

Global Technology Governance Summit (GTGS)

WORLD
ECONOMIC
FORUM

VIRTUAL MEETING HOSTED BY JAPAN
6-7 APRIL 2021

Harnessing new technologies

Our ability to harness and disseminate the new technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution will play a key role in ensuring our recovery from the pandemic and the avoidance of future crises. The possibilities for appropriately deployed new Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies should be used as the baseline to reinvent the way we operate in the new context: affecting everything from government services, education and healthcare, to the way business interacts with and provides value to its customers. If not directed with purpose, however, the Fourth Industrial Revolution has the potential to exacerbate inequality. We must take proactive steps to ensure technology adoption does not heighten abuse of power, bias, wealth disparities, exclusion and loss of livelihoods.

Solving this dilemma requires a more agile approach to governing advanced technologies, creating public-private partnerships and managing business models. To that end, the World Economic Forum, as the International Organization for Public Private Cooperation, is convening the first Global Technology Governance Summit on 6-7 April 2021. The Summit will be hosted by the Government of Japan, and will leverage the Forum's Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network. Established in early 2017, this global network, which is operational in five continents comprises more than 400 governments, businesses, academic institutions and international organizations.

Responding to the Fourth Industrial Revolution

The inaugural gathering of the GTGS will cover the following key topic areas in detail.

- **Industry transformation:** No industry has been untouched by the global response to COVID-19. The world can no longer operate as it has, and as such markets will have to respond to its new and evolving needs. To survive, every business in the world will have to become a technology company.

- **Government transformation:** The transformation of government will be front and centre in the area of digital infrastructure as technology services become an essential public utility comparable to electricity, water or roads.
- **Global technology governance:** The extent to which the benefits of technology are maximized and the attendant risks mitigated, depends on the quality of governance protocols – policies, norms, standards and incentives – that shape the development and deployment of technologies.
- **Frontier technologies:** Embracing frontier technologies will be essential in all sectors. Technologies such as 3D printing can revolutionize supply chains, enabling mass customization and offering new means to increase the circularity of products or even halt environmental damage caused by climate change.

Collaborating for impact

The inaugural Global Technology Governance Summit will convene leaders from more than 50 governments and 600 companies worldwide.

Among the stakeholders are senior public figures, policy-makers, executives and experts from:

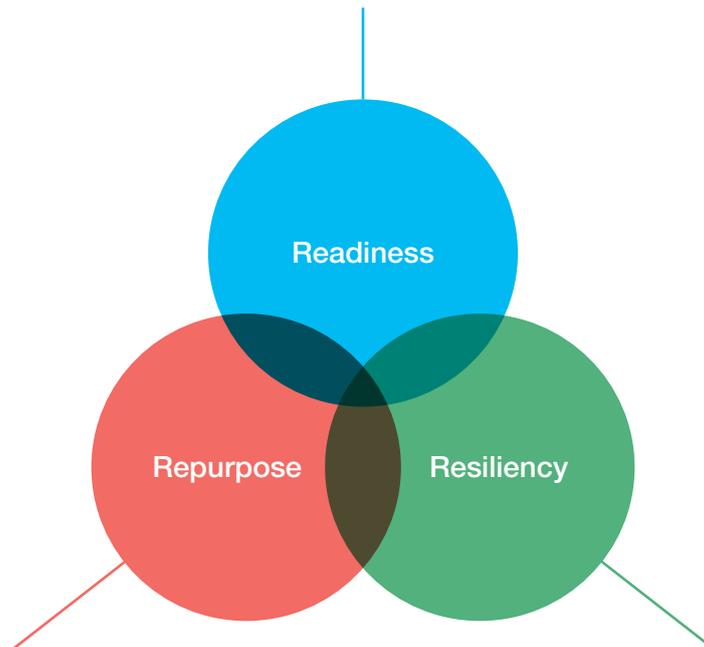
- Government
- Industry
- International organizations
- Start-ups
- Civil society
- Academia
- Media

Working sessions will engage stakeholders in:

- Developing, piloting and scaling up agile and human-centred tools that can be adopted by policy-makers, legislators, businesses and regulators worldwide
- Promoting systems leadership through multistakeholder dialogue, cross-industry collaboration and public-private partnership
- Learning about frontier technologies, disruptive business models and related geo-economic issues through in-depth analysis and expert consultations

The two-day summit will focus on three core thematic pillars:

Readiness: Accelerating the plans of industries, countries and regions to prepare for Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies to maximize benefit



Repurpose: Reimagining and updating in line with the new global context, using technology and cooperation to ensure a healthy future

Resiliency: Supporting companies, countries and regions to build sustainable futures through the adoption and use of technology, in a responsible and ethical manner

Frequently asked questions

Where will the summit take place?

The Summit will take place on the TopLink engagement platform, with key sessions broadcast from Japan, as well as from different time zones represented by the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network.

Who do I contact for more information?

Please contact your Forum engagement manager (as indicated in your invitation or TopLink account page under Your Profile) or GTGS@weforum.org.

Where can I register and find additional information about the programme?

Visit TopLink to register for the summit, contribute to the agenda and receive programme updates, participant information and summit highlights.