

Introduction and Scope

The PICASSO project organised a participatory webinar on “**Digital Communities for EU-US ICT collaboration**”.

With this webinar, PICASSO brought forward policy recommendations designed to improve EU/US ICT-orientated collaborations – specifically in the technological domains associated with 5G networks, Big Data, and IoT/CPS with focus on digital communities and the ways EU and US technological communities can work together to foster the development and implementation of innovative models of social integration in order to address societal and practical challenges facing digital communities regarding mobility, security and territorial monitoring, health and well being, energy efficiency and environmental sustainability.

Background Notes

The participatory and interactive webinar intended to validate initial conclusions based on a [Policy Brief on Digital Communities for EU/US ICT collaboration](#) prepared by the [PICASSO ICT Policy Expert Group](#). The Policy Brief has been updated with content stemming from the webinar discussions and beyond.

Agenda

PICASSO Welcome and purpose of the call

Maarten Botterman, PICASSO Policy Expert Group Chairman

Introduction to EU-US Cybersecurity policy issues relating to ICT development

*Maarten Botterman, PICASSO Policy Expert Group Chairman
Dr. Jonathan Cave, GNKS Consult and University of Warwick
Dr. Glenn Ricart, US Ignite*

Introducing the three domains - 5G, Big Data, IoT/CPS

Introduction and Participatory discussion:
Focus per domain

Preliminary conclusions (Briefing Document validation)

Organizing Committee

Policy Expert Group Chair: *Maarten Botterman*, GNKS Consult, The Netherlands

Policy Expert Group Member: *Jonathan Cave*, Warwick University, United Kingdom

Marta Calderaro, APRE, Italy

Margot Bezzi, APRE, Italy

Invited Speaker

Glenn Ricart, US Ignite

Technicalities

Webinar Date: 9th May 2018

Duration: approx. 90 minutes

Participation: Free of Charge

Technical System: Adobe Connect

Recording, Presentations and Policy Brief at:

www.picasso-project.eu

Webinar Results

Digital Communities are “... where people come together to learn, share and collaborate to build digital solutions to common problems and challenges”. The focus on communities and how they are affected by digital technologies attracted a group of people across Europe and US to further explore what the needs of these communities would be, and how in particular 5G networks, Big Data, and the Internet of Things will influence this. Digitization enables bridging of time and space, and facilitates complex interaction in ways that are otherwise not possible. By using IoT, devices can add to the sensory awareness of communities and community members, and act – fed by instructions, or autonomously fed by data, based on programmed algorithms, or even intelligently, based on machine learning or artificial intelligence. It enables the formation of overlapping communities that extend and sustain existing affinities, all manageable because of the ability to bridge time and geographic space, and (partly) automate interaction.

New technologies have always played a critical role in bringing improved communication services to people and communities in rural and remote areas. As with the roll-out of broadband, still lagging (in general) more in rural areas than in more densely populated areas, a specific concern expressed is how much access people in less dense areas would have to advanced services – will this further increase a digital divide, or are there ways to actively mitigate this? The good news is that technologies have become more scalable, thus empowering local action (next to more top-down stimulus to provide access in the regions). It is clear that digital systems can summon help, control signals and valves and the brightness of street lights, manage waste pickup and inform public safety efforts. As personal data are inevitably caught by these sensors and actuators respond to automated instructions that affect personal interests, we can apply the policy lessons of the Picasso policy paper on Privacy. As sensitive data are collected, we can apply the policy lessons of the Picasso policy paper on Security, which also cover control of access to sensitive data and ensuring that data and automated decisions and actions are reliable and understandable. To maintain coherence of data collection and management systems for an expanding range of sensors and interoperability of the systems and applications that use these data to provide community ecosystem services, we will need the policy lessons of the Standards Picasso policy paper. Finally, since most of these sensors and many of the actuators are connected wirelessly, the policy lessons of the Spectrum Picasso policy paper can be applied.

Main Conclusions

5G networks, Big Data and IoT hold great promises to further integration and facilitation of Digital Communities – whether they are in close geographic proximity, or consist of geographically dispersed groups with a common interest. However, it is important to bring this all together: privacy; security; standards; spectrum – to illustrate how they work collectively as means to public interest ends. A focus on Digital Communities would include learning from practice: a huge opportunity for both EU and US researchers as both challenges and solutions arise that can inspire further innovation elsewhere. Ensuring that advance digital services become available to all will require joint action.

