



European Internet Foundation
Political Leadership for Network Society



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The Digital World in 2030

What place for Europe?



An interactive visit to the Digital World of 2030
with Peter Linton, principal author of the EIF report



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EIF report

The Digital World in 2030: What place for Europe?

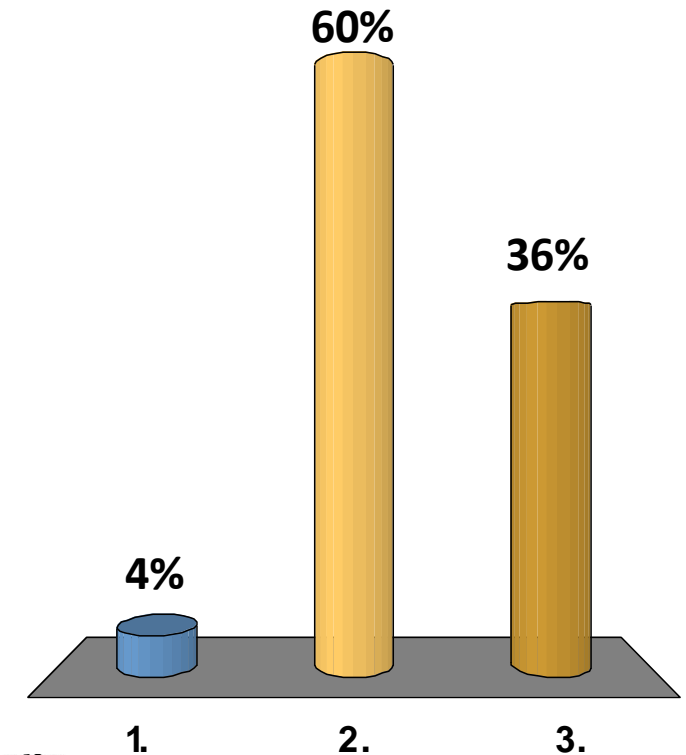
Core digital technologies are evolving and converging rapidly, fueled by real-time, real-world data, driving us toward a Knowing Society and creating the foundation for an avalanche of innovative software platforms and other digital tools available and affordable to anybody and everybody, everywhere for virtually any purpose. In economic terms, we are finally on the cusp of “the real” third industrial revolution. We need to understand and exploit this vast opportunity, while also urgently addressing the intense social and political stresses this revolution will inevitably engender. Europe’s political leaders need to engage with this revolution across their full range of competences. 2030 is now. Completing Europe’s Digital Single Market is the most urgent priority.



Knowing Society or Surveillance Society?

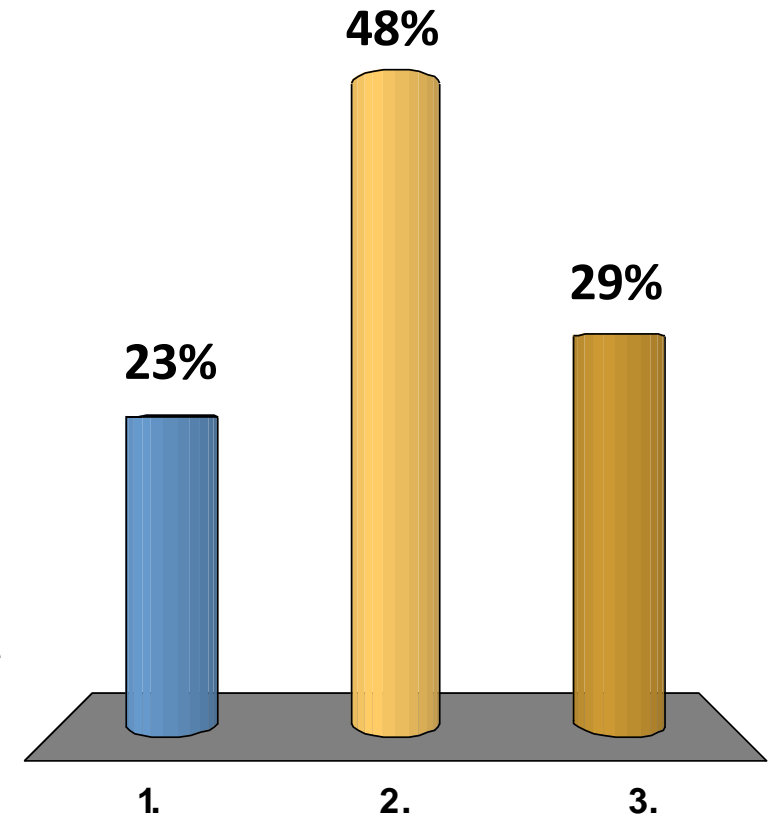
Will legislators in our democratic societies charged with “oversight” of national security and law enforcement surveillance have sufficient understanding of the complexities involved to do their job – or will the Geeks run the world?

1. Not to worry
2. Fair question
3. Geeks !



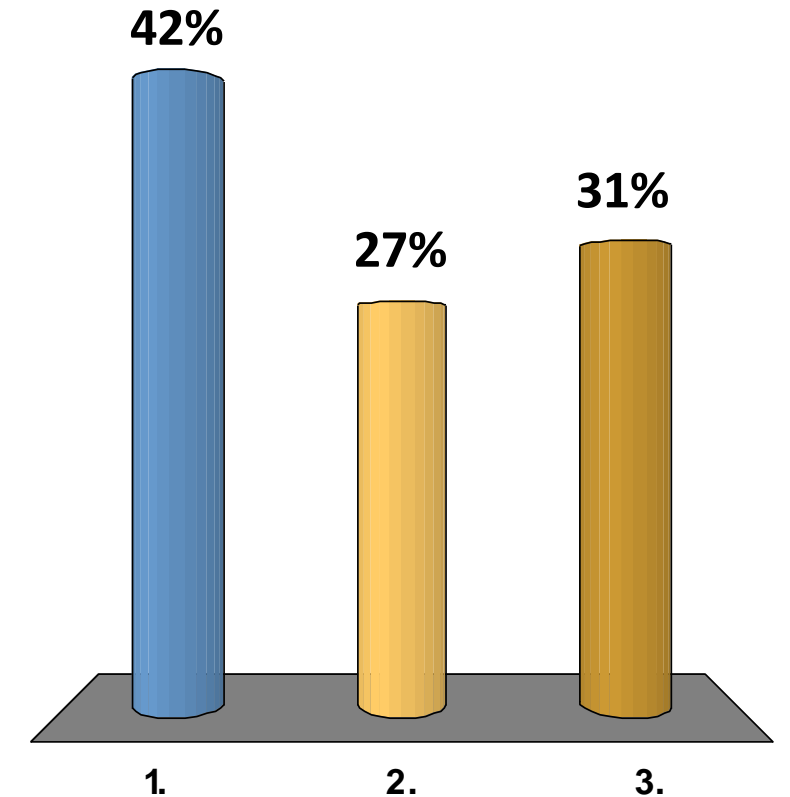
What place for Europe in the digital world of 2030?

1. Our future is bright because the Knowing Society plays toward abiding strengths of European civilisation and humanism
2. That depends...
3. Too late - the barbarians are already at the gate



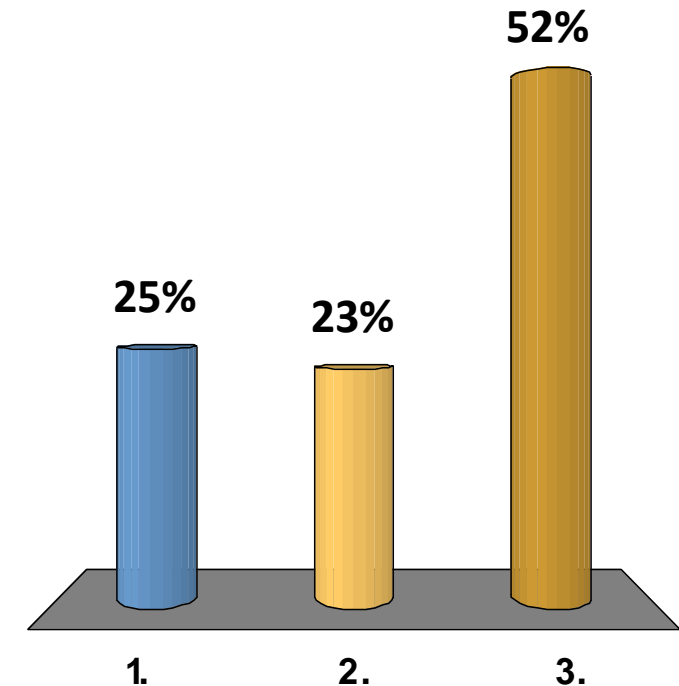
The ongoing search for a new model of “internet governance” is ...

