



2021/0293(COD)

25.4.2022

OPINION

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

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: Ivars Ijabs

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SHORT JUSTIFICATION

On 9 March 2021, the European Commission adopted the Communication “The 2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade” (‘Digital Compass Communication’) in response to the European Council’s call for a Digital Compass, building on the Commission’s Digital Strategy of February 2020. The ambitions of this Communication are lofty, as they seek to ensure EU digital sovereignty in an open and interconnected global environment, whilst pursuing policies that empower people and businesses alike to seize a human-centred, sustainable and more prosperous digital future. Within this framework, steps are also taken to build a climate neutral, circular and resilient European economy. This Policy Programme aims to ensure that the EU achieves its goals in bringing about a digital transformation of the European economy as well as broader society that is in line with our values, and reinforces Europe’s global position of digital leadership. The Programme sets out key targets that the Union as a whole is expected to achieve by the 2030 deadline, whilst also setting out an innovative governance mechanism involving annual cooperation between EU institutions and Member State authorities. The digital targets themselves are based on four key pillars: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses and digitalisation of public services.

In terms of digital skills, it is acknowledged that Europe’s citizens are, on the whole, currently lagging substantially behind, and it is incumbent on the European Union to help equip them with the skills they need. Whilst aiming to endow the whole population of the EU with basic or above digital skills, the projected target is for at least 80 % of Union citizens to be equipped with such by 2030 (the current figure is estimated at 56 %). Digital training and education is highlighted as urgently necessary in order to support a workforce in which people can acquire specialised digital skills to obtain quality jobs and rewarding careers. In addition to the target on digital skills established in the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, the EU shall furthermore have a target of educating 20 million Information and Communication Technologies specialists (up from the present estimate of 8 million), with steps taken to ensure a greater gender balance in what remains a heavily male-dominated sector.

Similarly, Europe’s digital infrastructure needs to be brought up to the highest possible modern standards to ensure competitiveness and security. Under the Programme, by 2030, networks with gigabit speeds should be available at accessible conditions for all those who need or wish for such capacity (current estimate is 59 %), and all populated areas should be covered by 5G (current estimate is a mere 14 %). The production of cutting-edge and sustainable semiconductors in Europe, including processors, should be by 2030 at least 20 % of the world’s production in value (meaning manufacturing capacities below 5nm nodes, aiming at 2nm, and 10 times more energy efficient than today). Currently, Europe produces an estimated 10 %. Further to this, 10,000 climate neutral highly secure edge nodes should be deployed in the EU by 2030, in a way that guarantees access to data services with low latency wherever businesses are located.

In terms of our businesses, the Programme foresees at least 75 % of European enterprises having taken up cloud computing services, big data and Artificial Intelligence by 2030 (the current figure is estimated at 26 %). More than 90 % of European SMEs should have reached at least a basic level of digital intensity by the same deadline (current estimate is 60 %). Further to this, cutting-edge and disruptive innovation aiming at doubling the number of

unicorns in Europe by 2030 will be prioritised, through growing the pipeline of the EU's innovative scale ups and improving their access to finance.

The final area of focus for the Programme is the digitalisation of public services. Here, the bold overarching goal aims to provide for democratic life and public services to be fully accessible to all citizens online by 2030. Everyone in the EU must benefit from a best-in-class digital environment facilitating easy-to-use, efficient and personalised services and tools with high security and privacy standards. All online provision of key public services will be available for European citizens and businesses. All European citizens should have access to their medical records (e-records) and it is hoped that 80 % of Union citizens will use digital ID solutions in some capacity as part of daily life.

As Rapporteur, I commend the overall spirit and aims of this Proposal, which seeks to put in place a solid digital infrastructure to pave the way for the future of the European digital market. However, it is important to highlight that certain critical elements for the achievement of the general objectives and digital targets are not entirely reflected in the text. Namely, these are a European Cloud, to ensure high security and privacy standards across the Union for our citizens; and empowerment of the Commission in terms of coordination with Member States on the latter's monitoring and reporting obligations.

On the first point, since the Proposal seeks the inclusion of democratic life - that is to say, elections at different levels, referendums, voter databases and more - it is critical to ensure a European-owned Cloud for this purpose. This is not a measure that seeks to raise barriers, nor is it an act of protectionism, but rather an essential safety feature. This is, in my view, a matter of paramount European as well as national security, and will be a main point for me in my role as Rapporteur. I look forward to hearing your views on this matter as we move onwards in this process.

On the second point, empowering the Commission, more responsibility should be shouldered by the Commission as regards following the process and progress of Member States in terms of implementation plans as well as their obligations on monitoring, evaluating and reporting. This need not prejudice the role of the European Parliament, which should also be kept abreast of developments.

Consideration should also be afforded to the way in which this Proposal feeds into the European Semester, including aspects relating to the Recovery and Resilience Facility. We must take into account the convergence points in order to ensure coherence with already-existing tools and legislation. Finally, the significance of the integration of the European Single Market - in terms of economic and social benefits for our citizens, as well as the broader strategic aspect for the Union as a whole - at the very heart of this proposal, cannot be stressed enough.

I intend to liaise with Martina Dlabajova, RE rapporteur in ITRE, as the Proposal advances - as IMCO votes first, we have the ability to set high standards and pave the way for the final vote in plenary.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection 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 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) In its Communication “2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade” of 9 March 2021³¹ (“Digital Compass Communication”) the Commission laid out its vision for 2030 to empower citizens and businesses through the digital transition. The Union way for the digital transformation of economy and society should encompass digital sovereignty, inclusion, **equality**, sustainability, resilience, security, improving quality of life, respect of citizens’ rights and aspirations and should contribute to a dynamic, resource efficient, and fair economy and society in the Union.

³¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade” COM/2021/118 final/2.

Amendment

(1) In its Communication “2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade” of 9 March 2021³¹ (“Digital Compass Communication”) the Commission laid out its vision for 2030 to empower citizens and businesses through the digital transition. The Union way for the digital transformation of economy and society should encompass digital sovereignty, inclusion, **equal opportunities regardless of religion and gender**, sustainability, **accessibility**, resilience, security, improving quality of life, respect of citizens’ rights and aspirations and should contribute to a dynamic, resource efficient, and fair economy and society in the Union **and a fully functional and accessible single market**.

³¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “2030 Digital Compass: the European way for the Digital Decade” COM/2021/118 final/2.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision

Recital 3

(3) As outlined in the Commission's Communication updating the 2020 new industrial strategy³², it is necessary for the European Union to identify systems of critical technologies and strategic sectors, to address strategic weaknesses and high-risk dependencies which could lead to supply shortages or cybersecurity risks, and to foster digital transition. This underlines the importance for Member States to join forces and to support industry's efforts to address these dependencies and to develop strategic capacity needs. This also responds to the analysis in the 2021 Strategic Foresight Report³³. In the framework of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the preparation of national recovery and resilience plans, the Commission encouraged Member States to coordinate their efforts in favour of Multi-Country Projects in the digital area. This experience highlighted the need for the Commission to support coordination efforts by Member States, and for the Union to dispose of implementation mechanisms that facilitate joint investments, in order for Multi-Country Projects to materialise. In conjunction with other Commission's initiatives such as the Observatory for Critical Technologies³⁴, a governance structure implementing the Digital Compass Communication should be established and should help to identify the Union's current and possible future digital strategic dependencies and contribute to strengthening its digital sovereignty.

³² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions updating the 2020 new industrial strategy: Building a stronger Single Market for Europe's

(3) As outlined in the Commission's Communication updating the 2020 new industrial strategy³², it is necessary for the European Union to identify systems of critical technologies and strategic sectors, to address strategic weaknesses and high-risk dependencies which could lead to supply shortages or cybersecurity risks, and to foster digital transition. This underlines the importance for Member States to join forces and to support industry's efforts to address these dependencies and to develop strategic capacity needs. This also responds to the analysis in the 2021 Strategic Foresight Report³³. In the framework of the Recovery and Resilience Facility and the preparation of national recovery and resilience plans, the Commission encouraged Member States to coordinate their efforts in favour of Multi-Country Projects in the digital area. This experience highlighted the need for the Commission to support coordination efforts by Member States, and for the Union to dispose of implementation mechanisms that facilitate joint investments, in order for Multi-Country Projects to materialise. In conjunction with other Commission's initiatives such as the Observatory for Critical Technologies³⁴, a governance structure implementing the Digital Compass Communication should be established and should help to identify the Union's current and possible future digital strategic dependencies and contribute to strengthening its digital sovereignty, ***while maintaining an open digital market.***

³² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions updating the 2020 new industrial strategy: Building a stronger Single Market for Europe's

recovery”, 5.5.2021 COM(2021) 350 final.

³³ COM(2021) 750 final of 8.9.2021 – “2021 Strategic Foresight Report - The EU’s capacity and freedom to act”.

³⁴ Action Plan on synergies between civil, defence and space industries, 22.02.2021, COM(2021) 70 final, Action 4.

recovery”, 5.5.2021 COM(2021) 350 final.

³³ COM(2021) 750 final of 8.9.2021 – “2021 Strategic Foresight Report - The EU’s capacity and freedom to act”.

³⁴ Action Plan on synergies between civil, defence and space industries, 22.02.2021, COM(2021) 70 final, Action 4.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) The Commission’s Communication on the European Green Deal³⁵ emphasised that ***Europe should leverage the potential of the*** digital transformation, ***which is a key*** enabler for reaching the Green Deal objectives. The Union should promote and invest in ***the necessary digital transformation as*** digital technologies ***are a critical enabler for attaining*** the sustainability goals of the Green Deal in many different sectors. Digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, 5G, cloud and edge computing and the internet of things can accelerate and maximise the impact of policies to deal with climate change and protect the environment. Digitalisation also presents new opportunities for distance monitoring of air and water pollution, ***or*** for monitoring and optimising how energy and natural resources are used. Europe needs a digital sector that puts sustainability at its heart, ensuring that digital infrastructures and technologies become verifiably more sustainable and energy- and resource efficient, and contribute to a sustainable circular and climate-neutral economy and society in line with the European Green Deal.

Amendment

(4) The Commission’s Communication on the European Green Deal³⁵ emphasised that ***Europe’s*** digital transformation ***should become an*** enabler for reaching the Green Deal ***and the Union’s updated industrial strategy’s*** objectives ***and for increasing competitiveness***. The Union ***should lay the path to a sustainable and resilient digital future. To this end, it*** should promote and invest in digital technologies ***and infrastructure that are sustainably designed, with eco-design standards, to attain*** the sustainability goals of the Green Deal in many different sectors. Digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, 5G, cloud and edge computing and the internet of things can accelerate and maximise the impact of policies to deal with climate change and protect the environment. Digitalisation also presents new opportunities for distance monitoring of air and water pollution, ***and*** for monitoring and optimising how energy and natural resources are used. Europe needs a digital sector that puts sustainability at its heart, ensuring that digital infrastructures, ***digital services*** and technologies become verifiably more sustainable and energy- and resource efficient ***through a complete multicriteria life-cycle assessment methodology***, and contribute to a sustainable circular and climate-neutral

economy and society in line with the European Green Deal *and the EU Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy*.^{34a}

³⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “The European Green deal”, 11.12.2019, COM/2019/640 final.

^{34a} *Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy – putting European transport on track for the future COM(2020) 789.*

³⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions “The European Green deal”, 11.12.2019, COM/2019/640 final.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision

Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) Policies and investments on digital infrastructure should also aim to ensure inclusive connectivity, with available and affordable Internet access, broadband and mobile services, in order to close the digital divide across the Union, and to support access to emerging broadband-enabled trends and digital services. Removing remaining barriers to cross-border trade with digital services is an important step to realise the full potential of the digital transition in the Union.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision

Recital 4 b (new)

(4b) Artificial Intelligence (AI) in particular is a promising technology that Europe should enhance. From medicine to transportation to cybersecurity and energy efficiency, and more, AI holds great promise for progress in our society, and for solving some of the world's biggest problems in health, the environment, education, and mobility contributing to achieve the objectives of the Union and deepen the internal market.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision

Recital 5

(5) The measures envisaged in the Digital Compass Communication should be implemented, to intensify actions defined in the strategy for Shaping Europe's digital future, and building on existing Union instruments (such as Cohesion programmes, the Technical Support Instrument, Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁶, Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁷ and Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁸) and on the funds allocated for digital transition of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁹. By this Decision, a Policy Programme "Path to the Digital Decade" should therefore be established in order to achieve, accelerate and shape a successful digital transformation ***of the Union's economy and society.***

(5) The measures envisaged in the Digital Compass Communication should be implemented, to intensify actions defined in the strategy for Shaping Europe's digital future, and building on existing Union instruments (such as Cohesion programmes, the Technical Support Instrument, Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁶, Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁷ and Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁸) and on the funds allocated for digital transition of Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council³⁹. By this Decision, a Policy Programme "Path to the Digital Decade" should therefore be established in order to achieve, accelerate and shape a successful digital transformation ***as a tool to achieve the Union's general policy objectives, while maintaining high security and privacy***

³⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 (OJ L 166, 11.5.2021, p. 1).

³⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1).

³⁸ Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 30).

³⁹ Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility (OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17).

³⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 (OJ L 166, 11.5.2021, p. 1).

³⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1).

³⁸ Regulation (EU) 2021/523 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 March 2021 establishing the InvestEU Programme and amending Regulation (EU) 2015/1017 (OJ L 107, 26.3.2021, p. 30).

³⁹ Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility (OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17).

Amendment 7

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

Amendment

(6) In order to follow the trajectory of the Union regarding the pace of digital transformation, digital targets should be established **and guided by environmentally sustainable societal objectives**. These targets should be linked to concrete areas, where progress should collectively be made within the Union .The targets follow the four cardinal points in the Digital Compass Communication, identified as the

Union: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses and of public services.

essential areas for the digital transformation of the Union: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses and of public services, ***areas that need to be supported to the same extent.***

Amendment 8

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) Digitalisation should be a tool for progress. The Union must guarantee human support and the choice of non-digital means of participation in all key aspects of public and private life, especially for persons who might still face barriers to digital participation.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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***

(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, ***eliminating gender, social and geographic divides. The non-formal learning in the workplace should deliver digital skills tailored to the market needs, therefore digital trainings provided by the employers in the form of learning-by-doing should be equivalently***

connectivity, microelectronics and the ability to process vast data. Excellent and secure connectivity for everybody and everywhere in Europe including in rural and remote areas⁴⁰ 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 businesses are located and quantum capacity are also expected to be critical enablers.

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

recognised and promoted. Digital training and education should be extended to the business environment, especially to micro-enterprises and SMEs to ensure effective digital transformation.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a decision Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) As an essential enabler for taking advantage of the benefits of digitisation and for further technological developments, Europe's digital leadership needs a sustainable digital infrastructure for connectivity, microelectronics and the ability to process data. 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. It is paramount to ensure the appropriate investments aiming to boost the development of 5G networks, cloud infrastructure, high-

performance computing capacities, quantum computing technologies and other ICT emerging technologies. The environmental contribution of climate neutral highly secure edge node, quantum capacity and emerging technologies should be duly assessed. Network development policy should limit the duplication of very-high-speed networks and adopt a strategy based on network complementarity and interoperability and address the need to bridge the digital divide.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a decision Recital 7 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7b) Reliable, fast, affordable and secure connectivity for everybody and everywhere in Europe, including in rural, mountainous and remote areas,⁴⁰ 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 to have such capacity. Wide public consultation involving citizens prior to the deployment of digital infrastructure projects should lead to greater trust, acceptability and improve the design of projects with the concrete needs and feedback of local communities.

⁴⁰ *Long-term Vision for the EU's Rural Areas. COM(2021) 345 final*

Amendment 12

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) All the ***above-mentioned*** technologies will be at the core of new products, new manufacturing processes and new business models based on fair ***and secure*** sharing of data in the data economy, ***while ensuring effective protection of privacy and data protection***. The transformation of businesses, ***especially of micro-enterprises and SMEs***, 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. ***It is therefore necessary for businesses, especially micro-enterprises and SMEs, to benefit from training in digital transformation and financial assistance, in order to be part of this process***

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision Recital 8 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8a) Digitalisation should be the tool to deliver results for citizens, as it has the potential to enhance the quality of education, health or public administration, but if implemented in a wrong way, it can harm public budgets. Maximising the effectiveness and efficiency of expenditure in digitalisation secures the greatest value from spending decisions. Moreover, as collecting information is in principle more expensive and burdensome than sharing already collected information, Member States should aim to guarantee that citizens and businesses supply diverse data only once to a public administration.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision Recital 8 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8b) Public digital services should fulfil the core principles in accordance with the OECD recommendations for digital government. The “digital by design” principle should ensure that when the government proposes digital technologies, it should rethink and re-engineer public processes, simplify procedures, and create new channels of communication and engagement with stakeholders. Data-driven public sector establishes data as a strategic asset and promotes access, sharing and re-use mechanisms for improved decision-making and service design and delivery. The “government as a platform” principle should ensure that a wide range of platforms, standards and tools to foster integration and coherence in the public sector focuses on users’ needs in public services.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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.

(9) Democratic life and public services **can benefit from a secure digital infrastructure.** Therefore, **it** should be fully accessible for everyone, for easy-to-use, efficient and personalised services and tools with high security and privacy standards. **For the purpose of improving access to public and private digital services across the Union and removing digital barriers across Member States, the European Digital Identity wallet^{1a} should be made available to any citizen and business that wishes to make use of it,**

while complying with the rules of the General Data Protection Regulation.

1^a Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 as regards establishing a framework for a European Digital Identity (2021/0136(COD)).

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) A harmonious, inclusive ***and steady progress towards*** the digital transformation and ***towards*** the achievement of the digital targets in the Union, requires a comprehensive, robust, reliable, flexible and transparent form of governance, based on close cooperation and coordination between the Union institutions, bodies and agencies, and the Member States. An appropriate mechanism should ensure coordination of convergence and the consistency and effectiveness of policies and measures at Union and national level. ***Therefore***, it is necessary to lay down provisions on a monitoring and cooperation mechanism implementing the Digital Compass Communication.

Amendment

(11) A harmonious, inclusive ***approach to*** the digital transformation and ***to*** the achievement of the digital targets in the Union, requires a comprehensive ***citizen-oriented and business-oriented***, robust, reliable, flexible and transparent form of governance, based on close cooperation and coordination between the Union institutions, bodies and agencies, and the Member States. An appropriate mechanism should ensure coordination of convergence, ***transfer of best practices*** and the consistency and effectiveness of policies and measures at Union and national level ***and should also incentivise the activation of appropriate synergies between the Union and national funds, and also between the different Union initiatives and programmes. To this end, the Commission should develop simple and practical guidelines to make best use of the most suitable types of synergies.*** ***Considering all this***, it is necessary to lay down provisions on a monitoring and cooperation mechanism implementing the Digital Compass Communication. ***The Union and Member States should ensure inclusive participation of civil society and consumer organizations, organisations of persons with disabilities and digital rights***

representatives, to ensure that digital transformation equally benefits everyone.

