



# Internet of Opportunity: Will the Internet Benefit All Europeans?

*November 7, 2017: 09:00-17:00*

*CEPS Conference Room, Place du Congrès 1, 1000 Brussels*

[Register here](#)

The Internet is transforming Europe's rich cities. The metropolises benefit from high speed connections and are the site of most start-ups and new tech jobs. But what are the consequences of this transformation? And what will happen to less populated regions and disadvantaged urban fringes? These will be the guiding questions for this day-long event organized by the Internet Society, CEPS, and the Committee of the Regions.

Leading policymakers and businessmen will be on hand to present research and recommendations, with CEPS presenting a new paper on "The Internet and Jobs – A Giant Opportunity" analysing the current trends in Europe. We will debate whether the Internet is killing jobs - or whether it could create new long distance positions. Looking at questions of access, we will consider the progress towards extending fast-speed broadband right across Europe, and we will present success stories in regional innovation across Europe.

Our four panels will tackle the principal effects of the digital revolution, addressing jobs, innovation, access, and education and trust. The event is part of the Internet Society's ongoing series of Regional Internet Development Dialogues.

**See the full programme below:**

## **9:00 - 9:30: Registration & networking coffee**

### **9:30 - 9:45: Opening Remarks**

- **Raul Echeberria**, Vice-President Global Engagement, Internet Society
- **Karel Lannoo**, Chief Executive Officer, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)
- **Alin Nica**, First Vice-Chair of the Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) and Rapporteur on the digital single market review, Committee of the Regions

### **9:45 – 10:05: Keynotes**

- **MEP Michal Boni** (EPP, PL), Former Polish Minister of Administration and Digitisation



- **Vint Cerf**, Google VP & “Chief Internet Evangelist” – pre-recorded comments via video.

## **10:05 – 13:00: Session I: The Internet as a driver of economic growth**

### **Panel 1: Employment in the Internet economy (10:05-11:20)**

Moderator: **William Echikson**, Associate Senior Research Fellow and Head of Digital Forum, CEPS

- **Maxime Cerutti**, Director of Social Affairs, Business Europe
- **Holger Kunze**, Director, German Mechanical Engineering Industry Association (VDMA)
- **Jouni Eho**, Director, Cursor (Regional Development Agency of Kotka-Hamina area, Finland)
- **Maria Marta Travieso**, Specialist, Future of Work Initiative, International Labour Organization
- **Ondrej Sočuvka**, Policy manager, Google

### **11:20 - 11:40: Coffee break**

### **Panel 2: Leveraging the new Internet platform for innovation (11:40-13:00)**

Moderator: **Andrea Renda**, Senior Research Fellow and Head of Regulatory Policy Unit, CEPS

- **Michela Palladino**, Director of European Policy and Government Relations, Developers Alliance
- **Saara Harjula**, Senior Advisor EU Affairs, Helsinki EU office
- **Pavol Mirossay**, Executive Director, Kosice IT Valley
- **Jens-Henrik Jeppesen**, Director for European Affairs, Centre for Democracy and Technology
- **Oluf Nielsen**, Policy Officer, Unit F1 “Digital Policy Development and Coordination”, DG Connect, European Commission

### **13:00 - 14:00: Lunch break**

## **14:00-16:45: Session II: Developing an inclusive and secure digital economy for all**

### **Panel 3: Connecting Europe’s far-flung regions (14:00-15:15)**

Moderator: **Maarit Palovirta**, Senior Manager, Regional Affairs Europe, Internet Society

- **Lise Fuhr**, Director General, ETNO
- **Ramon Roca**, Co-Founder, Guifi.net, Spain
- **Stefano Agnelli**, Director for European Institutional Affairs, Eutelsat
- **Jan Droege**, Director, Broadband Competence Office Support Facility



### **15:15 - 15:30: Coffee break**

### **Panel 4: Education and trust in the digital economy (15:30-16:45)**

Moderator: **Frédéric Donck**, Director European Regional Bureau, Internet Society

- **Birgy Lorenz**, Academic and Scientist, Tallinn University
- **Zoltan Precsenyi**, Government Affairs Director, Symantec
- **Greg Fletcher**, Central Architecture Services, NHS Digital
- **Ibrahim Ouassari**, Cofounder, Molengeek

### **16:45 - 17:00: Closing remarks**

- CEPS/ISOC

For more information see the [event site](#) or contact [riddeurope@isoc.org](mailto:riddeurope@isoc.org)