



INCLUSIVE DIGITAL EUROPE CONFERENCE

**Maison des
Associations
Internationales**

Rue Washington, 40
B-1050 Brussels, BELGIUM

**Empowering
communities
through inclusive
digital
transformation**



7

NOVEMBER

2025

**Join us!
Register now**



Co-funded by
the European Union

Inclusive Digital Europe Conference

AGENDA

7 November 2025
10:00 - 14:00

**Maison des Associations
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Rue Washington, 40
1050 Brussels, Belgium

10:00 – 10:10 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:10– 10:25 | Keynote Talk - “The Future of Digital Education in Rural Communities”

MEP Brando Benifei, EP Working Group on AI Act implementation - *Remotely*
Mr. Csaba BORBOLY - CoR member and rapporteur on the European Skills Agenda

10:25– 10:55 | Building a Digital Village

- **Alberto Biondo**, Coordinator, CSC Danilo Dolci – ETS
- **Giulia D’Annibale**, Our Digital Village Coordinator, CSC Danilo Dolci – ETS
- **Rosabel Martinez Roig**, Assistant Professor Doctor, University of Alicante

10:55– 11:35 | Panel Discussion: What’s Next for Digital Skills in Rural Europe?

Ms. Milena Nahapetyan, Digital Transformation Unit, Education Department - Council of Europe
Anja Fortuna, Program Manager, European Rural Parliament
Leonie Bultynck, Policy Assistant, Digital Education Unit, European Commission (DG EAC)
Denys Tkachov, Expert in Digital Transformation in Organizations and Municipalities

11:35 - 11:50 Break

11:50 - 12:10 Smart Schooling and Networking: empowering small and rural schools

- **Christos Bousoulas**, European Schoolnet

12:10– 12:50 | Interactive Roundtables

1. **Digital Skills for Education & Training**, Pierangelo Di Benedetto, FabLab Palermo
2. **Rural Innovation & Community Empowerment**, Hendrik Nahr, Make.org
3. **Bridging Urban–Rural Divides**, Denys Tkachov, University of
4. **Future Visions of a Digital Europe**, Eszter Hartay, European Center for Not-For

12:50– 13:00 | Closing Plenary

- Reflections from selected speakers/participants.
- Sustainability & future pathways.

13:00 – 14:00 | Networking Lunch - Networking Tables

An informal closing moment to connect with fellow participants, exchange experiences, and visit networking booths showcasing initiatives on rural digital education, innovation, and inclusion.



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AFTERNOON SESSION

For ALDA members

This session dedicated to ALDA Members after the morning conference to discuss the ALDA's Digital and Innovation Hub Strategy

14:00 – 14:15 | Welcome & Introduction

14:15 – 14:40 | Member Insights

- ALL Digital
- DYPALL (TBC)
- Platoniq Foundation (TBC)

14:40 – 15:30 | Strategic Conversations (Round Tables)

15:30 – 16:00 | Networking Coffee Break

16:00 – 16:40 | Collective Outlook

16:40 – 17:00 | Wrap-Up & Next Steps

17:00 – 18:00 | Networking & Informal Exchange



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Our speakers



Brando Benifei

Member of the European Parliament and Co-Rapporteur of the EU Artificial Intelligence Act, Brando Benifei is one of the leading voices in Europe on digital policy, technology ethics, and consumer protection. Representing Italy in the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats, he has been a strong advocate for inclusive and human-centred digital transformation.

Csaba Borboly

Vice-President of Harghita County Council and active member of the European Committee of the Regions, Csaba Borboly serves as Rapporteur on the European Skills Agenda. His work focuses on skills development, digital education, and supporting local and regional authorities in driving both the green and digital transitions.



Leonie Bultynck

Policy Assistant at the Digital Education Unit of the European Commission (DG EAC). She contributes to the implementation of the Digital Education Action Plan 2021–2027, supporting initiatives that advance digital skills, promote gender equality in STEM, and strengthen cooperation through the European Digital Education Hub working closely with policymakers and experts to foster inclusive and forward-looking digital education.



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Anja Fortuna

Programme Manager at the European Rural Parliament and former Vice-President of the European Youth Forum. Anja advocates for youth participation and social innovation in rural areas, connecting grassroots initiatives with European policy processes to ensure that rural voices are heard in shaping Europe's future.

Milena Nahapetyan

Senior Project Officer at the Council of Europe's Education Department, Milena manages the implementation of the European Year of Digital Citizenship Education 2025. The activities advance digital transition in education and promote informed, meaningful and ethical use of digital tools by learners of all ages.



Alberto Biondo

Coordinator at Centro per lo Sviluppo Creativo Danilo Dolci – ETS (Palermo, Italy). He leads international projects focused on community development, civic participation, and creative social innovation. Alberto has been active in EU-funded initiatives and intercultural cooperation programs.



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Denys Tkachov

PhD candidate at the University of Limoges, researching the use of AI in local democracy. With hands-on experience in digital transformation for civil society organisations and municipalities in Ukraine, he bridges academic research and practice.



Christos Bousoulas

Communication and Outreach Coordinator at European Schoolnet. With experience across EU institutions and NGOs, he manages outreach campaigns and digital content. Christos holds a BA in Social Sciences and Religion and a double MA in European Politics and Culture.

Rosabel Martinez Roig

Associate Professor at the University of Alicante (Spain), specialising in educational innovation and digital pedagogy. Holding a PhD in Educational Research (cum laude), she focuses on integrating digital technologies into teaching and learning, fostering inclusive and participatory educational environments, and supporting teacher professional development in the digital era.



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Giulia D'Annibale

Project Manager and Designer at Centro per lo Sviluppo Creativo Danilo Dolci. She holds a Master's in Anthropology of Migratory Flows from the University of Turin and has worked since 2018 in education, inclusion, and social innovation. Her focus lies in designing and managing European projects that promote civic participation, intercultural learning, and human rights.



David Mekkaoui

As CEO of All Digital, David leads a 100-member network addressing Europe's digital skills gap. A TEDx speaker on tech optimism, he will share why digital inclusion is essential for youth-led climate action.

Pierangelo Di Benedetto

Head of Design, 3D Modelling and CNC, FabLab Palermo at FabLab Palermo, with a background in mechanical engineering. He leads on 3D modelling, CNC machining, CAD/CAM systems, and digital fabrication. He has contributed to community-based innovation projects that bring technology and creativity to local development.



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Eszter Hartay

Program Director at the European Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ECNL) with extensive experience in advancing legal frameworks for civil society across Europe and beyond. She leads ECNL's work on philanthropy and public participation, focusing on how digital technologies and AI influence civic engagement.

Hendrik Nahr

Head of European Affairs at Make.org, where he represents the European civic tech organisation at the EU level - engaging with institutions, NGOs, foundations, and other key stakeholders. He develops and leads projects in collaboration with public actors to strengthen the connection between citizens and institutions, and also serves as Make.org's spokesperson at the EU level



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PARTNERS

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10:00 am - 14:00 pm

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