Knowledge without Borders

GÉANT 2020 as the European Communications Commons

Report of the GÉANT Expert Group

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2014, 2024, 2034 ...
The Competition for Talent

- The future economy is the economy of talent
- Richard Florida: “Human Talent is the Ultimate Economic Resource”
- Talent attracted by
  - tolerance,
  - technology
  - other talent
Talent Attracted Talent to Schools
Talent Attracted to Knowledge
Internet Changes
Everything ...

- No distances
- No borders
- No locations
- Open innovation
- Open education
- Data driven research
... and Everything is Changing

- **Post Industrial Society**
  - From scarcity to abundance

- **Climate Change**
  - Energy Revolution,
  - Greening the Economy

- **Demography**
  - Greying the economy

- **Globalization**
  - West’s monopoly on science is melting away
GÉANT has been the Infrastructure for Talent

- To continue leading in the world and
  - remain at the forefront of the scientific and social developments,
  - to achieve the Europe 2020 goals,
- Europe must step up its ambition and efforts to provide its talent with the best possible digital infrastructure.
- GÉANT2020 is our vision for the European networks achieving this.
- National governments and the European Institutions must see this as a vital policy goal.
The Vision of GEG

- “GÉANT 2020” is the European communications commons
- where talent anywhere is able to collaborate with their peers around the world and
- to have instantaneous and unlimited access to any resource for knowledge creation, innovation and learning,
- unconstrained by the barriers of the pre-digital world.
GÉANT 2020 as Commons

- Commons is what we share. Creations of both nature and society that belong to all of us equally, and should be preserved and maintained for future generations.
  onthecommons.org/commons-glossary

- “resources that are collectively owned or shared between or among populations”
  en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_commons

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GÉANT 2020 for Talent

- talent as ultimate economic resource
- talent anywhere, talent from anywhere
  - “GÉANT 2020 is rooted in values of equality, solidarity and freedom which are held in high regard by Europeans”.
- globally around the world

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GÉANT 2020 for knowledge creation, innovation and learning

- a common enabling infrastructure for European research and education
- a collaboration platform for knowledge communities
- an environment for knowledge creation, innovation and learning
- a transformative digital ecosystem

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GÉANT 2020 Unconstrained by the past

- because Internet changes everything!

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Goals that Fulfill the Vision

1. Support knowledge communities by providing world-class **connectivity** and **services**.

2. Support the **growth** of these communities, in both breadth and depth within Europe, and opening up to talent beyond Europe’s borders;

3. Push the state-of-the-art of the communications commons by constant **innovation** and by translating this innovation into a competitive European ICT sector;

4. **Reorganize** to cope with the constantly changing environment.
Dozens of recommendations for

- European Union
- Member states
- National Research and Education Networks (NRENs)
- Networking Community
  - NREN-PC, Terena, DANTE
- User community
“There is no such thing as a free lunch”

100€ spent in Europe on Research and Education

4€ by the EU

0.02 € for common part of the EU networks

…

Or should it be 0.03€?
In Conclusion

- GÉANT is United Europe “in silico”.
- Demonstrates European added value.
- Makes debates on more/less European integration irrelevant
  - it could not work in any other way

- Knowledge knows no borders.
- Knowledge is the future!
Jean Monnet

“If I would make EU again, I would not start with coal and steel, I would start with culture.”

and if he would be live today, he would start with the Internet!
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