Amendment 17

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

Amendment

(12) This mechanism should include an enhanced monitoring system to identify gaps in the strategic digital capacities of the Union, ***with a particular focus on vulnerable groups such as women, the elderly and children at risk of social exclusion***. 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.

Amendment 18

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

Amendment

(15) In particular, the Commission should report ***how effectively the objectives of this Decision have been mainstreamed into the planning and development of projects and any problems identified, as well as*** 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

relevant regulatory proposals as well as of the actions undertaken at Union and Member States level.

capacities, ***difficulties encountered in the digitalisation process*** and raising awareness about the actions needed to increase digital sovereignty, ***while maintaining an open digital market***. 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 19

Proposal for a decision Recital 15 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(15a) In order to ensure systematic monitoring and progress with regard to the digital transformation for all members of society, the Commission should, after consulting the relevant stakeholders, incorporate at least the following key performance indicators (KPIs) for each digital target contained in the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI): the impact of digitalisation, the proportion of data centres with a high level of eco-design, the proportion of digital components that are recycled, the share of Member States' budgets that is dedicated towards digital sustainability and innovation, the proportion of public procurement with sustainability criteria, the proportion of communications via interoperable, real-time text technologies, the proportion of businesses using Union-based cloud solutions and those using tools to assess the environmental impact of digitalisation, accessibility and disability-focused indicators, the proportion of citizens regularly using certain digital tools (e.g. telehealth), the PRO-SERV indicator, the proportion of public services that apply the 'once only' principle, whereby citizens and businesses only have to provide certain standard

information once and the estimated impact of digitalisation on life expectancy. Those KPIs should also be incorporated in the Commission's report on the "State of the Digital Decade".

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) On the basis of this analysis the report would include specific recommended policies, measures and actions. When recommending policies, measures or actions in the report, the Commission should take into account the most recent data available, the joint commitments undertaken, the policies and measures defined by Member States as well as progress regarding recommended actions identified in earlier reports and addressed in the course of the annual cooperation. In addition, the Commission should take into account the differences in individual Member States' potential to contribute to the digital targets, as well as the policies, measures and actions already in place and considered appropriate to achieve the targets, even if their effects have not yet materialised.

Amendment

(16) On the basis of this analysis the report would include specific recommended policies, measures and actions. When recommending policies, measures or actions in the report, the Commission should take into account the most recent data available, the joint commitments undertaken, the policies and measures defined by Member States as well as progress regarding recommended actions identified in earlier reports and addressed in the course of the annual cooperation. In addition, the Commission should take into account the differences in individual Member States' potential to contribute to the digital targets, ***and the ability to invest in the four areas: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of business and of public services***, as well as the policies, measures and actions already in place and considered appropriate to achieve the ***objectives and*** targets, even if their effects have not yet materialised.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission

(29) In order to ensure transparency and

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 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.

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 ***as well as civil society*** and consult them on measures to accelerate the digital transformation at Union level. ***When consulting stakeholders, it is necessary to be as inclusive as possible and involve also those bodies that are instrumental to favour girls' and women's participation in digital educational and professional careers, aiming to promote the most gender-balanced approach when implementing the national strategic roadmaps.*** 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 22

Proposal for a decision Recital 33

Text proposed by the Commission

(33) The Commission, in cooperation with the Member States and acting as the coordinator of Multi-Country Projects, should assist Member States in the identification of their interests in Multi-Country Projects, give guidance regarding the selection of optimal implementation mechanisms and provide assistance in the implementation, contributing to the widest possible participation.

Amendment

(33) The Commission, in cooperation with the Member States and acting as the coordinator of Multi-Country Projects, should assist ***and coordinate*** Member States in the identification of their interests in Multi-Country Projects, give guidance regarding the selection of optimal implementation mechanisms and provide assistance in the implementation, contributing to the widest possible participation.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision

Recital 33 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(33a) The Commission, Member States and other stakeholders should ensure high-quality and unbiased data sets in order to improve the output of algorithmic systems and boost consumer trust and acceptance.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision

Recital 33 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(33b) Consumer trust is essential for the development and implementation of policies, actions and projects. Consumers should be adequately informed in a timely, impartial, easily-readable, standardised and accessible manner.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) set a clear direction for the digital transformation of the **Union** and for delivery of the digital targets;

(a) set a clear direction **and objectives** for the digital transformation **at the service** of the **Union's objectives** and for delivery of the digital targets;

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision

Article 1 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) structure and **stimulate** cooperation between the Union institutions and

(b) structure and **foster** cooperation between the Union institutions and

Member States;

Member States;

Amendment 27

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, ***transparency, efficiency***, comparability and completeness of the monitoring and reporting by the Union.

Amendment 28

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, ***sustainable, inclusive, accessible, transparent, gender-balanced***, secure, and open digital environment where digital technologies and services respect and enhance Union principles, ***rights*** and values ***and where the digital transformation benefits equally all members of society***;

Amendment 29

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 education ***and*** training systems;

Amendment

(b) reinforce Member States' collective resilience and ***eradicate*** the digital divide notably by promoting basic and specialised digital skills for all, ***with a special focus on the most vulnerable groups***, and fostering the development of high-performing digital education, training systems, ***including***

continuous training in digital skills for active workers, and other skills acquired through non-formal learning, accessible for everyone;

Amendment 30

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(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;

Amendment

(c) ensure digital sovereignty notably by a secure and accessible digital infrastructure capable **of processing** vast volumes of data that enables other technological developments, supporting the competitiveness of the Union's industry, **as well as the innovation and sustainability of micro-enterprises and SMEs, while maintaining an open digital market;**

Amendment 31

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) contribute to the productivity growth, prosperity and development of the Digital Single Market, including through facilitating cross-border trade with digital services, and reduce unfair barriers to trade and investments;

Amendment 32

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

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 small and medium ones;

digital technologies and data on easy, ***accessible*** and fair terms, ***while ensuring the protection of fundamental rights, including security***, in order to achieve a high level of digital ***openness***, intensity and innovation in Union's enterprises, in particular small and medium ones;

