



EU commission launches digital strategy and consultations

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The European Commission (commission) launched its overall [strategy](#) for shaping Europe's digital future for the next five years on 19 Feb 2020. The commission issued two documents for consultation — the communication on a [European strategy for data](#) and a [white paper on artificial intelligence \(AI\)](#).

Highlights

The commission is considering specific initiatives to regulate online platforms; align competition rules with the digital market; reduce the technology sector's environmental impact; and establish a governance framework for data access that enables individuals to exercise rights over their data. The commission also addressed two employment-related concerns:

- [Strategy for data, better protection for gig workers](#). The commission's European strategy for data details plans for several initiatives, including a proposal to be published in 2021 that would strengthen the employment protection of gig platform workers. Input is invited through 31 May 2020.
- [White paper on artificial intelligence, fundamental rights](#). The commission offers options for creating a legislative framework for "trustworthy AI," and invites comments through 19 May 2020. The commission warns that fundamental rights require protection, and that individuals must be protected against "biases in algorithms or training data" that result in "unjust and discriminatory outcomes." Proposals to address safety, liability, fundamental rights and data will be published in Q4 2020.

Related resources

- [Press release](#) (European Commission, 19 Feb 2020)

- [Communication: Shaping Europe's digital future](#) (European Commission, 19 Feb 2020)
- [Communication on a European strategy for data](#) (European Commission, 19 Feb 2020)
- [White paper on artificial intelligence](#) (European Commission, 19 Feb 2020)

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