



**2021/0293(COD)**

28.4.2022

# **OPINION**

of the Committee on Culture and Education

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 2030 Policy Programme “Path to the Digital Decade” (COM(2021)0574 – C9-0359/2021 – 2021/0293(COD))

Rapporteur for opinion: Sabine Verheyen

PA\_Legam

## SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On 15 September 2021, the European Commission published its legislative proposal establishing the 2030 Policy Programme "Path to the Digital Decade", which introduces a governance framework to reach the Union's digital targets by 2030. The proposal covers four main areas: (1) digital skills, (2) digital infrastructures, (3) digitalisation of businesses and (4) digitalisation of public services.

Overall, the Rapporteur welcomes the proposal but would like to suggest a series of amendments in order to clarify certain provisions related to digital skills.

More specifically, the Rapporteur highlights the fact that education and training are key to digital transformation and to a digitally skilled population. In this context, the Rapporteur proposes amendments aiming to clarify the definitions of basic and advanced digital skills and in line with the Digital Education Action Plan and UNESCO's definitions. Furthermore, the Rapporteur considers that the proposed digital skills targets should be kept, with an intermediary target set by 2025 and with a focus to be added on digital skills for teachers.

Finally, the Rapporteur puts a strong emphasis on the need to build synergies with existing programmes and initiatives in the field of research and education, on the need to support the Gigabit connectivity of schools and connectivity in schools (for example regarding internet access and digital equipment) and the need to ensure that multi-country projects have a clear European added value.

## AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Culture and Education calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

### **Amendment 1** **Proposal for a decision** **Recital 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(2a) As set out in the communication of the Commission of 26 January 2022 on establishing a European Declaration on Digital rights and principles for the Digital Decade, the Digital Decade should primarily serve people and ensure that their fundamental rights and freedoms equally apply offline as well as online. To realise those rights, it is crucial to protect and promote free and pluralistic media and online access to accurate***

*information. In this context, the Commission and the Member States should guarantee that the digital transformation in the Union is guided by those rights and principles, also ensuring that no one is left behind. The Commission and Member States should also refrain from pursuing legislation or other measures that run counter to those rights or create more inequalities and discrimination among citizens.*

## Amendment 2

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 6

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(6) In order to follow the trajectory of the Union regarding the pace of digital transformation, digital targets should be established. These targets should be linked to concrete areas, where progress should collectively be made within the Union. The targets follow the four cardinal points identified in the Digital Compass Communication, identified as the essential areas for the digital transformation of the Union: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses and of public services.

*Amendment*

(6) In order to follow the trajectory of the Union regarding the pace of digital transformation, *clear, well-defined* digital targets should be established *for and within each Member State, taking into account their starting points*. These targets should *follow a human-centred approach, they should be inclusive and they should* be linked to concrete areas, where progress should collectively be made within the Union. The targets follow the four cardinal points identified in the Digital Compass Communication, identified as the essential areas for the digital transformation of the Union: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses and of public services.

## Amendment 3

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 6 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(6a) Education, in particular digital education, training and lifelong learning*

*are key to digital transformation and to a digitally skilled population. In this regard, multi-country projects should be developed similarly to the European Online University platform or the Erasmus+ Teacher Academies.*

## Amendment 4

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 7

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) Digital skills, basic and advanced, are essential to reinforce the collective resilience of the Union's society. Digitally empowered and capable citizens will be able to take advantage of the opportunities of the Digital Decade. Moreover, digital training and education *should* support a workforce in which people can acquire specialised digital skills to get quality jobs and rewarding careers in much greater numbers than today, *with convergence between women and men*. In addition, an essential enabler for taking advantage of the benefits of digitisation, for further technological developments and for Europe's digital leadership is a sustainable digital infrastructure for connectivity, microelectronics and the ability to process vast data. *Excellent* and secure connectivity for everybody and everywhere in Europe including in rural and remote areas<sup>40</sup> is needed. Societal needs for upload and download bandwidth are constantly growing. By 2030, networks with gigabit speeds should become available at accessible conditions for all those who need or wish such capacity. Moreover, microprocessors which are already today at the start of most of the key, strategic value chains are expected to be in even higher demand in the future, in particular the most innovative ones. Climate neutral highly secure edge node guaranteeing access to data services with low latency wherever