Amendment 33

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) promote the development of regulatory standards with a global dimension to ensure that Union companies, especially SMEs, can compete fairly along global value chains;

Amendment 34

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point d b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(db) create the most appropriate conditions to develop new and emerging technologies such as cloud, edge, quantum and high-performance computing and promote their uptake in European businesses, also supporting their capacities to adopt them;

Amendment 35

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e) ensure that democratic life, public services and health and care services are

(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;

accessible online, ***affordable and of high quality***, for everyone, in particular disadvantaged groups, including persons with disabilities ***and persons over the age of 74***, offering inclusive, efficient, ***interoperable*** and personalised services and tools with high security and privacy standards; ***increase the efficiency of health sector, decrease preventable and treatable mortality rate and increase life expectancy, by use of telehealth, mobile health, telemedicine and connected care***;

Amendment 36

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point e a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ea) ensure that the digitalisation of public services is developed in rural, remote and mountainous areas of the Union; promote the use of the “once-only” principle in public administration without prejudice to national legislation, digital systems and data protection, while ensuring effective and easy-to-use public digital services;

Amendment 37

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point e b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(eb) ensure that digitalisation and emerging technologies, such as AI, are used properly to overcome the obstacles to the single market and to ensure a high level of consumer protection;

Amendment 38

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) ensure that digital infrastructures and technologies become **more** sustainable and energy- and resource efficient, and contribute to a sustainable circular and climate-neutral economy and society in **line with** the European Green Deal;

Amendment

(f) ensure that digital infrastructures and technologies become sustainable and energy- and resource efficient **by default** and contribute to a sustainable circular and climate-neutral economy and society in **order to achieve** the European Green Deal **and the Union's environmental targets and objectives**;

Amendment 39

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fa) strengthen, integrate and further connect education, research and innovation ecosystems, in order to meet the internal market needs and demands and garner all sources of innovation, support the growth of start-ups, foster entrepreneurship and contribute to the creation of a vibrant internal market also in terms of research and innovation; promote research and innovation, especially in data-intensive fields;

Amendment 40

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) facilitate convergent conditions for investments in digital transformation throughout the Union, including by strengthening the synergies between **the use of** Union and national funds, and developing predictable regulatory

Amendment

(g) facilitate convergent conditions for investments in digital transformation throughout the Union, **especially for microenterprises and SMEs and rural zones**, including by strengthening the synergies between **different Union's**

approaches;

initiatives and programmes, including the Joint Undertakings of Horizon Europe, the synergies between Union and national funds as well as between private and public funds, while promoting investment in support of socially and environmentally beneficial outcomes and developing predictable regulatory approaches to ensure that businesses can access financial assistance for digital transformation;

Amendment 41

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point h

Text proposed by the Commission

(h) ensure that all policies and programmes which are relevant to the achievement of the digital targets, are taken into account in a coordinated and coherent way to fully contribute to the digital transition.

Amendment

(h) ensure that all policies and programmes which are relevant to the achievement of the digital targets, are taken into account in a coordinated and coherent way, *with the involvement of civil society*, to fully contribute to the digital transition.

Amendment 42

Proposal for a decision

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) ‘peer review’ means a review mechanism whereby Member States may comment on specific aspects of the policies, measures and actions proposed by a given Member States, and in particular on their suitability to contribute to achieving a specific target of the digital targets set out in Article 4, in the context of the annual cooperation established in Article 8 and which can serve to exchange best practices;

Amendment

(4) ‘peer review’ means a review mechanism whereby Member States may comment on specific aspects of the policies, measures and actions proposed by a given Member States, and in particular on their *efficiency and* suitability to contribute to achieving a specific target of the digital targets set out in Article 4, in the context of the annual cooperation established in Article 8 and which can serve to exchange best practices;

Amendment 43

Proposal for a decision

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) ‘basic or above basic skills’ means all individuals aged 16-74, with ‘basic’ or ‘above basic’ digital skills in each of the following four dimensions: information, communication, problem solving and software for content creation.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

(a) at least 80% of **Union citizens have basic or above** basic digital skills;

Amendment 45

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

(b) at least 20 million **qualified** information and communications technology (ICT) specialists, **promoting the access of women to this field and reducing the digital gender gap as well as social or geographical divides;**

Amendment 46

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) secure, performant and sustainable digital infrastructures:

(2) secure, performant and sustainable digital ***technologies and*** infrastructures:

Amendment 47

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) all European households are covered by a Gigabit network, with all populated areas covered by 5G;

(a) all European households are covered by a Gigabit network, with all populated areas covered by 5G ***without neglecting remote and rural areas***;

Amendment 48

Proposal for a decision

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) enable the development of 6G services and technologies and build the relevant research and innovation capacities;

Amendment 49

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) by 2030, the Union has a competitive and sustainable data cloud infrastructure in place, with high security and privacy standards and complying with the Union's data protection rules, for the purpose of supporting the Union's digital sovereignty;

Amendment 50

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 3 – point a – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) at least 75% of Union enterprises have taken up:

Amendment

(a) at least 75% of **relevant** Union enterprises have taken up:

Amendment 51

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 4 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) digitalisation of public services:

Amendment

(4) **sustainable** digitalisation of public services:

Amendment 52

Proposal for a decision

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – point 4 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

(a) 100% online accessible provision of key public services for Union citizens and businesses **with high security and privacy standards**;

Amendment 53

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The Commission shall monitor the progress of the Union against the objectives and digital targets set out in Articles 2 and 4. To this end, the Commission shall rely upon Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), and

Amendment

(1) The Commission shall monitor the progress of the Union against **each of** the objectives and digital targets set out in Articles 2 and 4. To this end, the Commission shall rely upon Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), and

for the purpose of this decision, in accordance with Article 25 (2), shall set out in an implementing act **the** key performance indicators ('KPIs') for each digital target. .

for the purpose of this decision, in accordance with Article 25 (2) **and after consultations with the relevant stakeholders**, shall set out in an implementing act, **adopted by 31 June 2023, the results and impact oriented** key performance indicators ('KPIs') for each digital target. **These KPI shall include at least the following indicators:**

Amendment 54

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1) the impact of digitalisation on reading, math and science skills of citizens and the share of citizens, differentiated by age groups, enrolled in trainings aiming at improving their digital skills, their knowledge of their digital rights and recourse, media literacy, disinformation and control over their personal data;

