

# DIGITAL RIGHTS AND PRINCIPLES

#DigitalEU January 2022

"We aim to promote a European way for the digital transition, putting people at the centre. It shall be based on European values and benefiting all individuals and businesses."

**All people in the EU** should get the most out of the digital transformation. The digital rights and principles will guide the EU in promoting an **inclusive**, **prosperous**, **and sustainable society**. The declaration is the first of its kind in the world. It will be a **reference point for everyone in the EU** and a **guide for policy makers and companies developing digital technologies**. The digital rights and principles will be reflected in the EU's actions, future work, and engagement with global partners.



### SUSTAINABILITY

Digital devices should support sustainability and the green transition. People need to know about the environmental impact and energy consumption of their devices.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The digital environment

should be **safe and secure**. All users, from childhood

to old age, should be

empowered and protected.

#### PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE

Digital technologies should protect people's rights, support democracy, and ensure that all digital players act responsibly and safely. The EU promotes these values across the world.

# DIGITAL RIGHTS AND PRINCIPLES

#### PARTICIPATION

Citizens should be able to engage in the democratic process at all levels, and have control over their own data.

# ff.

#### SOLIDARITY AND INCLUSION

Technology should **unite**, **not divide**, **people**. Everyone should have access to the internet, to digital skills, to digital public services, and to fair working conditions.



### **FREEDOM OF CHOICE**

People should benefit from a fair online environment, be safe from illegal and harmful content, and be empowered when they interact with new and evolving technologies like artificial intelligence.

# **KEY FIGURES**

# **1.** PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE

**3.** FREEDOM OF CHOICE



# 4 OUT OF 10 EUROPEANS

are not aware that their rights such as the **freedom of expression**, **privacy, or non-discrimination** must also be respected online

**OF BUSINESSES** 

encountered **unfair trading** 

conditions on large platforms

HALF OF EU

INTERNET USERS in 2019 reported that

security concerns limit

their online activities

and business users

. SAFETY AND SECURITY

# 2. SOLIDARITY AND INCLUSION

2 OUT OF 3 EUROPEANS used e-government solutions in 2019

# **4.** PARTICIPATION



# OF USERS want to know **how their**

data is processed when they use social media

# **6.** SUSTAINABILITY



# 8 IN 10 EUROPEANS

would like to oblige manufacturers to make **digital devices easier to repair** 

# TIMELINE

#### 9 MARCH 2021

2030 Digital Compass: Commission presents vision and targets for the digital transformation, guided by digital rights and principles.

#### 1 JUNE 2021

Speech of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Sines, Portugal: "We embrace new technologies. But we stand by our values."

#### DECEMBER 2021

Publication of results of <u>the Eurobarometer</u> on digital principles: 8 Europeans out of 10 consider it useful that the EU defines and promotes digital rights and principles.

#### BY SUMMER 2022

European Parliament, Council and Commission will sign declaration of digital rights and principles.

#### MAY-SEPTEMBER 2021

Commission <u>gathers feedback</u> on digital principles from citizens and all interested parties.

## 15 SEPTEMBER 2021

Commission proposes governance framework to achieve the 2030 digital targets, the <u>Digital Decade</u> <u>Policy Programme.</u>

### 26 JANUARY 2022

The Commission proposes draft declaration of digital rights and principles.

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