Addressing technological change

Policy-makers and business leaders are under increasing pressure to respond to the societal impact of rapid technological advances. Yet, they must do so without restraining entrepreneurship, innovation and growth that are enabled by the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Solving this dilemma requires a more agile approach to governing advanced technologies, to creating public-private partnerships and to 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 in San Francisco on 21-22 April 2020 in close collaboration with Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR) Network. This global network comprises more than 40 governments and international organizations as well as 150 companies.

Responding to the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Data in all its forms is becoming one of most valued resources for human development as well as technological development. This new context has raised policy concerns about exclusion, inequity and inequality but also practical questions about data ownership, privacy, pricing and remuneration.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is now the focal point of many national and industry initiatives seeking to respond to data- and privacy-related concerns. The absence of a global framework and core principles for data policies is hindering these efforts. Stakeholders must mitigate the risks to stop fragmented governance policies and suboptimal regulatory environments from setting in. This dynamic repeats itself in multiple technological domains. Mitigating this risk is the primary focus of the C4IR Network. This inaugural summit will highlight the Forum’s work in the following domains:

- From Artificial Intelligence to Quantum Computing
- From Autonomous Vehicles to Drones
- From Big Data to the Internet of Things (IoT)
- From Blockchain to Digital/Crypto Currencies
- From Cybersecurity to Data Privacy
- From Gene Editing to Synthetic Biology

Pioneering new approaches

- **Global Artificial Intelligence Governance:** Unprecedented governance issues such as algorithmic bias, AI-generated intellectual property and biometric surveillance have emerged from the rapid adoption of AI. What governance mechanisms are required to address societal concerns such as transparency, accessibility and citizens’ rights?
- **Data for Common Purpose:** A coherent and global approach to data sharing is essential for data-driven innovations such as autonomous driving, gene editing and machine learning. How can the risk of regulatory fragmentation be mitigated, the beneficial uses of personal data be promoted, and the balance between data privacy and economic incentives be maintained?
- **“Just” Technologies:** The development and deployment of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies require individuals and institutions to assume collective responsibility for their ethical, equitable and inclusive use. How can these responsibilities be developed for all stakeholders in a more consistent and measurable manner for frontier technologies such as machine learning, synthetic biology and DNA data storage?
- **Digital/Crypto Currency Governance:** The World Economic Forum launched the first global consortium focused on designing a framework for the governance of digital currencies, including stablecoins, in Davos this year. How can the technology be governed to allow greater financial inclusion, public-private cooperation and access for high-growth markets?

Collaborating for governance impact

The inaugural Global Technology Governance Summit will convene leaders from more than 50 governments and 300 companies worldwide. Among the 600 stakeholders are senior public figures, policy-makers, executives and experts from:

- Government
- Industry
- International Organizations
- Start-Ups
- Civil Society
- Academia
- Media
Over 40 working sessions will engage stakeholders in:

- Developing, piloting and scaling up agile and human-centred governance tools that can be adopted by policy-makers, legislators 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 pillars of global technology governance:

1. Accelerating Agile Governance through Public-Private Cooperation
2. Improving our Future Readiness for Frontier Technologies
3. Assessing the Economic, Ecological and Societal Impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Global Technology Governance Summit Programme Overview

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<th>Monday 20 April</th>
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<td>08.00 - 12.30</td>
<td>Community and Working Sessions in Parallel</td>
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<td>12.30 - 14.00</td>
<td>Registration Opens</td>
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<td>14.00 - 17.00</td>
<td>Working Sessions in Parallel</td>
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Frequently asked questions

Where will the summit take place?
Plenary sessions will take place at the newly renovated Presidio Theatre in San Francisco. Community sessions and workshops will take place across the street at the Golden Gate Club and nearby offices of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

When will the summit take place?
The official programme will take place on 21-22 April 2020. Sessions targeting specific Forum communities will take place on 20-22 April (community programme). Please consult the full programme for the venue of each session.

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.

Where will I stay?
Participants are asked to arrange their own travel and accommodation. Limited hotel accommodations are available at the Lodge and Inn at the Presidio. Contact GTGS-Hospitality@weforum.org for more information. Please note that transfers will not be organized from or to the airport. Shuttles will be available between the Golden Gate Club and the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Do I need a visa?
Please check with your nearest US embassy or consulate for visa requirements. The Forum is unable to help with visa applications.

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

The proposals and findings of the summit will be shared with more than 5,000 members of the Forum’s Global Expert Network and over 300,000 users of its Transformation Maps, which are a suite of tools incorporating expert and machine-curated knowledge to visualize and understand 120+ topics.