

An Agenda of Innovation, Public Reforms and Changes

Legislation as basis for innovation in eHealth

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Future challenges

1. Rising costs in the area of healthcare, education and other public services
2. Demands for better, more responsible public services to empowered citizens
3. Increasing competition in the global markets

Tasks for national Governments and the European Union

- Providing transparent and effective public services – respective to the 21st century (eJustice, eHealth, eGovernment)
- Protecting fundamental rights
- Ensuring the competitiveness and sustainability of the economy
- Increasing attractiveness for domestic and foreign investors (EU and Latvia – open for business)

How Nations Can Succeed

“Technological change is only one of the engines of prosperity, but it is perhaps the most critical one”

Acemoglu, Robinson in "Why Nations Fail"

eHealth as a « case study »

Being a few miles from the birthplace of the case study method, namely, Harvard Law and Harvard Business School, I will propose to use eHealth as a «case study» in order to evaluate how the it can be effectively implemented by a partnership of public and private actors.

Innovation in eHealth

Innovation - a novel creation that produces value

"The key is to understand that innovation is not just invention. Even more, it's a matter of commercialization."

Robert Litan in the June Harvard Business Review

Innovation in eHealth

What could be done by the national governments and the European Union in order to promote innovation in policy and law?

Two examples from John Palfrey and Urs Gasser in "Interop":

"cross-border issues need to be considered during the development phase of a comprehensive health information system";

"legislation by threat": how governments can engage proactively to encourage interoperability.

Cluster policy: Data as fuel for the new economy

"No one really knows how to create a cluster. But government support is important."

"For genomics, the most important element a government could help provide is a coherent, accessible source of data".

July, August Harvard Business Review, "Why Life Science Needs Its Own Silicon Valley", by Fariboz Ghadar, John Sviokla, and Dietrich A. Stephan

Ensuring access to data while ensuring fundamental rights

- eHealth Task Force Report: Redesigning Health in Europe for 2020:
- Recommends moving quickly to create legal clarity on the pan-European use of health data, establishing safeguards and providing a stable market environment to encourage innovation.
- Trust of the citizen is key element.

Data as fuel for better public services

- The eHealth Task Force recommends using the power of data to benchmark and monitor the health system.
- Transparency could be good for the efficiency of other public services too!

Data as fuel for innovation

- The Task Force envisions encouraging the integration of data into larger European data sets and enhancing access for researchers.
- This can be particularly useful for smaller Member States of the EU, placing them at the centre of a European research area.
- EU/US cooperation creates even greater opportunities for our researchers and entrepreneurs.

Other policy and legal tools we could use

- Turning public procurement into public procurement for innovation
- A European united patent
- A fully functioning Digital Single Market
- The potential of a EU/US single market for eHealth digital services

Thank you for your attention!