

## Resolution on the Digital Single Market

The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Party convening in Warsaw, Poland on 1 to 3 December 2016:

### Having regard to:

- the report of the European Parliamentary Research Service on “Mapping the cost of non-Europe 2014-2018” that concludes that the completion of the Single Market has an economic benefit that could build up annually to almost €1.6 trillion – or about 12% of EU-28 GDP, an equivalent of €3,150 per European citizen per year;
- the roadmap for completing the digital single market as presented by the European Commission;
- concrete proposals launched by the European Commission on e-commerce, copyright, and portability;
- the proposed update of the EU audiovisual rules.

### Notes:

- the objective of the European Council to create a promising economic future for all, to safeguard our way of life and provide better opportunities for youth;
- the European Single Market remains a welfare multiplier for EU citizens but needs maintenance;
- that all modern markets have vital digital components and therefore the necessity of digital by default is self-evident;
- that still too many barriers exist to fully leverage the potential of the EU single market when it comes to digital;
- that most proposals done by the European Commission so far consist too much of political compromise and lack bold ambition;
- that many rural and even some urban areas cannot take part in the Digital Single Market due to the lack of high-speed broadband or mobile network coverage;
- there is little economic incentive for private companies to develop networks in areas where population density cannot guarantee a service request that justifies deployment costs;
- in many less affluent areas, the lack of IT literacy adds a further disadvantage to residents who have a greater need to access information and services;
- the lack of coherent policy concerning the sharing economy.

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**Recalls:**

- the inadequate process that occurred in September on the European Commission's attempt on ending the roaming charges.

**Calls for:**

- ALDE to set up a working group to develop a bold and ambitious plan to close the gap between the EU and the USA by starting the process of completing boosting the Digital Single Market;
- a framework that allows EU starts-ups, scale-ups and companies to thrive in the EU single market;
- the creation of an EU level playing field for the sharing economy;
- bolder proposals that ensure that a proper and consumer oriented EU copyright will be established while ensuring fair compensation for artists who create content;
- basic access to broadband to be considered a universal service;
- the digital economy must be built on reliable and trustworthy networks and services that safeguard consumers' fundamental rights to privacy and personal data protection;
- the rapid deployment of a vast European 5G network;
- a dedicated focus on improved connectivity and the vital infrastructure for the single market to flourish.

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