

What objectives and technologies?

Bernard Barani 6G-IA Senior Consultant

13 May 2025

The Voice of European Industry and Research for Next Generation Networks and Services

What Connectivity and Service platforms represents:





The foundation of the digital economy and society



A crucial infrastructure for security and sovereignty

Dual use, safe and resilient infrastructures



The backbone of digitisation of all EU businesses



A key domain for EU economy

6,7% of EU GDP, Eurostat 2021





Booming investments for Member States

€ 2 Billion for 6G, e.g.





A high risk, R&D intensive domain

Risk sharing with public policies/partnership



A key technology for EU policies

- EUCCS, IRIS²,
- Sustainability;



An EU valorisation platform for key technologies

Al, Quantum, HPC, security, chipsets, computing;

The Draghi report: The telecommunication equipment and software sector are also key for the EU's cyber-resilience, security of strategic infrastructures, and protection of citizens' and business data

What is at Stake



Sovereignty & Competitiveness

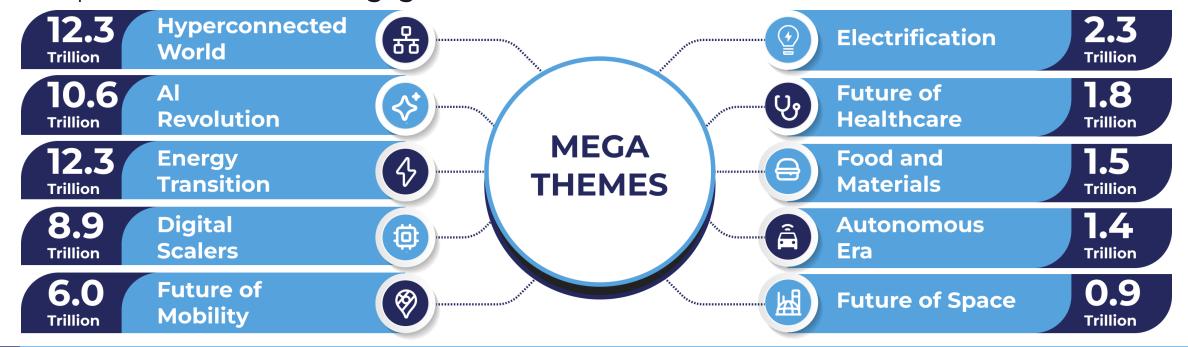
- > Around 80% of Internet traffic is funneled towards GAFAM platforms, → the "closed Internet" era.
- > The monetisation of digital services largely takes place outside of Europe.
- Significant disruptions are expected to arise from the integration of Cloud and AI technologies within networks.
- Persistent security challenges continue to be a major issue.
- Networks are increasingly connected to military applications (e.g., Starlink).
- > The evolution of networks/services is an ongoing journey EU R&D efforts do re-enforce EU's position in the global context.

What is at Stake



Opportunities

- > Seizing the € Trillion opportunity from broad digitisation as expected over the 2030-2040 time frame (Source, Forbes)
- > Opportunity for EU leadership in beyond connectivity domains (devices, computing)
- > Importance of **verticals engagement**





Artificial Intelligence

Al for Networks (example)

Opex top 100 Telcos: ½ of their revenues (€ Tn)

Downtime: sec/wk vs 10mn/week for clouds

Manual operations

Level 4 goes into full automation

Real Time sensing, autonomous decisions, intent

based

Cross domains,

Data models

Networks for AI (example)

Huge opportunity for LOCAL service provision

Avoiding deep in network data handling

Based on techs like DGX Spark, 1000 Trillion ops

per second → true local Al

Perfect storm with Network low latency

Frugal Al

Complement of AI native arch

- > Disruption opportunity for service monetisation and independance
- Opportunity with accumulated data over time
- True Network designed AI (see GSMA initiative)



Cloud Computing

- Proper coupling service provision/infra capabilities (based on traffic booming)
- definition of a cross provider model that guarantees full interop/QoS
- Al for the provision of user services
- service monetisation model for EU players
- framework to develop and market services in compliance with EU regulation;
- service based innovation through opening and emergence of communities of developers
- local services (example may include PPDR)
- service development environment for networks:
- > Leveraging IPCEI and current HEU activities, may be shorter term to market
- Implementation across various architectures, including 6G.



Quantum Networking

Still large number of limitations:

- Fragile nature of quantum information, quantum interference, decoherence, and signal loss.
 repeaters at multiple segments to maintain the accuracy of quantum networking
- Complex manipulation: inability to copy the quantum state limit many applications on a routine basis.
- Scalability issues: Long-distance quantum communication is currently hypothetical
- High costs: Implementing and maintaining quantum networking requires a high-cost investment.
- Quantum networking hardware and software need high investments in technology, engineering, and costs.
- Complex integration: Quantum networking has its own standardization and interoperability requirements for hybrid networks.
 - Long term issue compatible with FP10 time frame, both R&D and experimentations



Micro electronics

Expanding the domain to telecoms:

- New RF bands, beyond mmWaves
- Joint coms and sensing, dual application chipsets
- SoC's, multiple net function implementations;
- Virtualisation, HW capabilities and accelerators
- AI/ML, integration data management at edge and coms;
- Devices
- > Target expansion of EU capabilities in both coms/services and µelectronics



