

EU Digital Agenda

The European Commission adopted « A digital single market strategy for Europe » on 6 May 2015 – paving the way for an EU single market fit for the digital age. 3 pillars channel discussions on ***better online access – a fostering digital environment – digitalisation a driver for growth.***

In June 2015 the EU Justice Council introduces a general approach for ***Data Protection Regulation*** – new modern and harmonized rules to ensure swift & safe data transfer. Main elements are ***One continent, one law – European rules on European soil – more powers for national data protection authorities – one-stop-shop.*** One supervisory authority accessible to every citizen in his home country, in the own language, even if the data is processed outside of the home country.

The development of an adequate EU regulation is a slow moving process as different EU Directorate-General are involved (digital/transport/internal market). In the meantime Member States take own initiatives.

The ***Digital Transport and Logistics Forum*** (est. April 2015) brokers the issues via multi-layered dialogue with governments, industry and other stakeholders. This consultative platform has to foster coordination & cooperation between stakeholders in a cross modal and cross sectorial manner to enhance interoperability in logistics and freight transport.

An EU Communication in January 2017 focusses on the free flow of data & aims to eradicate every barrier by adopting rules on ***data liability – machine generated data – data interoperability – data standards.***

During the ***Digital Transport Days in November 2017*** priorities accompanied by an action plan will be presented on following topics: ***E-transport documents – cargo flow optimization along corridors.***

Many challenges remain unanswered:

- Legal acceptance does not necessary translate in implementation
- Member States hesitate on account of too high investment
- Difference in speed between private & public
- Too many parallel projects & initiatives
- Definition role & liability & access still lacking
- Authorities perspective not integrated although crucial in the area of prevention – law enforcement – accidents/incidents – cabotage
- Danger of EU lagging behind.

Basis for Trade union reply is that ***everyone has to benefit*** from automation/digitalisation and ***meaningful dialogue at every level*** is to be installed in the introduction of automation/digitalisation. ***Works' Councils the perfect tool?***