Amendment 55

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 2 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) the share of data centres with high eco-design standards and with technologies like free-cooling, free-chilling or optimised reuse of generated heat applied;

Amendment 56

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 3 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3) the share of components of digital devices and infrastructure collected and recycled at the end-of-life;

Amendment 57

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 4 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4) the percentage of the annual digital budget of a Member State directed towards sustainable application of digital technologies and innovation of sustainable technologies in line with the Union's environmental objectives;

Amendment 58

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 5 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5) the share of public procurement with mandatory sustainability criteria and targets, that favour open-source and which include interoperable solutions;

Amendment 59

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 6 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6) the share of citizens communicating via interoperable total conversation and real-time text technologies as mainstream electronic communication services;

Amendment 60

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 7 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7) the share of business using European-based cloud solutions to enhance European digital sovereignty;

Amendment 61

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 8 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8) the share of relevant businesses using an accessible and affordable tool for the environmental assessment of their digital use according to a standardised Union-level multicriteria life-cycle assessment methodology;

Amendment 62

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 9 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9) the share of services and products accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities;

Amendment 63

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 10 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(10) the share of citizens regularly using services like telehealth, telemedicine, mobile health and connected care;

Amendment 64

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 11 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11) the PRO-SERV indicator;

Amendment 65

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 12 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12) the share of public services with the “once-only” principle implemented;

Amendment 66

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point 13 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(13) the estimated impact of digitalisation on citizens’ life expectancy and the standardised preventable and treatable mortality rate;

Amendment 67

Proposal for a decision

Article 5 – paragraph 1 a (new)

(1a) By 31 June 2023, the Commission shall adopt a delegated act on the dates, format and quality of data provided by the Member States in relation to this Decision.

Amendment 68

Proposal for a decision Article 5 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) Member States shall provide to the Commission in a timely manner the necessary statistics and data required for the effective monitoring of the digital transition and of the degree of achievement of the digital targets set out in Article 4. This shall include relevant information on the availability and accessibility of spectrum. Where the relevant statistics from Member States are not yet available, the Commission may use an alternative data collection methodology, such as studies or direct collection of data from the Member States, in consultation with the Member States. The use of that alternative data collection methodology shall not affect the tasks of Eurostat as laid down in Commission Decision 2012/504/EU⁴⁷.

⁴⁷ Commission Decision 2012/504/EU of 17 September 2012 on Eurostat (OJ L 251, 18.9.2012, p. 49).

Amendment

(2) Member States shall provide to the Commission in a timely manner the necessary statistics and data required for the effective monitoring of the digital transition and of the degree of achievement of the digital targets set out in Article 4 **and the objectives set out in Article 2**. This shall include relevant information on the availability and accessibility of spectrum. Where the relevant statistics from Member States are not yet available, the Commission may use an alternative data collection methodology, such as studies or direct collection of data from the Member States, in consultation with the Member States. The use of that alternative data collection methodology shall not affect the tasks of Eurostat as laid down in Commission Decision 2012/504/EU⁴⁷.

⁴⁷ Commission Decision 2012/504/EU of 17 September 2012 on Eurostat (OJ L 251, 18.9.2012, p. 49).

Amendment 69

Proposal for a decision Article 5 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The Commission, in close cooperation with Member States, shall define Union-level projected trajectories for the attainment of each of the digital targets, which would serve as basis for the monitoring and the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps. Where necessary, in light of technical, economic or societal developments, the Commission shall update ***one or more of*** these projected trajectories.

Amendment

(3) The Commission, in close cooperation with Member States, shall define Union-level projected trajectories for the attainment of each of the digital targets, which would serve as basis for the monitoring and the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps. Where necessary, in light of technical, economic or societal developments, the Commission shall update these projected trajectories ***accordingly***.

Amendment 70

**Proposal for a decision
Article 5 – paragraph 4**

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Member States shall provide to the Commission in a timely manner the necessary information required for the effective monitoring of the progress in the implementation of the principles ***enshrined*** in the [insert title of solemn Declaration].

Amendment

(4) Member States shall provide to the Commission in a timely manner the necessary information required for the effective monitoring of the progress in the implementation of the ***digital*** principles ***as endorsed*** in the [insert title of solemn Declaration].

Amendment 71

**Proposal for a decision
Article 6 – paragraph 1**

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The Commission shall submit annually to the European Parliament and the Council a report on the “State of the Digital Decade”. This report shall be the comprehensive report of the Commission on the progress on digital transformation of the Union and it shall include the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI).

Amendment

(1) The Commission shall submit annually to the European Parliament and the Council a report on the “State of the Digital Decade”. This report shall be the comprehensive report of the Commission on the progress on digital transformation of the Union and it shall include the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) ***and KPIs for each digital target according to***

Article 5(1) of this Decision. The first report shall be submitted no later than 18 months after the entry into force of this Decision.

Amendment 72

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) In the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Commission shall provide an assessment of the progress of the Union’s digital transition against the digital targets set out in Article 4 as well as ***the state of*** compliance with the general objectives referred to in Article 2 and the principles ***enshrined*** in the [insert title of solemn Declaration]. The assessment of the progress made shall be based, in particular, on the analysis and key performance indicators in the DESI as compared to Union-level and, where applicable, national projected trajectories, and, where applicable, on the establishment of and progress regarding Multi-Country Projects.

Amendment

(2) In the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Commission shall provide an assessment of the progress of the Union’s digital transition against the digital targets set out in Article 4, as well as compliance with the general objectives referred to in Article 2 and the ***digital*** principles ***as endorsed*** in the [insert title of solemn Declaration]. The assessment of the progress made shall be based, in particular, on the analysis and key performance indicators in the DESI as compared to Union-level and, where applicable, national projected trajectories, and, where applicable, on the establishment of and progress regarding Multi-Country Projects.

Amendment 73

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 3 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) In the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Commission may recommend policies, measures or actions to be taken by Member States in areas where progress was insufficient to achieve 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”. Those recommended policies, measures or

Amendment

(3) In the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Commission may recommend policies, measures or actions to be taken by Member States in areas where progress was insufficient to achieve the digital targets set out in Article 4, ***the objectives set out in Article 2 were not respected*** or where significant gaps, ***difficulties***, and shortages have been identified based on the results of the report

actions **may**, in particular, address:

on the “State of the Digital Decade”. Those recommended policies, measures or actions **shall**, in particular, address:

Amendment 74

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The report **may** also assess the need for any additional policies, measures or actions that might be required at the Union level.

