TECH POLICY TALKS
Powering Tech Policy Debate

Technology & Education
The Right Digital Tools at the Right Time

Monday 13th December 2021. 15:30 - 17:15. Online Event.

Summary

The use of digital technologies to support education in Europe has been growing for many years, with technology forming part of the everyday experience for school and university students. During the pandemic, however, it has become an essential means of education delivery, enabling students to continue to learn at a distance and remain in contact with teachers and learning supervisors.

However, the pandemic has also brought to the fore the substantial barriers that remain to the optimal and effective utilisation of technologies in schools and universities and highlighted the opportunities for how digital can contribute to and improve learning outcomes. The need to address issues such as device battery life and capacity, for consistent connectivity beyond the hotspot and the necessity for ongoing professional development experiences to support teachers in this new and evolving environment are all examples of the challenges ahead.

Technology, deployed well, can enable the delivery of high-quality education to all communities, regardless of income status or location. In a post-COVID world, it is vital that the closing of the digital divide is given more attention than ever, as the world continues to adapt to new realities.

In this latest session of the Tech Policy Talks, we will bring together thought-leaders to look at the following questions:

- How has the pandemic changed the way in which member states are approaching their current and future education requirements?
- How will the EU and member states develop their cooperation in the areas of education and learning, and where does the role of digital technology fit in this sphere?
- The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) seeks to mitigate the economic and social impact of the coronavirus pandemic while working to ensure an inclusive green and digital recovery. What is required to ensure the digital divide continues to be addressed in Europe, and can the RRF help?
- Rather than aim for technology for technologies sake, where can digital make its biggest impact now and in the future, and how might this differ across Europe?
- How might the expansion of mobile access and the proliferation of 5G drive access to high-quality education for all?
- What mechanisms exist to deliver positive impacts, and in particular, how can industry and governments cooperate to identify needs and implement change?

Agenda

15:30   Introduction
Paul Adamson, Chairman, Forum Europe

15:35 - 15:45   Opening Remarks
Enrico Salvatori, Senior Vice-President and President of Qualcomm Europe

15:45 - 15:55   Keynote Remarks
Anna Ascani, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry of Economic Development, Italy

15:55 - 16.05   ***The Operazione Risorgimento Digitale Project***
Carlo Nardello, Chief Strategy, Business Development & Transformation Office, Executive Vice President, TelecomItalia

16.05 - 17:05   Discussion
Antoaneta Angelova-Krasteva, Director, Innovation, Digital Education and International Cooperation, DG EAC, European Commission
Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems UNESCO
Michael Vorländer, Head of Unit Education and Research, Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union
Marc Durando, Executive Director, European Schoolnet
Angela Baker, Head of Corporate Responsibility and Senior Director in Government Affairs, Qualcomm