*Amendment*

(7) Digital skills, basic and advanced, are essential to reinforce the collective resilience *and inclusiveness* of the Union's society. *Therefore, a common definition of digital skills and a standardisation of the assessment at European level is important to ensure that Member States reach the objectives as set out in this Decision. Basic digital skills are widely considered a critical component of literacy skills in the digital era, similarly to reading, writing, and numeracy skills. As the Coronavirus crisis has shown, digitally empowered and capable citizens will be able to take advantage of the opportunities of the Digital Decade. To pursue this aim, a strong focus on education should be made to ensure that teachers and the education community as a whole are adequately trained, skilled and equipped to use technology effectively in their teaching methods and to teach digital technologies. A specific and ambitious target concerning digital skills as a core competence should be set out for all teachers and it is appropriate for digital citizenship education, cyber hygiene, data protection and media and information literacy to be included in the curricula. In addition, emphasis should be put on lifelong learning as a comprehensive tool to address the digital skills' needs of the whole population.* Moreover, digital training and education,

businesses are located and quantum capacity are also expected to be critical enablers.

*as well as STEAM related education will support **the development of a more gender balanced and diverse** workforce in which people can acquire specialised digital skills to get quality jobs and rewarding careers in much greater numbers than today, **to be able to fully participate in the society**. In addition, an essential enabler for taking advantage of the benefits of digitisation, for further technological developments and for Europe's digital leadership is a sustainable digital infrastructure for connectivity, microelectronics and the ability to process vast data. **Reliable, fast** and secure connectivity for everybody and everywhere in Europe including in rural and remote areas<sup>40</sup> is needed **and it is critical in providing access to education, which is a fundamental right**. Societal needs for upload and download bandwidth are constantly growing. By 2030, networks with gigabit speeds should become available at **affordable and** accessible conditions for all those who need or wish such capacity. Moreover, microprocessors which are already today at the start of most of the key, strategic value chains are expected to be in even higher demand in the future, in particular the most innovative ones. Climate neutral highly secure edge node guaranteeing access to data services with low latency wherever businesses are located and quantum capacity are also expected to be critical enablers.*

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<sup>40</sup> Long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas. COM(2021) 345 final.

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<sup>40</sup> Long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas. COM(2021) 345 final.

## Amendment 5

### Proposal for a decision Recital 7 a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(7a) Basic and digital skills are essential for education, work and for an**

*active participation in society, and this from an early age. By creating an environment for promoting the digital targets set out in this Decision simultaneously at Union and national levels, a greater synergy and a better use of resources can be achieved, especially with existing Union programmes, policies and initiatives in the field of research and education which share similar objectives in terms of digital skills, such as with the Erasmus+ Programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>a</sup>, the European Education Area to be achieved by 2025, the Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027 established in the communication of the Commission of 30 September 2020, the European Skills Agenda established in the communication of the Commission of 1 July 2020, the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan established in the communication of the Commission of 4 March 2021 and the Council Recommendation of 26 November 2018 on promoting automatic mutual recognition of higher education and upper secondary education and training qualifications and the outcomes of learning periods abroad, which makes recommendations for achieving automatic mutual recognition by 2025 at the latest. Moreover, the objectives and commitments of some programmes, policies and initiatives should converge and be used as intermediary targets to achieve the targets concerning digital skills, such as the targets set out in the European Skills Agenda and in the Digital Education Action Plan, of ensuring that 70 % of the population aged 16-74 have basic digital skills by 2025, and of schools being conceived as fully connected places. This approach would ensure that all the Union means are efficiently used to attain digital skills for all.*

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***1<sup>a</sup> Regulation (EU) 2021/817 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing Erasmus+: the Union Programme for education and training, youth and sport and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 (OJ L 189, 28.5.2021, p. 1).***

## **Amendment 6**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Recital 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) Beyond enablers, all the above mentioned technologies will be at the core of new products, new manufacturing processes and new business models based on fair sharing of data in the data economy. The transformation of businesses will depend on their ability to adopt new digital technologies rapidly and across the board, including in industrial and services ecosystems that are currently lagging behind.