Amendment

(6) The report **shall** also assess the need for any additional policies, measures or actions that might be required at the Union level.

Amendment 75

Proposal for a decision Article 7 – paragraph 3 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The policies, measures and actions referred to in point (a) shall relate to the achievement of the objectives and the digital targets of this Decision for which at the date of submission of the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps or of the adjustment of those roadmaps **one or more** of the following applies:

Amendment

(3) The policies, measures and actions referred to in point (a) shall relate to the achievement of the objectives and the digital targets of this Decision for which at the date of submission of the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps or of the adjustment of those roadmaps **all** of the following applies:

Amendment 76

Proposal for a decision Article 7 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Member States shall provide a general overview of the investment needed to contribute to the objectives and digital targets as set out in their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps, as well as a general description on the sources of that

Amendment

(4) Member States shall provide a general overview of the investment needed to contribute to **the achievement of** the objectives and digital targets as set out in their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps, as well as a general description

investment, including, where applicable, planned use of Union programmes and instruments. The national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps *may* include proposals for Multi-Country Projects.

on the sources of that investment, including, where applicable, planned use of Union programmes and instruments. The national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps *shall* include proposals for Multi-Country Projects *to foster cross-border cooperation*.

Amendment 77

Proposal for a decision Article 7 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) Member States shall ensure that their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps take into consideration the latest country-specific recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester. Adjustments to national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps shall take into account the recommended policies, measures and actions under Article 6(3) and the recommendations adopted under Article 9.

Amendment

(5) Member States shall ensure that their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps take into consideration the latest country-specific recommendations issued in the context of the European Semester *and feed into the following European Semester cycle*. Adjustments to national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps shall take into account the recommended policies, measures and actions under Article 6(3) and the recommendations adopted under Article 9.

Amendment 78

Proposal for a decision Article 7 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The Commission shall provide guidance and support to Member States in the preparation of their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps, including on how to establish at national level, where possible, appropriate projected trajectories which can effectively contribute to the achievement of Union-level projected trajectories.

Amendment

(6) The Commission shall provide *an analysis of best practices, trends within and outside the Union*, guidance and support to Member States in the preparation of their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps, including on how to establish at national level, where possible, appropriate projected trajectories which can effectively contribute to the achievement of Union-level projected trajectories.

Amendment 79

Proposal for a decision

Article 7 – paragraph 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) The Commission shall make all the documents prepared under Article 7 publicly available on the Commission’s website without undue delay.

Amendment 80

Proposal for a decision

Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

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 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.***

(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, ***the objectives set out in Article 2 were not respected***, or where significant gaps, ***difficulties***, and shortages have been identified based on the results of the report on the ”State of the Digital Decade”.

Amendment 81

Proposal for a decision

Article 8 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) The Commission and Member States shall create, in compliance with

applicable Union and national legislation, proportionate instruments and mechanisms to address the evolving nature of algorithms, where the output of such an algorithm infringes Union or national law, and ensure adequate, appropriate, and continuous regulatory revisions.

Amendment 82

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) Within five months from the publication of the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Member States concerned shall submit to the Commission adjustments to their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps consisting of policies, measures and actions they intend to undertake, including, where relevant, proposals for Multi-Country Projects, to foster progress in the areas concerned by the digital targets set out in Article 4 and to *fulfill* objectives set out in Article 2. *If a Member State considers that no action is required and that its national Digital Decade strategic roadmap does not require updating, it shall provide its reasons in writing.*

Amendment 83

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3) Within five months from the publication of the report on the “State of the Digital Decade”, the Member States concerned shall submit to the Commission adjustments to their national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps consisting of policies, measures and actions they intend to undertake, including, where relevant, proposals for Multi-Country Projects, to foster progress in the areas concerned by the digital targets set out in Article 4 and to *achieve the* objectives set out in Article 2.

(3a) If a Member State considers that no action is required and that its national Digital Decade strategic roadmap does not require updating, it shall provide its reasons in writing to the Commission and

make it public.

Amendment 84

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) At any point of the annual cooperation, the Commission and one or more Member States may undertake joint commitments, consult with other Member States on policy, measures or actions or establish Multi-Country Projects as provided for in Article 12. The Commission or a Member State which has proposed a policy, a measure or an action may also request a peer review process to be launched regarding specific aspects of that policy, measure or action, and in particular on its suitability to contribute to achieving a specific digital target. The outcome of the peer review process *may* be included in the following Report on the “State of the Digital Decade”.

Amendment

(4) At any point of the annual cooperation, the Commission and one or more Member States may undertake joint commitments, consult with other Member States on policy, measures or actions or establish Multi-Country Projects as provided for in Article 12. The Commission or a Member State which has proposed a policy, a measure or an action may also request a peer review process to be launched regarding specific aspects of that policy, measure or action, and in particular on its suitability to contribute to achieving a specific digital target. The outcome of the peer review process *shall* be included in the following Report on the “State of the Digital Decade”.

Amendment 85

Proposal for a decision Article 9 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(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.

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 *shall* propose measures as appropriate and exercise its powers under the Treaties in order to ensure the collective achievement of those objectives and targets.

Amendment 86

Proposal for a decision
Article 9 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) In case a Member State continuously deviates from the national projected trajectory for several years, or alternatively does not intend to adopt corrective action based on a previous Commission recommendation, the Commission **may** initiate a targeted dialogue with the Member State in question and inform the European Parliament and Council thereof.

Amendment

(5) In case a Member State continuously deviates from the national projected trajectory for several years, or alternatively does not intend to adopt corrective action based on a previous Commission recommendation, the Commission **shall** initiate a targeted dialogue with the Member State in question and inform the European Parliament and Council thereof.

Amendment 87

Proposal for a decision
Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) The Member States concerned or the Commission may request to launch a peer review process for the purposes of the implementation of the obligations and tasks established in this Decision.

Amendment 88

Proposal for a decision
Article 11 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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.

(1) The Commission shall closely cooperate **in a transparent manner with the Union's and international** private and public stakeholders, including 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 89

Proposal for a decision Article 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The general objective of the Multi-Country Projects shall be to facilitate the achievement of the digital targets.

