












Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	2018/0227(COD) Awaiting Council 1st reading position / budgetary conciliation convocation 19/03/2019: MFF 2021-2027/ Progress report - state of play in the Council
Digital Europe programme 2021?2027 Repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 2014/0185(COD)	
Subject 3.30.06 Information and communication technologies, digital technologies 3.30.07 Cybersecurity, cyberspace policy	
Legislative priorities Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, Research and Energy (Associated committee)	 MLINAR Angelika	13/06/2018
		Shadow rapporteur	
		 PILAR DEL CASTILLO VERA	
		 S&D ZORRINHO Carlos	
		 ECR FOX Ashley	
		 LOPEZ BERMEJO Paloma	
		 BÜTIKOFER Reinhard	
		 EFDD TAMBURRANO Dario	
		 ENF KAPPEL Barbara	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		28/06/2018
		 RÜBIG Paul	
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		21/06/2018
		 VĂLEAN Adina-Ioana	
	IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection		19/06/2018
		 S&D GEBHARDT Evelyne	
	TRAN Transport and Tourism		02/07/2018



[CLUNE Deirdre](#)

CULT [Culture and Education](#)
(Associated committee)

01/06/2018



[WENTA Bogdan
Brunon](#)

JURI [Legal Affairs](#)

09/07/2018



[GEBHARDT Evelyne](#)

LIBE [Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs](#)

09/07/2018



[LENAERS Jeroen](#)


Council of the European Union
European Commission

European Economic and
Social Committee
European Committee of the
Regions

Commission DG
[Communication](#)

Commissioner
GABRIEL Mariya

Key events

06/06/2018	Legislative proposal published	COM(2018)0434	Summary
14/06/2018	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		
05/07/2018	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
21/11/2018	Vote in committee, 1st reading/single reading		
28/11/2018	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0408/2018	Summary
12/12/2018	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2018	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0521/2018	Summary
13/12/2018	Matter referred back to the committee responsible		
17/04/2019	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T8-0403/2019	Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	2018/0227(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 2014/0185(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 59-p4; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 172; Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 173-p3

Modified legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 150
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Council 1st reading position / budgetary conciliation convocation
Committee dossier	ITRE/8/13592

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(2018)0434	06/06/2018	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2018)0305	08/06/2018	EC	
Document attached to the procedure		SWD(2018)0306	08/06/2018	EC	
Committee draft report		PE625.457	13/07/2018	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE627.808	13/09/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	CULT	PE625.319	12/10/2018	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES3902/2018	17/10/2018	ESC	
Committee opinion	BUDG	PE626.925	07/11/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	IMCO	PE627.039	07/11/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	LIBE	PE627.774	09/11/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	ENVI	PE629.529	13/11/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE627.011	15/11/2018	EP	
Committee opinion	JURI	PE627.030	21/11/2018	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0408/2018	28/11/2018	EP	Summary
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR3951/2018	05/12/2018	CofR	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading		T8-0521/2018	13/12/2018	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0403/2019	17/04/2019	EP	Summary

Additional information

Research document	Briefing
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2018/0227(COD) - 06/06/2018 Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to establish a digital Europe programme for the period 2021-2027.

PROPOSED ACT: Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: the [digital single market strategy](#) established a robust framework which must now be matched with an equally ambitious investment programme to increase the EU's international competitiveness, as well as to develop and strengthen Europe's strategic digital capacities.

European Heads of State and Government identified the main pillars of a strong digital economy: cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, a world class infrastructure that includes high performance computing, digital skills, and the digital transformation of the public sector.

In its [resolution](#) of 1 June 2017 on the digitising European industry, the European Parliament highlighted the importance of a common European cybersecurity approach, recognising the need to raise awareness and considered cyber-resilience as a crucial responsibility for business leaders and national and European industrial security policymakers.

The digital Europe programme is a central element of the Commission's comprehensive response to the challenge of digital transformation, part of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) proposal for 2021-2027.

CONTENT: the proposal for a Regulation - presented for a Union of 27 Member States - seeks to establish the digital Europe programme. It lays down the objectives of the programme, the budget for the period 2021 - 2027, the forms of European Union funding and the rules for providing such funding.

The overall objective of the proposed programme is to support the digital transformation of the European economy and society and bring its benefits to European citizens and businesses. It shall reinforce Europe's capacities in key digital technology areas through large-scale deployment and widen their diffusion and uptake in areas of public interest and the private sector.

The programme has five specific objectives:

1. high-performance computing: funding aims to build-up and strengthen the EU's high performance computing (HPC) and data processing capacities, and ensure their wide use both in areas of public interest such as health, environment and security, and by industry, notably SMEs.

At EU level, in March 2017, 29 countries engaged to cooperate on connected mobility, and 16 Member States have committed so far to work together and with the Commission to acquire and deploy an integrated world-class high performance computing infrastructure. In January 2018, the Commission proposed a Council Regulation to establish the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking [EuroHPC](#). The continuation of the Joint Undertaking is deemed to be the most effective instrument to implement the objectives of the EuroHPC initiative, in particular to coordinate national and European Union strategies and investments in high performance computing infrastructure and R&D;

2. cybersecurity: the programme shall contribute to the protection of the EU digital economy, society and democracies by promoting the EU cyber defence and cyber security industry, financing advanced cyber security equipment and infrastructure, and supporting the development of the necessary skills and knowledge.

3. artificial intelligence: the aim is to build-up and reinforce core artificial intelligence (AI) capacities such as a data resources and libraries of artificial intelligence algorithms and make them accessible to all businesses and public administrations, as well as reinforce and foster links between existing artificial intelligence testing and experimentation facilities in Member States;

4. advanced digital skills: the programme shall ensure that the current and future labour force can easily acquire advanced digital skills, notably in high performance computing, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, by offering students, graduates, and existing workers the means to acquire and develop these skills, no matter where they are situated;

5. deployment, better use of digital capacities and interoperability: the objective is to expand the best use of digital capacities, notably high performance computing, artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, across the economy, in areas of public interest and society, including the deployment of interoperable solutions in areas of public interest and facilitate access to technology and knowhow for all businesses, notably SMEs.

Digital innovation hubs: the proposal foresees a central role for digital innovation hubs in the implementation of the programme. A network of digital innovation hubs shall ensure the widest geographical coverage across Europe.

The digital innovation hubs shall serve as access points to the latest digital capacities, including high performance computing (HPC), artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, as well as other innovative technologies such as key enabling technologies, also available also in fablabs or citylabs. They shall act as single-entry points in accessing tested and validated technologies and promote open innovation.

Proposed budget: the financial envelope for the programme is set at EUR 9.2 billion in current prices for the period 2021-2027, its indicative distribution shall be as follows:

- high performance computing: up to EUR 2.7 billion;
- cybersecurity: up to EUR 2.5 billion;
- artificial intelligence: up to EUR 2 billion;
- advanced digital skills: up to EUR 700 million;
- digital capacity utilisation and interoperability: up to EUR 1.3 billion.

2018/0227(COD) - 28/11/2018 Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Industry, Research and Energy adopted the report by Angelika MLINAR (ALDE, AT) on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Digital Europe programme for the period 2021-2027.

The Committee on Culture and Education, exercising its prerogative as an associated committee in accordance with [Article 54 of the Rules of Procedure](#), also gave its opinion on the report.

The current state of digitalisation of EU economy, industry and society is not sufficient to answer to the political ambition of the Digital Single Market. There is still an important gap to cover through substantial and better European investment, in order to achieve the common goal and fully benefit from the EU added value.

This proposal is the first pan-European digital programme; it should be seen as a major step for strengthening and improving Europe leading position.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the Commission's proposal as follows.

Aim: this aim of this proposed Regulation is to establish the Digital Europe programme, which shall be implemented for the period of 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027.

