



# top of digital **Europe**

ICT Think Tank  
for the Baltic Sea Region



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*The Baltic Sea Region holds a unique position but needs initiatives like this where public and private sectors join forces to explore shared challenges and opportunities across borders.”*

**Jørgen Abild Andersen,**

*Chairman of Top of Digital Europe Advisory Board, Chair of OECD Committee on Digital Economy Policy*

## Approach

- use applied, transparent, and fact-driven research and analyses from top experts in the field
- strengthen competitiveness through innovative cross-border actions
- influence national and European decision- and policy makers
- be agenda-setting by stimulating dynamic discussions on growth through ICT

## Activities

- identify key issues and solutions related to the digital economy and ICT as a growth driver
- facilitate dialogue through conferences, seminars, and round table discussions, typically with high level participation from business and politics
- deliver analyses and policy recommendations through reports, white papers, and articles
- bring Baltic Sea Region experiences and competences to Europe and the world

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*The Nordic region continues to be the trendsetter and the pioneer in what will be the future economy. We saw it already in the 1980s when the Nordic countries were the first to develop their mobile networks. Today, when we look at the use of information and communication technology in governments as well as businesses, we can see that the Nordic countries are still the trendsetters, more than any other region of Europe.”*

**Toomas Hendrik Ilves,**  
*President of Estonia*

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*ICT is one of the future key growth drivers in the region. We need to focus on jobs and growth in our cooperation and the ICT sector is crucial to all of us. We need to work hard to keep our digital and ICT leadership in Europe and in the world. With Top of Digital Europe we hope to inspire regional cooperation.”*

**Lene Espersen,**  
*Chairman of Baltic Development Forum*

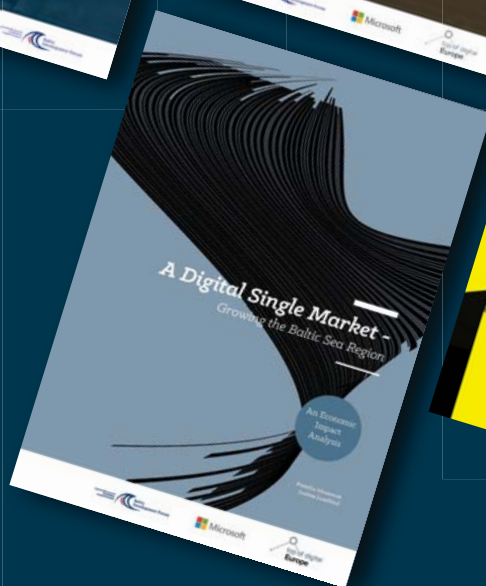
**Top of Digital Europe** is an independent, non-profit think tank that promotes the Baltic Sea Region as a leader in the Information and Communications and Technology (ICT) sector. Established on initiative of Baltic Development Forum and Microsoft, Top of Digital Europe facilitates dialogue on how to further develop the digital strengths of the Baltic Sea Region and the ICT industries that are based here.

The ICT sector is a key driver for growth and competitiveness. The countries in the Baltic Sea Region have established themselves as front-runners in the field, and have succeeded in attracting large amounts of foreign direct investments in this

competitive sector. Boasting a high concentration of relevant competencies, industries and start-ups, the Baltic Sea Region is known as a world leading ICT hub, and is being recognized by the European Commission as a region that may show the way towards a Digital Single Market.

As we are entering a new era of tougher global competition, how can the Baltic Sea Region maintain and further develop its leading role? Top of Digital Europe seeks the answers through exploring the potential for cross-border dialogue and public-private initiatives and by identifying strategies for stimulating competitiveness and growth potential.

# Publications





The work of Top of Digital Europe is guided by an Advisory Board of ICT experts from the public and the private sectors in the Baltic Sea Region. In addition, Top of Digital Europe has ongoing, informal dialogue with government agencies, ICT business associations, company representatives, academia and experts in the field.



# Join

## Top of Digital Europe

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Companies, organisations, investment agencies, authorities and other public and private actors with an interest in the digital economy can join Top of Digital Europe as sponsors, partners or stakeholders.

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*The Nordic/Baltic region is one of the world's leading ICT powerhouses. The last decade Microsoft has invested more deeply in the this region than in any other part of the world because we invest where we find great people and technology. However, the region is also facing some challenges. I am convinced that "Top of Digital Europe" will be a source of inspiration to overcome the challenges together."*

**Nanna-Louise Wildfang Linde,**  
Assistant General Counsel, Microsoft,  
Northern Europe

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