1. Central to Europe’s strategic interests
2. Incomprehensible
3. Irrelevant / unmanageable



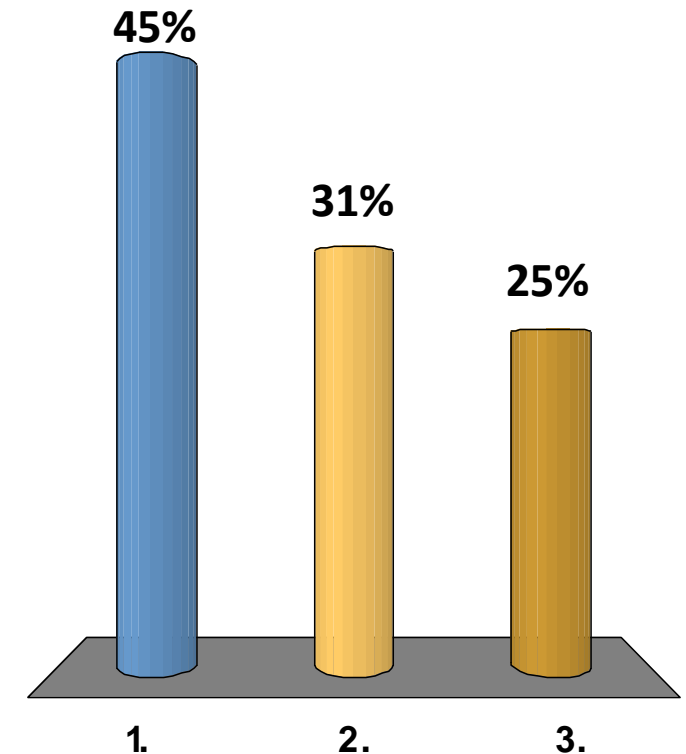
If “leadership” in a hyper-connected world means stewardship, curation and enabling at the centre of a network rather than command and control, will the Knowing Society shift the future locus of political power (in democratic societies)...

1. From the nation-state (and EU) level towards regional and local levels?
2. Toward more centralised power – even at global level?
3. Both?



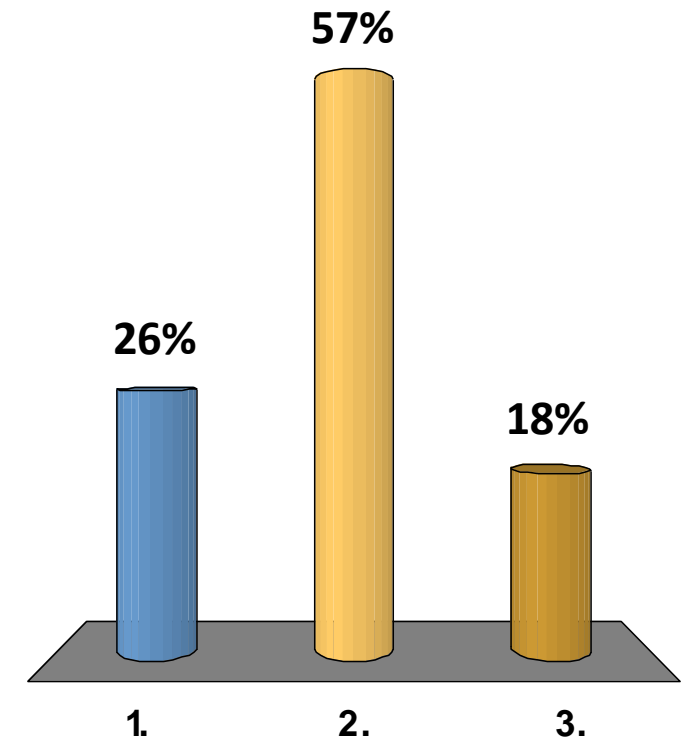
Macroeconomics in the Knowing Society: Is the internet making us poor? Is software “eating the world”? Are we all in a “race against the machine”?