Amendment

(1) The general objective of the Multi-Country Projects shall be to facilitate the achievement of the digital targets, ***while ensuring that the objectives described in Article 2 are achieved.***

Amendment 90

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 and prosperity, for ***the economic well-being, growth,*** security and safety ***of citizens;***

Amendment 91

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ea) strengthening the functioning of the Digital Single Market and its competitiveness through facilitating cross-border operations and removing unjustified barriers to trade;

Amendment 92

Proposal for a decision

Article 12 – paragraph 2 – point e b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(eb) promoting educational and professional approaches to develop the digital skills that are required to get more quality jobs and rewarding careers and to promote a greater participation of girls and women in the digital domain;

Amendment 93

Proposal for a decision

Article 12 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Any Multi-Country project shall publish its specific objectives, including measurable indicators, upon its establishment.

Amendment 94

Proposal for a decision

Article 12 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5) The Commission may adopt a recommendation to set up a Multi-Country Project or to invite a Member State to participate in a Multi-Country Project meeting the requirements of paragraphs (1) to (3), taking into account the progress implementing the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps and ***the*** adherence to the Commission's recommended actions. The Commission and Member States may also undertake to set up, or join, a Multi-Country Project as a joint commitment.

(5) The Commission may adopt a recommendation to set up a Multi-Country Project or to invite a Member State to participate in a Multi-Country Project meeting the requirements of paragraphs (1) to (3), taking into account the progress implementing the national Digital Decade strategic roadmaps and ***objectives as well as*** adherence to the Commission's recommended actions. The Commission and Member States may also undertake to set up, or join, a Multi-Country Project as a joint commitment.

Amendment 95

Proposal for a decision

Article 13 – paragraph 4 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) Joint Undertakings;

Amendment

(a) Joint Undertakings, ***notably the Smart Networks and Services JU, the Key Digital Technologies JU and the High-Performance Computing JU;***

Amendment 96

Proposal for a decision

Article 13 – paragraph 4 – point g

Text proposed by the Commission

(g) any other appropriate implementation mechanism.

Amendment

(g) any other appropriate implementation mechanism ***in consultation with the Commission in accordance with Article 14.***

Amendment 97

Proposal for a decision

Article 14 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(3a) The Commission may also propose on its own initiative to coordinate a Multi-Country Project in accordance with the steps described in paragraphs 2 and 3 to the participating Member States.

Amendment 98

Proposal for a decision

Article 16 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) The decision setting up the EDIC

Amendment

(5) The decision setting up the EDIC

shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Union.

shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Union. ***The Commission shall publish and update a register of EDICs in a timely manner.***

Amendment 99

Proposal for a decision Article 18 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The Commission shall participate in the deliberations of the assembly of members without voting rights. However, where a centrally-managed Union programme financially contributes to a Multi-Country Project, the Commission shall have a veto right on the decisions of the assembly.

Amendment

(2) The Commission shall participate in the deliberations of the assembly of members without voting rights. However, where a centrally-managed Union programme financially contributes to a Multi-Country Project, the Commission shall have a veto right on the decisions of the assembly. ***Decisions of the assembly including results of votes and a particular vote decision of each member shall be publicly available within 15 days of its adoption.***

Amendment 100

Proposal for a decision Article 19 – paragraph 1 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) rules on the ownership of infrastructure, intellectual property and other assets, as applicable.

Amendment

(f) rules on the ownership of infrastructure, intellectual property, ***profit*** and other assets, as applicable.

Amendment 101

Proposal for a decision Annex I – paragraph 1 – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) European digital innovation hubs;

Amendment

(i) European digital ***research and*** innovation hubs;

PROCEDURE – COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Title	Establishing the 2030 Policy Programme “Path to the Digital Decade”
References	COM(2021)0574 – C9-0359/2021 – 2021/0293(COD)
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	ITRE 18.10.2021
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	IMCO 18.10.2021
Rapporteur for the opinion Date appointed	Ivars Ijabs 16.11.2021
Discussed in committee	7.2.2022 28.3.2022
Date adopted	20.4.2022
Result of final vote	+: 36 –: 0 0: 9
Members present for the final vote	Alex Agius Saliba, Andrus Ansip, Brando Benifei, Adam Bielan, Hynek Blaško, Biljana Borzan, Markus Buchheit, Andrea Caroppo, Anna Cavazzini, Dita Charanzová, Deirdre Clune, David Cormand, Alexandra Geese, Sandro Gozi, Maria Grapini, Svenja Hahn, Krzysztof Hetman, Virginie Joron, Eugen Jurzyca, Arba Kokalari, Marcel Kolaja, Kateřina Konečná, Andrey Kovatchev, Jean-Lin Lacapelle, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Morten Løkkegaard, Adriana Maldonado López, Antonius Manders, Beata Mazurek, Leszek Miller, Anne-Sophie Pelletier, René Repasi, Christel Schaldemose, Andreas Schwab, Tomislav Sokol, Ivan Štefanec, Róza Thun und Hohenstein, Kim Van Sparrentak, Marion Walsmann, Marco Zullo
Substitutes present for the final vote	Marco Campomenosi, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Geoffroy Didier, Edina Tóth, Kosma Złotowski

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

36	+
NI	Edina Tóth
PPE	Andrea Caroppo, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Deirdre Clune, Geoffroy Didier, Krzysztof Hetman, Arba Kokalari, Andrey Kovatchev, Antonius Manders, Andreas Schwab, Tomislav Sokol, Ivan Štefanec, Marion Walsmann
Renew	Andrus Ansip, Dita Charanzová, Sandro Gozi, Svenja Hahn, Morten Løkkegaard, Róza Thun und Hohenstein, Marco Zullo
S&D	Alex Agius Saliba, Brando Benifei, Biljana Borzan, Maria Grapini, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Leszek Miller, René Repasi, Christel Schaldemose
The Left	Kateřina Konečná, Anne-Sophie Pelletier
Verts/ALE	Anna Cavazzini, David Cormand, Alexandra Geese, Marcel Kolaja, Kim Van Sparrentak

0	-

9	0
ECR	Adam Bielan, Eugen Jurzyca, Beata Mazurek, Kosma Złotowski
ID	Hynek Blaško, Markus Buchheit, Marco Campomenosi, Virginie Joron, Jean-Lin Lacapelle

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention