INTERNATIONAL FORUM on DIGITAL & DEMOCRACY
SECOND EDITION

17-18 November 2022 Live and Digital Event (Rome and online)

16 November Satellite Event (Milan and online)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Background Information

The International Forum on Digital and Democracy is a leading international event that brings together prominent thinkers from academia, policy, non-governmental organisations, and other stakeholders to discuss and debate some of the most pressing issues of our time. It aims to be a meeting place between politics and academics to promote international collaboration while exchanging information, ideas and good practices.

Originated from an idea of world-renowned economics professor and global leader in sustainable development, Professor **Jeffrey D. Sachs**, and former President of the European Commission, Professor **Romano Prodi**, the event has featured, among many others, contributions from European Commission's Vice President **Věra Jourová**, and Professor **Manuel Castells**, leading scholar on globalisation, network society, and internet studies.

The 2022 edition, organised in close cooperation between partners **Associazione Copernicani, Fondazione Luigi Einaudi, Re-Imagine Europa,** and **SoBigData++**, will focus on the relationship between technology, democracy and freedom of expression.

As a follow-up to the debate of the first edition, the Forum will explore and develop the interplay between digital technologies and data, political participation, and governance, with two additional focuses: the implementation of eGovernance and disinformation.

THURSDAY THE 17TH OF NOVEMBER

DAY ONE

OPENING SESSION

14:00 **WELCOME ADDRESS**

Andrea Cangini – Member of the Italian Senate, Segretario Generale at Fondazione Luigi Einaudi

Romano Prodi - Former President of the European Commission, Former Italian Prime Minister, co-founder of the International Forum on Digital and Democracy

Moderator: *Patrizia Feletig* - Chairwoman of Associazione Copernicani

14:20 **OPENING ADDRESS**

Keynote address by **Věra Jourová** - *Vice President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency*
Followed by a conversation with **Luca De Biase** - *Media Research Director at Re-Imagine Europa*

14:35 *Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence*

In conversation with **Gabriela Ramos** - *Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences of UNESCO*
Moderator: *Erika Staël von Holstein* - *Chief Executive at Re-Imagine Europa*

DISINFORMATION SESSION

14:50 **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

Technology-fuelled disinformation has a toxic societal impact on democratic political culture, providing severe polarisation which damages all institutions essential to democracy

Petros Panagiotopoulos. *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece: Public Space & Social Media: New possibilities of politicisation, "echo chambers" or fora of neo-populism?*

Max Lesser, Hallie J. Stern and Sara-Jayne Terp. *DISARM Foundation, USA: Countering Russian Misinformation, Disinformation, Malinformation and Influence Campaigns in Italy Surrounding the Russian Invasion of Ukraine.*

15:00 **ROUNDTABLE: "Polarization and technology-fueled disinformation: steps to disengage and tackle misleading web content"**

Keynote: **Syed Munir Khasru** - *Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG)*

Nadeem Anjum - *Head of Notifications and AI, Facebook (Meta)*
Enea Franza - *Vice-President and Director, Department of Political Science, International University for Peace in Rome*
Arif Perdana - *Associate Professor, Data Science, Monash University, Indonesia*
Adrian Rauchfleish - *Professor, National Taiwan University*

Moderator: **Rubayat-E-Shams Anik** - *Senior Research Associate, Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG)*

Q&A SESSION

POLICY SESSION

16:00 *Presentation of the United Nations E-Government Survey 2022*

Digital technologies and AI are increasingly shaping the agenda of international diplomacy. Still, the effort to build global governance for digital is far from producing any result. What does this mean today, and which changes should we expect in multilateral and bilateral relations in the next few years?

In conversation with **Vincenzo Aquaro** *- Chief of Digital Government at the United Nations*
Moderator: **Gianluca Misuraca** *- Founder and Vice President for Technology Diplomacy, Inspiring Futures*

16:15 **CLOSING SESSION**

Monica Maggioni *- Journalist and director of the Italian news program TG1, former President of RAI and former Vice President of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU), member of the Board of Re-Imagine Europa (TBC)*

FRIDAY THE 18TH OF NOVEMBER

DAY TWO

DEMOCRACY, DATA & AI

The Future of SoBigData

9:30 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Roberto Trasarti – SoBigData++ Project Coordinator

10:15 **DATA AND THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY**

Kalina Bontcheva - University of Sheffield
Fosca Giannotti - Scuola Normale Superiore
Jeroen van den Hoven - Technische Universiteit Delft

11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30 **ROUNDTABLE: "Can Data Governance and Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence Help Strengthen our Democracies?"**
Can civil and human rights be protected by implementing a different design for the current digital ecosystem? Is data transparency a key factor in protecting our democracies?

