<u>The E.U.'s Digital Decade</u>

On December 14th of 2022, The European Parliament and The Council of the European Union established the Digital Decade Policy Programme for 2030 which outline objectives and targets for the E.U. to meet by 2030. The European Parliament, the Council, and the Commission and the Member States shall cooperate to support and achieve the following objectives at Union level.

<u>Digital Rights and Principles for the Digital Decade:</u>

1. <u>People at the center:</u> protection of rights, support democracy, and ensure that all digital players act responsibly and safely.
2. <u>Freedom at the center:</u> People should benefit from a fair online environment, be safe from illegal and harmful content.
3. <u>Safety and security:</u> a safe digital environment. All should be empowered and protected.
4. <u>Solidarity and Inclusion:</u> Technology should unite, not divide.
5. <u>Participation:</u> have control over their data, and engage in the democratic process
6. <u>Sustainability:</u> digital devices should support sustainability and green transition.

<u>Digital Decade Framework:</u>
- Targets: Connectivity, digital skills, digital business and digital public services.
- Objectives: will guide Member State actions.
- Policy Programme: EU and Member States to work together to reach DD targets and objectives.
- Multi-Country Projects: allow member states to pool investments and launch large-scale, cross-border projects.
- Rights & Principles: reflect EU values.

<u>The Path to the Digital Decade:</u>
- The digital decade policy programme of 2023 sets up an annual cooperation cycle to achieve the common objectives and targets. Governance involves the Commission and Member States.
- Progress will be measured by the [Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)](#)
  - European Commission has been monitoring Member States digital progress through this system since 2014.
  - Key areas:
    - Human Capital
    - Connectivity
    - Integration of digital technology
    - Digital public services
- An annual report
- Every 2 years, an adjusted Digital Decade strategic roadmap

Source: Europe's Digital Decade: Digital Targets for 2023

The Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030

General Objectives of the Digital Decade Policy Programme 2030

a. **Promoting human centered digital environments, where secure digital tech. and services enhance Union principles.**
b. **Promote continuous opportunities for all individuals, achieve gender and geographic balance.**
c. **Ensuring the Union's digital sovereignty, by having secure and accessible digital and data infrastructures capable of storing, transmitting, and processing vast volumes of data**
d. **Reduce geographical digital divides**
e. Develop comprehensive and sustainable ecosystem of digital infrastructures
f. Promoting a digital regulatory environment
g. **Ensuring online participation in democratic life is possible for everyone, public services and health care services are accessible in a trusted and secure online environment.**
h. **Ensuring digital infrastructure and technologies, including supply chains, become more sustainable, resilient, and energy and resource efficient, with a view to minimize their negative environmental and social impact.**
i. Facilitating fair and non-discriminatory conditions
j. Ensuring programs are relevant to achieving the digital targets set out in Article 4
k. **Improving resilience to cyberattacks, contributing to increasing risk-awareness and the knowledge of cybersecurity processes.**