*Amendment*

(8) Beyond enablers, all the above mentioned ***digital targets and*** technologies will be at the core of new products, new manufacturing processes and new business models based on fair sharing of data in the data economy ***in compliance with competition rules***. The transformation of businesses will depend on their ability to adopt new digital technologies rapidly and across the board including in industrial and services ecosystems that are currently lagging behind, ***at the same time avoiding dependencies on key technologies and possible lock-in effects***.

## **Amendment 7**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Recital 8 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(8a) Reskilling and upskilling are necessary to enable people to adapt to the changing needs and realities of an increasingly digitised labour market. Where appropriate, employers should provide digital training and digital equipment to employees, with special attention to the specific needs of people***

*with disabilities.*

## Amendment 8

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 9

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) Democratic life and public services will also crucially depend on digital technologies and therefore they should be fully accessible for everyone, as a best-in-class digital environment providing for easy-to-use, efficient and personalised services and tools with high security *and* privacy standards.

*Amendment*

(9) Democratic life and public services, ***including cultural institutions*** will also crucially depend on digital technologies and therefore they should be fully accessible for everyone, as a best-in-class digital environment providing for easy-to-use, ***affordable, accessible***, efficient and personalised ***digital*** services and ***learning*** tools with high security, ***and based on*** privacy ***by design*** standards. ***The policy programme should create a human-centred digital environment that is accessible to all and enables all citizens, consumers and small-business owners to become active, creative and critical players with sufficient knowledge, skills and understanding to make informed decisions about the use and opportunities of digital technologies.***

## Amendment 9

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 12

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) This mechanism should include an enhanced monitoring system to identify gaps in the strategic digital capacities of the Union. It should also include a reporting mechanism, among others, on the progress towards the 2030 vision and corresponding digital targets as well as on the more general state of compliance with the objectives set in this Decision. It should establish a cooperative framework between

*Amendment*

(12) This mechanism should include an enhanced monitoring system to identify gaps in the strategic digital capacities of the Union. It should also include a reporting mechanism, among others, on the progress towards the 2030 vision and corresponding digital targets as well as on the more general state of compliance with the objectives set in this Decision. It should establish a cooperative framework between

the Commission and Member States to identify solutions addressing weaknesses and to propose targeted actions for effective remedies.

the Commission and Member States to identify solutions, addressing weaknesses and to propose targeted **and achievable** actions for effective remedies.

## Amendment 10

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 15

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) In particular, the Commission should report on the progress towards the digital targets, detailing the degree of Union progress in relation to the projected trajectories for each target, the assessment of the efforts necessary to reach each target, including investment gaps in digital capacities and raising awareness about the actions needed to increase digital sovereignty. The report should also include an assessment of the implementation of relevant regulatory proposals as well as of the actions undertaken at Union and Member States level.

##### *Amendment*

(15) In particular, the Commission should report on the progress towards the digital targets, detailing the degree of Union progress in relation to the projected trajectories for each target, the assessment of the efforts necessary to reach each target, including investment gaps in digital capacities and raising awareness about the actions needed to increase digital **preparedness and** sovereignty. The report should also include an assessment of the implementation of relevant regulatory proposals as well as of the actions undertaken at Union and Member States level.

