1st Annual Digital Innovation Conference

THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL INNOVATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION
Policy Developments and Business Challenges

College of Europe, Bruges
10 April 2018

Digital innovation is permeating a big portion of the economy, reshaping the way we live, work, interact. Two paradigms currently stand out as potentially disruptive: the emergence of Distributed Ledger Technologies such as blockchain, and the increasingly pervasive use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in a variety of applications, from e-commerce to self-driving cars. Policymakers find it increasingly difficult to keep track of this evolution given the breath-taking pace of innovation, and the challenge of dealing with algorithms, collective intelligence, and often a patchy and uncertain set of legal rules. The College of Europe Chair in Digital Innovation organizes a one day conference to discuss the challenges and opportunities for innovation in the digital age.

Key themes addressed by the conference will be:

- What are the key opportunities and challenges of DLTs and Artificial Intelligence?
- Is Europe competitive in the deployment of these technologies?
- What new forms of innovation may emerge from the diffusion of these disruptive technologies?
- Is the EU legal system well-equipped to cope with the peculiarities of these technologies?
- What can the EU do to harness the potential of DLTs and Artificial intelligence to strengthen the Single Market and promote better economic, social and environmental outcomes?
9.30: Registration and coffee

10.00-10.15: Welcome addresses

  Jörg Monar   Rector
              College of Europe

  Andrea Renda Google Chair in Digital innovation
                   College of Europe

  Lie Junius   Director
              Google Office, Brussels

10.15-10.45: Keynote speech: New frontiers of Digital innovation

  Eva Kaili Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the
                Science and Technology Options Assessment body (STOA)
                European Parliament

10.45-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.45 Panel 1: Innovation in the age of distributed ledger technologies

  Chair: Andrea Renda Google Chair for Digital innovation
         College of Europe

  Panellists:

    Juri Mattila   Researcher
                    The Research institute of the Finnish Economy (ETLA)

    Susana Nascimento Policy Analyst
                          European Commission, Joint Research Centre

    Julio Faura   Head of R&D
                   Banco Santander

    Balázs Bodó   Policy Researcher
                   Institute for Information Law (IViR), University of Amsterdam

    Siân Jones   Senior advisor
                  Gibraltar Financial Services Commission
12.45-14.00: Lunch

14.00-16.00: Artificial Intelligence: ethical and policy challenges

Chair: Phedon Nicolaides Director, European Economic Studies Department
       College of Europe

Panellists:
Gianpiero Lotito CEO and Founder
       FacilityLive!
Paul Nemitz Principal Advisor
       European Commission, DG JUST
Alexandre De Streel Professor
       University of Namur and CERRE

16.00-16.30: Keynote speech and concluding session

Andrea Renda Google Chair for Digital innovation
       College of Europe