Definition: the amended text defines what a 'European Digital Innovation Hub' means. It is an existing or new legal entity or a consortium of legal entities designated or selected in an open, transparent and competitive procedure in order to fulfil the tasks under the Programme. European Digital Innovation Hubs shall act as one-stop-shops where companies - especially SMEs, start-ups and mid-caps - can get help to improve their business, production processes, products and services by means of digital technology that could result in added value.

General objective: the Programme shall seek to support and to accelerate the digital transformation of the European economy, industry and society and to bring its benefits to European citizens, public services and businesses, as well as to reinforce the strategic autonomy and cohesion of the Union while securing competitiveness and reducing the digital divide.

Budget: the financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 8.2 billion in 2018 prices (compared to EUR 9.2 billion as proposed by the Commission).

Specific objectives: the Programme shall be structured into five specific objectives reflecting key policy areas, namely:

1. high-performance computing with a budget up to EUR 2.4 billion;
2. artificial intelligence and distributed ledger technologies with a budget up to EUR 2.2 billion;
3. cybersecurity with a budget up to EUR 1.8 billion;
4. advanced digital skills with a budget up to EUR 623 million;
5. deployment, best use of digital capacities and interoperability with a budget up to EUR 1.1 million.

For all these areas, the Programme shall also aim at better aligning Union, Member States and regional policies, and pooling of private and industrial resources in order to increase investment and develop stronger synergies. The Commission shall ensure that when leveraging the complementary character of the programme with other European funding programmes, in particular ESIF, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Horizon Europe and Connecting Europe Facility (CEF-2), InvestEU, Erasmus, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) the achievement of Specific objectives are not hampered.

Monitoring and reporting: the Commission shall ensure regular monitoring and external evaluation of the Programme. The evaluations shall also provide for a qualitative assessment of the progress towards achieving the general objectives. In addition to regularly monitoring the Programme, the Commission shall establish an interim evaluation report no later than 31 December 2024. The interim evaluation shall present the findings necessary to make a decision about a follow-up to the Programme beyond 2027 and its objectives. The interim evaluation shall be submitted to the European Parliament.

2018/0227(COD) - 13/12/2018 Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 491 votes to 38, with 51 abstentions, amendments to the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Digital Europe programme for the period 2021-2027.

The issue was referred back to the committee for interinstitutional negotiations.

The main amendments adopted in plenary concern the following points:

Objective

This aim of this proposed Regulation is to establish the first Digital Europe programme, which shall be implemented for the period of 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027.

The general objective shall:

- seek to support and to accelerate the digital transformation of the European economy, industry and society and to bring its benefits to European citizens, public services and businesses;
- reinforce the strategic autonomy and cohesion of the Union while securing competitiveness and reducing the digital divide.

A central role in the implementation of the Programme should be attributed to European Digital Innovation Hubs, which should stimulate the broad adoption of advanced digital technologies by industry including SMEs, by public organisations and academia.

Members have stated that European Digital Innovation Hubs shall act as one-stop-shops where companies - especially SMEs, start-ups and mid-caps - can get help to improve their business, production processes, products and services by means of digital technology that could result in added value.

Budget

The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021-2027 shall be EUR 8.2 billion in 2018 prices (compared to EUR 9.2 billion as proposed by the Commission).

Specific objectives

The Programme shall be structured into five specific objectives reflecting key policy areas, namely:

- high-performance computing (Objective 1) with a budget up to EUR 2.4 billion;
- artificial intelligence (Objective 2) with a budget up to EUR 2.2 billion;
- cybersecurity (Objective 3) with a budget up to EUR 1.8 billion;
- advanced digital skills (Objective 4) with a budget up to EUR 623 million;
- deployment, best use of digital capacities and interoperability (Objective 6) with a budget up to EUR 1.1 million.

Implementation

The actions under specific objective 1 shall be primarily implemented through the Joint Undertaking proposed by the Commission and endorsed by the Council of Ministers on 25 of June 2018.

The actions under specific objective 2 shall be implemented exclusively through direct management by the Commission or an executive agency on the basis of a cost-benefit analysis. They shall comply with ethical principles and relevant national, Union and international laws, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the European Convention of Human Rights and the Protocol thereto.