## Amendment 11

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 20

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(20) In order to ensure that cooperation between the Commission and the Member States is efficient and effective, Member States should submit to the Commission national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps covering the period up to 2030 ('national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps') proposing, where possible and measurable at national level, national trajectories, **describing** all the instruments adopted,

##### *Amendment*

(20) In order to ensure that cooperation between the Commission and the Member States is efficient and effective, Member States should submit to the Commission national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps covering the period up to 2030 ('national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps') proposing, where possible and measurable at national level, national trajectories, **annual and verifiable objectives, which**

planned or implemented with a view to contributing to the achievement at Union level of the objectives of this Decision and the digital targets. These national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps should be a crucial tool for the coordination of the policies of the Member States and for ensuring predictability for the market. Member States should take into account relevant sectoral initiatives, both at Union and national level, and ensure consistency with them. During the annual cycle of cooperation, Member States could propose adjustments to their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps to take into account the evolution of the digital transition at Union and national level and to respond, in particular, to the Commission recommended policies, measures and actions.

*describe* all the instruments adopted, planned or implemented with a view to contributing to the achievement at Union level of the objectives of this Decision and the digital targets, ***in order to avoid a failure to meet the 2030 objectives***. These national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps should be a crucial tool for the coordination of the policies of the Member States and for ensuring predictability for the market. Member States should take into account relevant sectoral initiatives, both at Union and national level, and ensure consistency with them. During the annual cycle of cooperation, Member States could propose adjustments to their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps to take into account the evolution of the digital transition at Union and national level and to respond, in particular, to the Commission recommended policies, measures and actions.

## Amendment 12

### Proposal for a decision Recital 29

#### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(29) In order to ensure transparency and public participation, the Commission should engage with all interested stakeholders. To that end, the Commission should closely cooperate with stakeholders including private and public actors, such as bodies governed by public laws of the educational or health sector, and consult them on measures to accelerate the digital transformation ***at Union level***. The involvement of stakeholders would be important at the level of Member States as well, in particular when adopting their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps and their adjustments.

#### *Amendment*

(29) In order to ensure transparency and public participation, the Commission should engage with all interested stakeholders. To that end, the Commission should closely cooperate with stakeholders including private and public actors, such as bodies governed by public laws of the educational or health sector and consult them on measures to accelerate the digital transformation ***of the Member States and of the Union as a whole***. The involvement of stakeholders, ***including from the education sector and civil society***, would be important at the level of Member States, ***both at national and local level*** as well, in particular when ***preparing and*** adopting their national Digital Decade strategic

roadmaps and their adjustments.

## Amendment 13

### Proposal for a decision

#### Recital 30

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(30) Multi-Country Projects involving several Member States should allow for large-scale intervention in key areas necessary for the achievement of the digital targets, notably by pooling resources from the Union, Member States, and where appropriate private sources. They should be implemented in a coordinated manner, in close cooperation between the Commission and Member States. For that reason, the Commission should play a central role in accelerating the deployment of Multi-Country Projects through the identification of Multi-Country projects ready for implementation among the projects categories indicatively included in Annex, in advising Member States on the choice of implementation mechanism, on the choice of the sources of funding and their combination, on other strategic matters related to the implementation of those projects, and on the selection of a European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) as an implementation mechanism, where appropriate.

*Amendment*

(30) Multi-Country Projects involving several Member States should allow for large-scale intervention in key areas necessary for the achievement of the digital targets, ***where there is a clear European added value***, notably by pooling resources from the Union, Member States, and where appropriate private sources. They should be implemented in a coordinated manner, in close cooperation between the Commission and Member States. For that reason, the Commission should play a central role in accelerating the deployment of Multi-Country Projects through the identification of Multi-Country projects ready for implementation among the projects categories indicatively included in Annex, in advising Member States on the choice of implementation mechanism, on the choice of the sources of funding and their combination, on other strategic matters related to the implementation of those projects, and on the selection of a European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) as an implementation mechanism, where appropriate.

## Amendment 14

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) structure and stimulate cooperation between the Union institutions and Member States;

*Amendment*

(b) structure and stimulate cooperation between the Union institutions and Member States, ***for the purposes of***

*identifying solutions, addressing weaknesses and proposing targeted actions for effective remedies, as well as of proposing new indicators;*

## Amendment 15

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(c) ensure the consistency, comparability and completeness of the monitoring and reporting by the Union.

