



RESOLUTION

On the Road to a Digital Single Market

Adopted at the 12th YEPP Congress in Athens, 03.11.2018

Acknowledging that:

- The European Single Market creates opportunities for companies, startups, and private businesses to reach a market of over 500 million people.
- Despite that only 7% of small and medium-sized businesses in the EU sell cross-border.
- One of the benefits of Digital Single Market is that it could result in a minimum 4% increase of EU GDP, meaning around €415 billion to the European economy.
- Until now the most profound regulations related to the Digital Single Market, which have also direct impact for Europeans is the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the abolition of the mobile roaming charges.
- EU is directed to a full transition to e-procurement especially in the public sector.
- EU is encouraging the mobility of services which will be easier by having a common Digital Market.
- EU citizens feel insecure about their consumers rights in Internet
- The differences between the tax systems of the member states are causing insecure for the entrepreneurs and for the States as far as the legality and audit of the businesses.
- Even the young people who are natives of the digital era are facing troubles participating in the digital economy.
- According to one of Eurobarometer's studies two-thirds of Europeans think that the use of the most recent digital technologies has a positive impact on society, the economy and their own lives, but Europeans are also concerned about the negative effects in their lives (such as the impact on jobs and the need for better digital skills).

Recognizing that:

- The European Single Market is still incomplete.

- A Digital Single Market (DSM) is one in which the free movement of persons, services and capital is ensured and where the individuals and businesses can seamlessly access and engage in online activities under conditions of fair competition, and a high level of consumer and personal data protection, irrespective of their nationality or place of residence.
- The Digital Single Market Strategy is built on three pillars, firstly access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe; environment creating the right conditions and a level playing field for digital networks and innovative services to flourish; economy & society by maximizing the growth potential of the digital economy.
- The purpose of European integration is to transcend contested borders and competing nationalisms, by creating economic interdependence and European identity.
- The DSM goals to support the EU member states especially after the echo of economic crisis.
- The Digital Single Market Strategy is the key for making the EU thrive in the emerging global data economy.
- DSM brings also challenges in our Union concerning democracy, human rights and the rule of law.
- The EU program Horizon 2020 has a special reference for ICT Research & Innovation and Partnerships with Industry and Member States which include all aspects of DSM.

YEPP calls on:

- EU to prioritize the completion of the Digital Single Market as it has an important role in EU economy.
- Establishing an independent authority to supervise compliance with the necessary rules on both a European and national level.
- The EU and Member States to adopt measures such as tax incentives that encourage private companies to invest on ICT equipment.
- The EU to take all necessary further steps in order to abolish unjustified geo blocking practices.
- EU and Member States to promote digital literature for all ages on a well-planned and coordinated way.
- Member States to adopt a coordinated European approach to taxes.