1. No. The new opportunities will far outweigh the displacements
2. Yes if policy-makers don't get in front of the trends
3. Yes, and there is nothing policy-makers can do about it



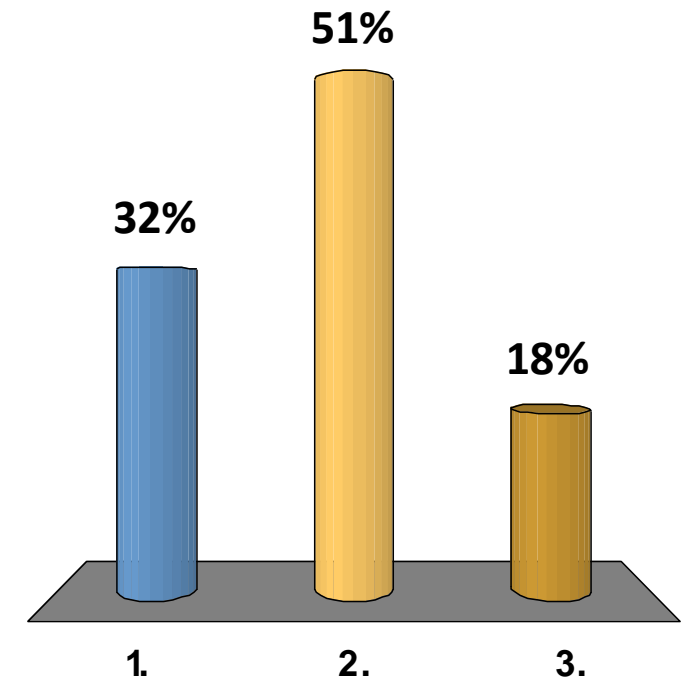
The prospect of a “third industrial revolution” characterised by the “democratisation of manufacturing” driven by digital technologies like “3D printing” is ...

1. An inevitability
2. Part of a bigger picture
3. A fantasy



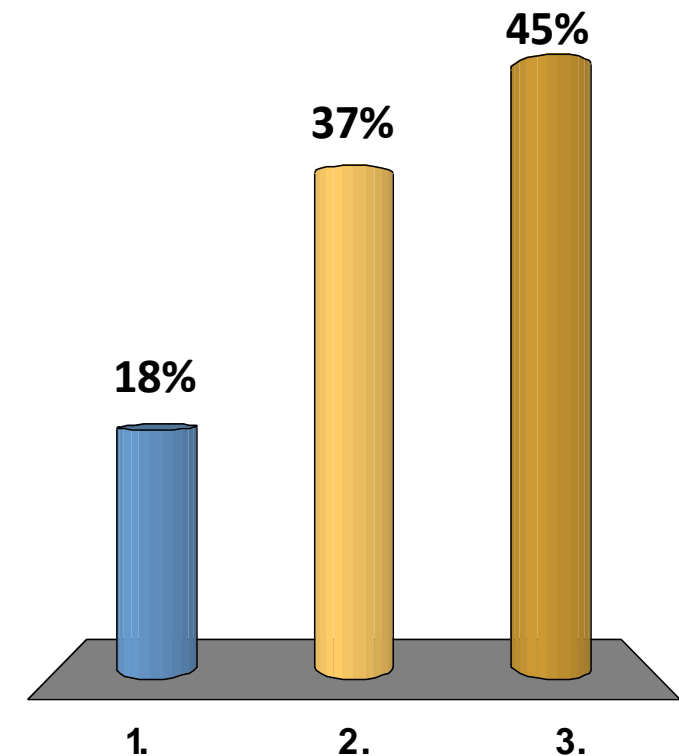
A world of entrepreneurs: Can a growing number of digitally-rooted entrepreneurs help fill the prospective employment gap from the disappearance of growing numbers current jobs?