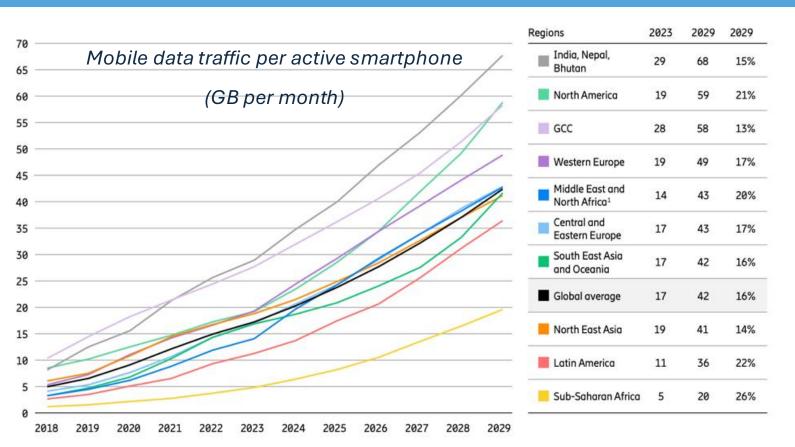
Leveraging and expanding EU Strongholds

- > Radio: new spectrum, sharing, Al Radio, Ultra massive MIMO, Spectrum as a Service..
- > Virtualisation/cloudification, Service deployment models across heterogeneous domains;
- Service level and openness to innovation (e.g. app economy)
- Software implementations and vertical driven API's
- > Optical techs, very high capacity, software control;
- > **Satellites,** coping with T advances (seamlessly..)
- > **Security, resilience**, raising attack surface; (SW)
- > **Sustainability**, even more critical with scalability
- Devices: towards EU capabilities? (Starting from low level requirements like RedCap)

Scalability, Sustainability



Intertwined and more critical as volumes increase



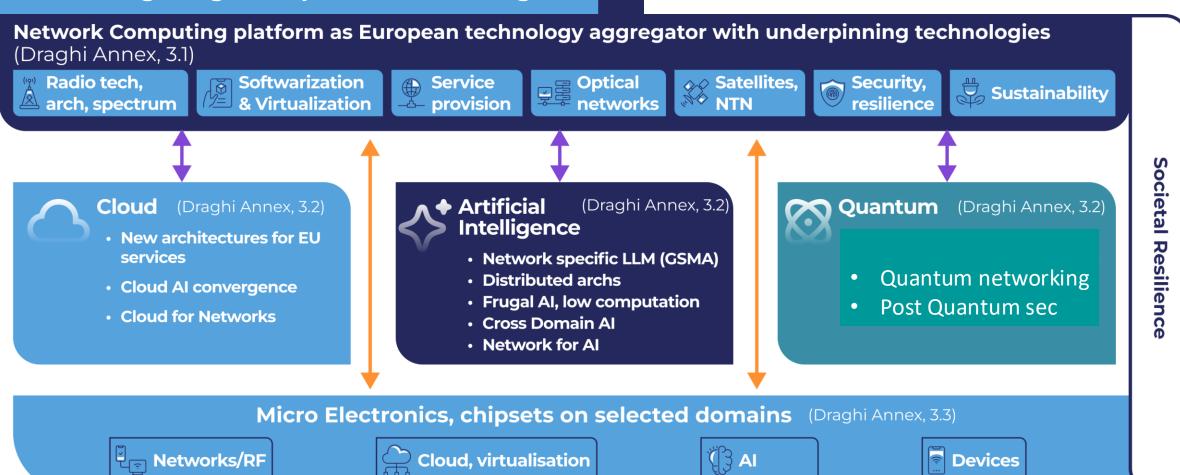
- Clobal market for Mobile Data Traffic: 109 million Terabytes per Month in 2023, about 603 million Terabytes per Month by 2030, CAGR of 27.6%
- Al generated traffic expected to reach 1800 EB/months by 2035
- Machine traffic exceeding human generated traffic

→ Critical to target strict optimisation of infrastructure resources to avoid cost explosion and unsustainable operations.

Our Targets



Adresssing Draghi's report tech challenges:



businesses/social processes

digitization

Large

Our Approach



A Strong Networks and Services initiative to:

- Leverage EU strongholds to develop capabilities in related domains
- Leverage related domains in EUROPE: infrastructure implementations can not be delocalised
- Exploit Al opportunities to develop innovative EU service offers, notably locally;
- →Use Network and Services platforms as an aggregator of digital key technologies, systems and services to minimise EU dependencies at full scale system level
- → Exploit specific EU public policy environments to catalyse take up, e.g EUCCS
- → Adopt a "Top Down " approach

Need: Integrated Implementation



Long term R&D

Experimental R&I

Integrate into one instrument to cover both supply and demand sides

Pre-deployment

- Synergies from R&I to pre-deployment from the start & at the Progamme level: not all technologies are at the same maturity level.
- Include the entire life cycle through a well-defined set of technologies, use cases, and timelines, akin to initiatives in other regions.
- > Include new activities: defence, transfer of technologies to start ups.
- > Facilitate the execution of cross-cutting activities (Chips JU, Photonics HPC, Quantum, etc.)
- > Respond to the suggestions from PKH, Draghi, and Heitor reports

Key Take Away-recommendations



Two core objectives: master the digital connectivity infrastructure and develop the EU service capabilities to monetise it;

Exploit the prospects of AI, notably for local service provision;

Use network and service infrastructure as an aggregator of technologies to focus developments and optimise EU exploitation impact;

The JU Model works: several years of investments to get it up to speed with a critical mass of EU industry commitments should be leveraged!

Integrated programme, from R&D to predeployment and valorisation.