter of Fundamental Rights) to electronic consultations and hearings (e.g. in legislative procedures, regional planning procedures and in the context of citizens' budgets inputs), as well as electronic petitions (electronic citizens' initiatives, electronic citizens' forums) to e-voting.

Thesis 4:

Digitisation in the service of economic democracy is still in its infancy, as the leadership of issues is still too one-sidedly carried out by companies and has too few elements of a genuine dialogue.