*Amendment*

(c) ensure the consistency, comparability and completeness of the monitoring, *standardised assessment* and reporting by the *Member States and by the Union in a transparent and easily understandable manner*.

## Amendment 16

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) promote a human-centered, inclusive, secure and open digital environment where digital technologies and services respect and enhance Union principles and values;

*Amendment*

(a) promote a human-centered, inclusive, secure and open digital environment where digital technologies and services respect and enhance Union principles *rights* and values, *in a non-discriminatory manner*;

## Amendment 17

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) reinforce Member States' collective resilience and bridge the digital divide notably by promoting basic *and specialised* digital skills for all and fostering the development of high-performing digital

*Amendment*

(b) reinforce Member States' collective resilience and bridge the digital divide notably by promoting basic *digital skills and encouraging advanced* digital skills for all, and fostering the development of

education and training systems;

high-performing, ***inclusive and quality*** digital education and training systems, ***including through a lifelong learning approach and in line with the European Education Area initiative***;

## Amendment 18

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ba) create sufficient financial, technical and human capacity in education and training and learning centres in order to meet the digital skills targets and achieve gender balance in the number of ICT students and in the number of ICT specialists;***

## Amendment 19

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point c

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(c) ensure digital sovereignty notably by a secure and accessible ***digital infrastructure*** capable to process vast volumes of data that enables other technological developments, supporting the competitiveness of the Union's industry;

(c) ensure digital sovereignty notably by a ***digital infrastructure that is*** secure, ***high quality*** and accessible, ***including in remote areas, and that is based on fundamental values and is*** capable to process vast volumes of data that enables other technological developments ***and innovation in education systems and research***, supporting the competitiveness of the Union's industry ***and economy, in compliance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>1a</sup>***;

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***<sup>1a</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of***

*natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).*

## Amendment 20

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) promote the deployment and the use of digital capabilities giving access to digital technologies and data on easy and fair terms in order to achieve a high level of digital intensity and innovation in Union's enterprises, in particular small and medium ones;

*Amendment*

(d) promote the deployment and the use of digital capabilities giving access to digital technologies and data on easy and fair terms in order to achieve a high level of digital intensity and innovation in Union's enterprises, in particular *micro*, small and medium *sized* ones;

## Amendment 21

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point e

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(e) ensure that democratic life, public services *and* health and care services are accessible online for everyone, in particular disadvantaged groups including persons with disabilities, offering inclusive, efficient and personalised services and tools with high security and privacy standards;

*Amendment*

(e) ensure that democratic life, public *and essential* services, *including* health and care services, are *easily* accessible online for everyone *in a non-discriminatory manner*, in particular disadvantaged groups including persons with disabilities, offering inclusive, efficient and personalised services and *interoperable* tools with high security and privacy standards *and by promoting the use of Free and Open-Source Software*;

## Amendment 22

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point h a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(ha) facilitate collaboration among formal, non-formal and informal education providers and stakeholders in the provision of digital education, to foster a lifelong learning approach to digital skills development and digital literacy and to facilitate the launch of multi-country projects.***

### **Amendment 23**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(5a) ‘basic digital skill’ means a basic ability to use digital devices and online applications, for instance with the purpose of accessing, filtering and managing information and personal data, creating and sharing content, communicating and collaborating, as well as identifying and critically evaluating artificial intelligence technologies;***

### **Amendment 24**

**Proposal for a decision**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point 5 b (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(5b) ‘advanced digital skill’ means a specialised ability to use digital technologies, such as skills in designing, developing, managing and deploying technologies.***

### **Amendment 25**

## Proposal for a decision

### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(a) at least 80% of those aged 16-74 have at least basic digital skills;

*Amendment*

(a) **by 2025 at least 70%, and by 2030 at least 80%**, of those aged 16-74 have at least basic digital skills, **with significant progress to be achieved by every Member State**;

## Amendment 26

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(aa) by 2025 at least 80% and by 2030 at least 90 % of teachers and trainers, including teaching staff in vocational training, are adequately trained to use technology effectively in their teaching and to teach digital technologies;**