1. Yes, this is a strategic opportunity and priority for Europe
2. To some extent but it's not the entire solution
3. Marginally at best



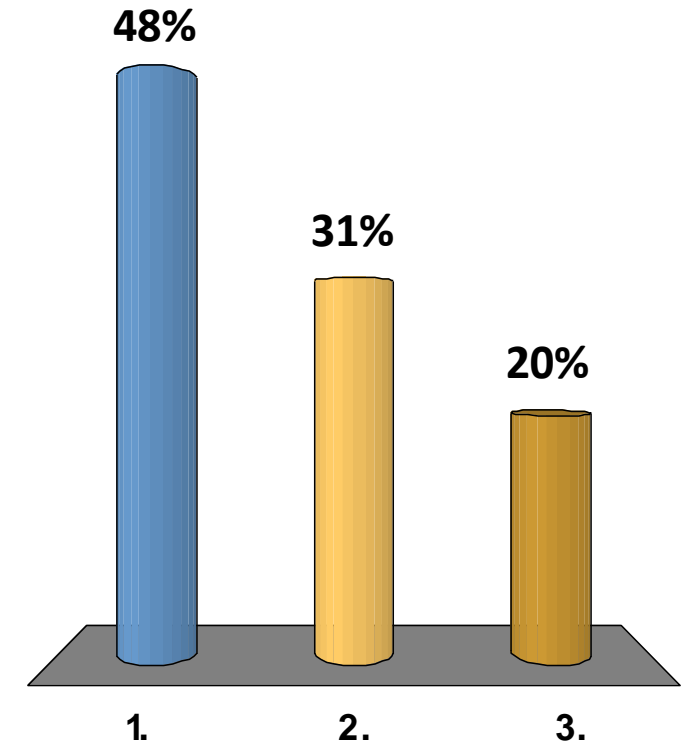
Can 5G re-establish Europe's mobile communications leadership?

1. No doubt
2. Maybe
3. Too little too late



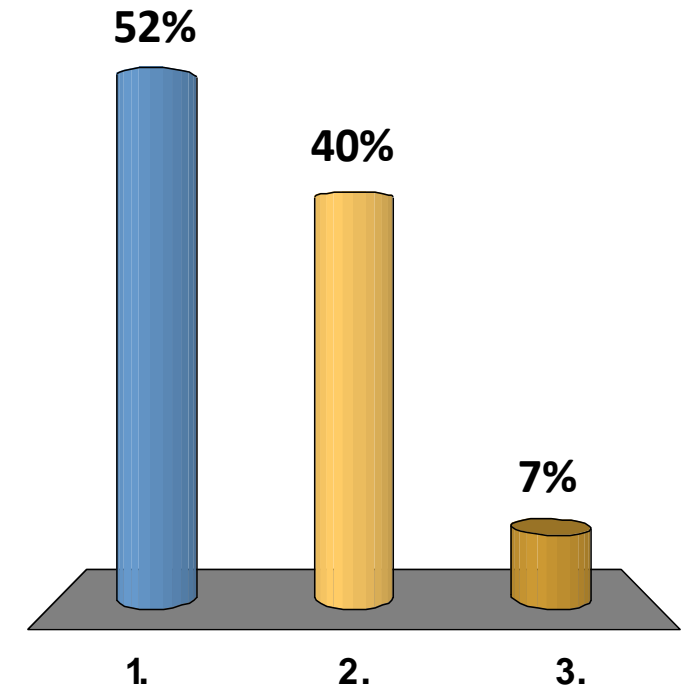
Ensuring that all EU legislation is “Internet Ready” is an idea...

1. Whose time has come
2. That deserves wider consideration
3. Without merit



The Digital Single Market is ...

1. Overdue
2. Over-hyped
3. Over





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