The actions under objective 3 shall be primarily implemented through the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Cybersecurity Competence Network.

The actions under Objectives 4 and 5 shall be mainly implemented through direct management by the European Commission.

For all these areas, the Programme shall also aim at better aligning Union, Member States and regional policies, and pooling of private and industrial resources in order to increase investment and develop stronger synergies.

The Commission shall ensure that when leveraging the complementary character of the programme with other European funding programmes, in particular ESIF, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Horizon Europe and Connecting Europe Facility (CEF-2), investEU, Erasmus, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) the achievement of Specific objectives are not hampered.

2018/0227(COD) - 17/04/2019 Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 561 votes to 39, with 50 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Digital Europe Programme for the period 2021-2027.

The European Parliaments position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure amended the Commission proposal as follows:

Subject matter

The objective of the proposed Regulation shall be to establish the first Digital Europe Programme, which will be implemented for the period from 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2027.

The general objective of the programme shall be:

- to support and accelerate the digital transformation of the European economy, industry and society and to bring its benefits to European citizens, public administrations and businesses across the Union;
- to strengthen Europe's competitiveness in the global digital economy while contributing to bridging the digital divide across the Union and reinforcing the Unions strategic autonomy.

European Digital Innovation Hubs

During the first year of the programme, an initial network of European Digital Innovation Hubs shall be established through an open and competitive process from entities designated by Member States.

A central role in the implementation of the Programme shall be attributed to European Digital Innovation Hubs, which should stimulate the broad adoption of advanced digital technologies by industry, in particular SMEs and entities employing up to 3 000 employees that are not SMEs (midcaps), by public organisations and academia.

European Digital Innovation Hubs shall have substantial overall autonomy to define their organisation, composition, and working methods. They shall act as facilitator to bring together industry, businesses and administrations which are in need of new technological solutions on one side, with companies, notably start-ups and SMEs, that have market-ready solutions on the other side.

They shall develop synergies with Digital Innovation Hubs funded by Horizon Europe programme or other R&I programmes.

Budget

Parliament proposed that the financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021-2027 be set at EUR 8.2 billion in 2018 prices.

The Programme shall be structured into 5 specific objectives corresponding to the main areas of intervention, namely:

- up to EUR 2.4 billion for Specific Objective 1, High Performance Computing;
- up to EUR 2.2 billion for Specific Objective 2, Artificial Intelligence;
- up to EUR 1.8 billion for Specific Objective 3, Cybersecurity and Trust;
- up to EUR 623 million for Specific Objective 4, Advanced Digital skills;
- up to EUR 1.1 billion for Specific Objective 5, Deployment, best use of digital capacities and Interoperability.

Implementation of the project

- Actions under Specific Objective 1 shall be primarily implemented through the Joint Undertaking established by [Council Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1488](#) establishing the European High Performance Computing Joint Undertaking;

- Actions under Specific Objective 2 'Artificial intelligence' shall be implemented exclusively through direct management. The Commission shall specify, in accordance with relevant European and international legislation, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, the conditions relating to ethical issues in the work programmes under this objective. Funding for actions that do not comply with the conditions relating to ethical issues may be suspended, withdrawn or reduced at any time.

- Actions under Objective 3 Cybersecurity and Trust shall be mainly implemented through the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology

and Research Competence Centre and the Cybersecurity Competence Network.

- Actions under Objectives 4 'Advanced e-Skills' and 5 'Deployment, best use of digital capabilities and interoperability' shall be mainly implemented through direct management by the European Commission.

Third countries associated with the programme

Parliament has requested that the programme be open to the participation of members of the European Free Trade Association which are members of the European Economic Area (EEA). Full or partial association with the programme of other third countries would be based on a case-by-case assessment of the specific objectives, in accordance with the conditions laid down in a specific agreement on the participation of the third country in any EU programme, provided that this specific agreement meets a number of criteria.