Fosca Giannotti - Scuola Normale Superiore
Patrizia Toia - Member of the European Parliament
Paul Lukowicz - DFKI and University of Kaiserslautern
Jeroen van den Hoven - Technische Universiteit Delft

Moderator: *Luca De Biase – Chief Editor at Nova and Media Research Director at Re-Imagine Europa*

Q&A SESSION

12:30 **CLOSING ADDRESS**

Dino Pedreschi - University of Pisa

E-GOVERNMENT SESSION

14:00   **OPENING ADDRESS**

Jeffrey Sachs - Director of the Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

14:15   **KEYNOTE:** *How Disinformation and Misinformation Target Reporters to Delegitimate Media and Destabilise Democracies*

Mathew Ingram - Chief Digital Writer, Columbia Journalism Review

14:30   **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**
The effects of the new 'algorithmic power' of States on citizens' rights and the Rule of law

Jérôme Duberry. Graduate Institute of International and development studies, Switzerland: Artificial intelligence, democracy, and the messiness of life

Vanja Skoric *(Civic AI Lab University of Amsterdam, Netherlands),* **Giovanni Sileno and Sennay Ghebreab** *(University of Amsterdam, Netherlands): Legality, legitimacy, and instrumental possibility in human and computational governance for the public sector*

14:40   **EXPERT DEBATE: Trustworthiness of Digital Services**

Gry Hasselbalch *- Cofounder and Research Director, DataEthics.eu*
Nena Dokuzov *- Head of Project Group for new Economy and Blockchain Economy, Government of Slovenia*
Antonio A.Martino *- Professor Emeritus, University of Pisa and University of Salvador Buenos Aires.*
Vicente Andreu Navarro *- Policy Officer, DG CONNECT*

Moderator and Chair: **Stefano Quintarelli** *– former President of AGID- Scientific Committee Member, Associazione Copernicani*

Q&A SESSION

DATA POLICY SESSION

15:40   **The Third Way To Digital and AI: Presentation of the [Declaration on European Digital Rights and Principles](#)**
How can we develop digital designs that help support our democratic processes by shaping the users' experience and behaviour to promote meaningful interaction and nurture constructive debate? How can we create a system that works for our values, fostering democracy and supporting civil rights?

In conversation with **Roberto Viola** *– Director-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology*
Moderator: **Luca De Biase** *- Media Research Director at Re-Imagine Europa*

TECHNOLOGY SESSION

15:55 **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**
Technology plays a major role in shaping the political landscape

Jörg Rainer Noennig, Balazs Cserpes, Francesca Ceolia, Marie Malchow, Jan Barski and Klara-Maria Brandenburger. HCU Hamburg, Germany: The Migrant Integration Platform MICADO – A Tool for Social Integration and Cohesion

Eduardo Albrecht. Mercy College, USA: The Informatized Body

16:05 **EXPERT DEBATE: The Geopolitics of Technology**

Keynote: ***Pari Esfandiari*** *- Co-founder and President of the Global TechnoPolitics Forum*

David Bray *- Distinguish Fellow and Former Senior Director, GeoTech Center and GeoTech Commission at the Atlantic Council.*
Sean Kanhuk *- Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)*
Geoffrey Goodell *- Lecturer in Financial Computing, University College London*

Moderator: ***Gregory F. Treverton*** *- Former Chair of the U.S. National Intelligence Council, Professor of Practice at Dornsife College, University of Southern California*

Q&A SESSION

17:05 **PRESENTATION OF BEST PAPER AWARD**

Closing address: ***Stefano Quintarelli*** *- former President of AGID- Science Committee Member, Associazione Copernicani*

SIDE EVENTS

Democracy in the digital age *-What impact on citizens' engagement in the policy-making processes?*
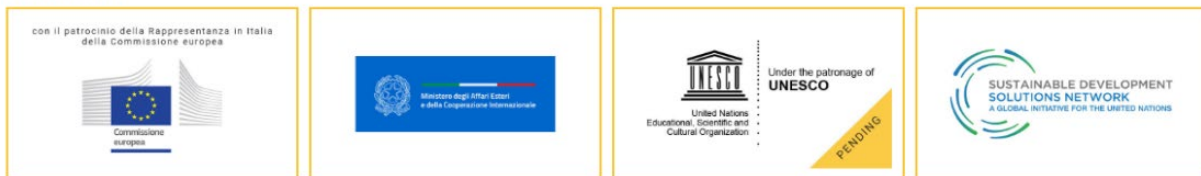*November 16th, 2022 at 18.00 – Fondazione Feltrinelli, viale Pasubio 5, Milan*

Media Ecology & Tech Diplomacy: an intertwined and interdependent path (*Invitation-only event*)
November 17th, 2022 at 17.30 – John Cabot University, piazza Gioacchino Belli 11, Rome

KNOWLEDGE PARTNERS

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