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HLF recommendations on funding for standardisation activities

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14 November 2024



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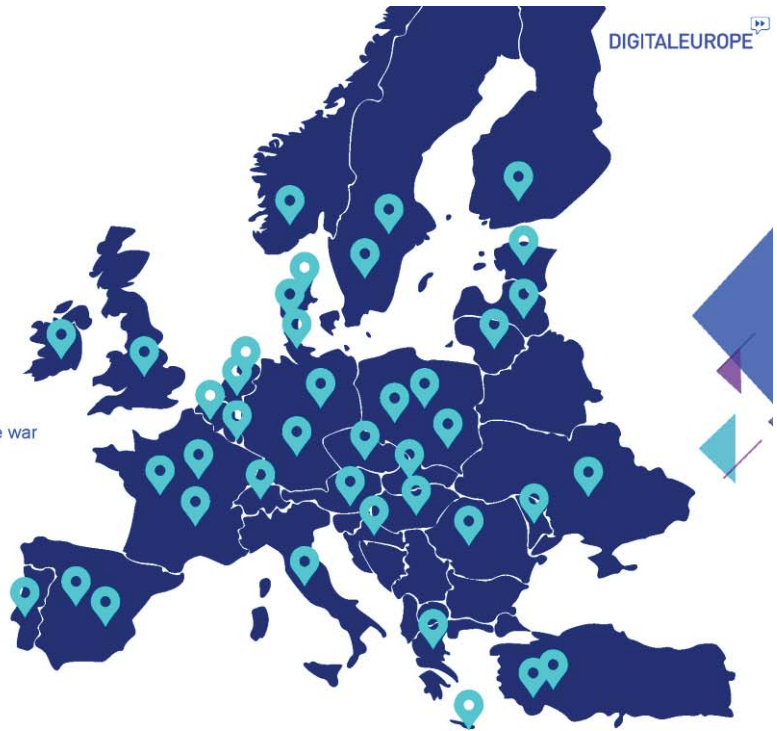


Our members

45,000

companies
represented

Cybersecurity	Resilience and the Ukraine war
AI software & hardware	Healthcare
Data analytics	Manufacturing
Telecoms	Finance
Semiconductors	Buildings
Cloud technology	Mobility
International trade	



Impactful in Europe through strong 41 NTA collaboration

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👑 **CEO Network:** Built strong community of NTA CEOs

🇪🇺 **DE Presidency Summits**

📞 **Bi-Monthly Calls:** Community-centric intelligence sharing

👑 **Joint Campaigns:** Skills, AI, data, Single market, Ukraine

🎯 **Council Outreach:** In Brussels and the capitals

🏛️ **Project Involvement:** Key EU projects

📋 **NTA Chairmanship:** NTA Chairing >2/3 of our Policy & Working Groups & 90% under our new structure!



👑 **Future Unicorn award:** Europe's winning scale-ups

Shaping EU's Digital Future



Policy and projects hand in hand



Three challenges the EU must address to be a technology leader

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- **Lack of scalability in the EU**
 - Fragmentation of the single market and a lack of a unified strategy
- **Investment shortfall**
 - EU has no common capital market
 - Public funding for R&D is nationally fragmented, and inefficient
 - Innovations are not commercialised enough
- **Tough playing field for European business**
 - Stringent regulations have no equivalent in other geographies

Standardisation in our focus

Internal

- ▶▶ Policy: Standardisation & Compliance Working Group: **300+ members**
- ▶▶ Technical: Standardisation issue groups: AI Act, Digital Product Passport, Cyber Resilience Act. **100+ member in each**

External

- ▶▶ Members of the EU High-Level Forum on Standardisation (**HLF**)
- ▶▶ Members of Multistakeholder Platform on ICT Standardisation (**MSP**)
- ▶▶ Members of the **Rolling Plan on ICT Standardisation**
- ▶▶ Chair **MSP** Task Force **Research & Innovation**
- ▶▶ Members of Commission Expert Group **Radio Equipment Directive**, Working party on **Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive**

HLF priorities

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ▶▶ AI & Data | ▶▶ Education and skills |
| ▶▶ Digital Product Passport | ▶▶ EU & international standards |
| ▶▶ Quantum Technologies | ▶▶ Funding |



The High-Level Forum Deep Dive on funding



■ The idea

- To address the lack of funding as one root cause of the insufficient EU participation and influence in international standardisation

■ Partners

- **Coordinator:** DIGITALEUROPE
- **EU and EEA Countries:** Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia
- **Type C organisations:** AIOTI, CEN, CENELEC, European DIGITAL SME Alliance, Small Business Standards (SBS), T&D Europe

Challenges identified in the deep-dive

- ▶▶ **No harmonised priorities** across the different funding programmes
- ▶▶ **No or little influence on standards development** (no clear link between pre-standardisation work and input for technical committees)
- ▶▶ **Lack of coordination** with industrial areas and applications, leading to weak links with industry priorities
- ▶▶ **Lack of strategic** foresight in support of EU legislative acts and strategic industrial policy areas
- ▶▶ Discrepancy among **Member States'** standardisation activities
- ▶▶ **Skills shortages** in critical technologies
- ▶▶ **Administrative burdens**
- ▶▶ **Untapped potential** in many EU funding programmes and partnerships on industrial innovation, development and deployment, which do not foresee standardisation



Key recommendations

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To the Commission

- ▶▶ Optimise **existing standardisation funding** projects at EU level
- ▶▶ Set up an **incentive mechanism** for Member States with lower participation
- ▶▶ Fund activities that generate standards more systematically to ensure translating **innovation into commercialisation**
- ▶▶ Develop a **horizontal approach** to incorporate standards into research and innovation to accelerate market deployment – *COMPET Council conclusions (24 May 2024)*



To the Member States

- ▶▶ Evaluate the opportunity of **funding mechanisms** that foster participation in standardisation processes (e.g. Germany)
- ▶▶ Provide **economic incentives for companies** taking part in standardisation activities (e.g. tax rebates in Denmark & France)

What's next?

- ▶▶ High-level debate on a way forward at the **HLF Forum**, in January 2025
- ▶▶ Follow up on the recommendations
 - A possible follow-up to identify gaps in existing funding schemes
- ▶▶ Promotion activities
 - Dissemination through our **NTA network** and **HLF members**
- ▶▶ Sharing with the EC Multi Stakeholder Platform (**MSP**) Task Force on Research & Innovation

**Can we count on Member States
action and support?**



Thank you!

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