## Amendment 27

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) at least 20 million **employed** information and communications technology (ICT) specialists are employed, with convergence between women and men;

*Amendment*

(b) at least 20 million information and communications technology (ICT) specialists are employed, with convergence between women and men, **addressing the significant gender gap in digital skills**;

## Amendment 28

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ba) at least 5% of women in higher education in each Member State are enrolled in ICT programmes or in interdisciplinary courses with an ICT component;**

## **Amendment 29**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point a a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(aa) Gigabit internet connectivity and the necessary digital equipment is ensured in all educational institutions, with special attention to schools in rural areas;**

## **Amendment 30**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(b) more than 90% of Union Small and Medium Enterprises ('SME') reach at least a basic level of digital intensity;

(b) more than 90% of Union **Micro**, Small and Medium Enterprises ('SME') **in each Member State** reach at least a basic level of digital intensity;

## **Amendment 31**

### **Proposal for a decision**

#### **Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 4 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(a) 100% online accessible provision of key public services for Union citizens and businesses;

(a) 100% online accessible provision of key public **and private** services for Union citizens and businesses;

## Amendment 32

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 6 – paragraph 3 – point d

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(d) interactions between and consistency of existing and planned policies, measures and actions.

*Amendment*

(d) interactions between and consistency of existing and planned policies, measures and actions ***including the state of play of Multi-Country Projects in the digital sector.***

## Amendment 33

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 8 – paragraph 1

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) Member States and the Commission shall closely cooperate to identify ways to address deficiencies in areas where progress was insufficient to achieve one or more of the digital targets set out in Article 4 or where significant gaps and shortages have been identified based on the results of the report on the "State of the Digital Decade". This analysis shall take into account, in particular, the different capacities of Member States ***to contribute*** to some of the digital targets ***and*** the risk that delays on certain of these targets may have a detrimental effect on the achievement of other digital targets.

*Amendment*

(1) Member States and the Commission shall closely cooperate to identify ways to address deficiencies in areas where progress was insufficient to achieve one or more of the digital targets set out in Article 4 or where significant gaps and shortages have been identified based on the results of the report on the "State of the Digital Decade". This analysis shall take into account, in particular, the different ***economic, logistical and other*** capacities of Member States ***and their starting points for contributing*** to some of the digital targets, ***as well as*** the risk that delays on certain of these targets may have a detrimental effect on the achievement of other digital targets.

## Amendment 34

### Proposal for a decision

#### Article 9 – paragraph 4

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(4) In addition, where the Commission concludes that national measures are

*Amendment*

(4) In addition, where the Commission concludes that national measures are

insufficient and put at risk the timely achievement of the objectives and digital targets set out in this Decision, it may propose measures as appropriate and exercise its powers under the Treaties in order to ensure the collective achievement of those objectives and targets.

insufficient and put at risk the timely achievement of the objectives and digital targets set out in this Decision, it may propose *tailored* measures as appropriate and exercise its powers under the Treaties in order to ensure the collective achievement of those objectives and targets. ***The Commission may also propose Multi-Country Projects in order to achieve the targets and objectives that are at risk of not being timely achieved, or if some measures would benefit from a coordinated approach.***

### **Amendment 35**

#### **Proposal for a decision Article 11 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(1) The Commission shall closely cooperate with private and public stakeholders, including social partners, to collect information and develop recommended policies, measures and actions for the purposes of the implementation of this Decision.

*Amendment*

(1) The Commission shall closely cooperate with private and public stakeholders, including ***trade organisations, professional associations, social partners and civil society***, to collect information and develop recommended policies, measures and actions for the purposes of the implementation of this Decision.

### **Amendment 36**

#### **Proposal for a decision Article 11 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(2) The Member States shall cooperate with private and public stakeholders, including social partners, in line with the national legislation, when adopting their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps and their adjustments.

*Amendment*

(2) The Member States shall cooperate with private and public stakeholders, including ***trade organisations, professional associations***, social partners ***and civil society***, in line with the national legislation, when adopting their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps and their adjustments.

