

# ***Ensuring an Inclusive Digital Transformation***

## **Event Agenda**

**18 October, 10.30-13.00 (EEST)**

**National Library of Latvia (premises on the Level 11 and 12),  
Riga, Mukusalas iela 3**

As technology continues to constitute turning points in modern history, affecting the way we live, work and evolve, Europe has important decisions to take in shaping its digital future and strengthening its capacities in new technologies. Although digital policies have been one of the cornerstones of EU legislation for many years, the main and most important challenge today is to achieve a digital transformation that works for all, without further deepening the existing digital divide or creating new inequalities. Civil society organisations in Europe are raising concerns regarding privacy issues, the surveillance of people, racism in Artificial Intelligence and algorithms, and biometric mass surveillance technologies, as well as lack of accessibility of new technologies. It is crucial to put human rights first and allow for a digital transformation in Europe that is shaped by the people for the people.

In an effort to raise awareness and give the opportunity to local stakeholders in Latvia to contribute to the discussion, ECAS, and My Voice, are organising an interactive training and co-creation event focusing on five policy areas: *Digital Democracy, Digital Economy, Digital Safeguards, Digital Rights, and Digital Education*. During the event, experts on digital policies will present the main challenges of digital transformation at the EU level and showcase the recommendations advocated by civil society organisations all across Europe. The participants will then have the opportunity to propose their own recommendations and ensure that their interests, and mainly the interests of vulnerable groups, are included in the development of the EU's ongoing and future Digital Transformation strategy.

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## AGENDA

10.30 – 10.45

- **Welcome My Voice** - Imants Braidaks, CEO of MyVoice
- **Digital Transformation implications in the Latvian context** - Gatis Ozols, Deputy State Secretary on Digital Transformation issues, The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
- **Civil Society and the EU's Digital Policies** - Vasiliki Katsikerou, Training and Events Manager, ECAS

*Co-Creation Sessions led by Elisa Lironi, Programme Director & Vasiliki Katsikerou Training Manager ECAS*

10.45 – 11:05 **Digital Democracy: Can it be Inclusive?**

In the last decade, the EU focused its e-government, e-transparency and e-participation efforts on technological solutions for public administrations, businesses and people (e.g. electronic identity). How can we ensure online services, information and policy-making processes are easily accessible to European citizens?

- General Information
- Discussion
- Co-creation Session with Slido

11.05 – 11.25 **Digital Economy: Who is not following?**

The economy is changing, and digital business models are among the most profitable and have impacted all of Europe, bringing both opportunities and challenges. What is the potential of digital economy and what are the challenges to be aware of?

- General Information
- Discussion
- Co-creation Session with Slido

11:25 – 11:45 **Digital Rights: Defending Rights & Freedoms Online**

There is great potential for the EU to be an ambitious rights-driven leader in tech policy, but this will only be possible if its digital policies enhance the protection of citizens' rights and online freedom. How can we ensure human rights and democratic principles are at the center of these legislative processes, alongside innovation and competition concerns?

- General Information
- Discussion
- Co-creation Session with Slido

11:45 – 12:05 **Digital Safeguards: Identifying digital threats**

Digitalisation will only advance European societies if we can ensure digital technologies are developed and used in respect of human rights and democratic principles. What are the digital safeguards we want decision-makers to put in place to ensure the respect of our European values, ethics and norms in the digital space?

- General Information
- Discussion
- Co-creation Session with Slido

12:05 – 12:25 **Digital Education: The underpinning of societal inclusion**

The EU must ensure that all citizens have access to basic digital technologies and are provided with the right skills to navigate the digital world. How can we ensure all EU citizens have access to digital education and forge the necessary skills to truly be part of an ever more digital society?

- General Information
- Discussion
- Co-creation Session with Slido

12:25 – 13:00 **Final Remarks – Open Discussion**