## Amendment 37

### Proposal for a decision Article 12 – paragraph 2 – point b

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(b) reinforcing the Union’s technology excellence and industrial competitiveness in critical technologies, digital products, services and infrastructures that are essential for economic recovery and prosperity, for citizens’ security and safety;

*Amendment*

(b) reinforcing the Union’s technology excellence and industrial competitiveness in critical technologies, digital products, services and infrastructures that are essential for economic recovery, **growth** and prosperity, for citizens’ **democratic participation**, security and safety;

## Amendment 38

### Proposal for a decision Article 12 – paragraph 2 – point e a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ea) ensuring the convergence of the digital infrastructure;**

## Amendment 39

### Proposal for a decision Article 13 – paragraph 4 – point g a (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(ga) the European Commission;**

## Amendment 40

### Proposal for a decision Article 13 – paragraph 4 – point g b (new)

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**(gb) the European Research Infrastructure Consortia under the**

*coordination of the European  
Commission.*

**Amendment 41**

**Proposal for a decision  
Article 23 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***Article 23a***

***Synergies and complementarities with  
other Union programmes and policies in  
the field of education, training and  
research***

***At the Union level, the 2030 Policy  
Programme “Path to the Digital Decade”  
shall have a transversal approach with a  
view to creating synergies between the  
various Union programmes and initiatives  
of relevance to the objectives and targets  
concerning digital skills, taking into  
account the limited available budgetary  
resources in the 2021-2027 Multiannual  
Financial Framework and the existing  
and new actions.***

## PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

<b>Title</b>	Establishing the 2030 Policy Programme “Path to the Digital Decade”
<b>References</b>	COM(2021)0574 – C9-0359/2021 – 2021/0293(COD)
<b>Committee responsible</b> Date announced in plenary	ITRE 18.10.2021
<b>Opinion by</b> Date announced in plenary	CULT 18.10.2021
<b>Rapporteur for the opinion</b> Date appointed	Sabine Verheyen 14.12.2021
<b>Discussed in committee</b>	7.2.2022
<b>Date adopted</b>	25.4.2022
<b>Result of final vote</b>	+: 29 –: 0 0: 1
<b>Members present for the final vote</b>	Asim Ademov, Andrea Bocskor, Ilana Cicurel, Gianantonio Da Re, Laurence Farreng, Tomasz Frankowski, Romeo Franz, Alexis Georgoulis, Catherine Griset, Sylvie Guillaume, Hannes Heide, Irena Joveva, Petra Kammerevert, Niyazi Kizilyürek, Predrag Fred Matić, Dace Melbārde, Victor Negrescu, Niklas Nienä, Peter Pollák, Diana Riba i Giner, Marcos Ros Sempere, Monica Semedo, Andrey Slabakov, Massimiliano Smeriglio, Michaela Šojdrová, Sabine Verheyen, Theodoros Zagorakis, Milan Zver
<b>Substitutes present for the final vote</b>	Alexander Bernhuber, Elżbieta Kruk

## FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

29	+
ECR	Elżbieta Kruk, Dace Melbārde, Andrey Slabakov
ID	Catherine Griset
NI	Andrea Bocskor
PPE	Asim Ademov, Alexander Bernhuber, Tomasz Frankowski, Peter Pollák, Michaela Šojdrová, Sabine Verheyen, Theodoros Zagorakis, Milan Zver
Renew	Ilana Cicurel, Laurence Farreng, Irena Joveva, Monica Semedo
S&D	Sylvie Guillaume, Hannes Heide, Petra Kammerevert, Predrag Fred Matić, Victor Negrescu, Marcos Ros Sempere, Massimiliano Smeriglio
The Left	Alexis Georgoulis, Niyazi Kizilyürek
Verts/ALE	Romeo Franz, Niklas Nienaß, Diana Riba i Giner

0	-

1	0
ID	Gianantonio Da Re

**Key to symbols:**

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention