

Session 1:

Setting the Strategic Agenda for the Multilingual Digital Single Market

Márta Nagy-Rothengass Head of Unit European Commission DG CONNECT

Unit G.3 - Data Value Chain

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The Digital Single Market has the largest potential to create growth



Commission

Potential benefits in bn €





What can the Digital Single Market (DSM) bring:

- · 340 B€ in additional growth
- Hundreds of thousands of new jobs
- More robust and shock-resistant economy
- A vibrant knowledge-based society
- Cross-border public and business services



<u>Completing the DSM is a priority of the new</u> <u>Commission</u>

The **3** areas of actions were announced **25/3**:

- 1. Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services
- 2. Shaping the environment for digital networks and services to flourish
- 3. Creating a European Digital Economy and Society with long-term growth potential

Detailed DSM *strategy* will be issued by VP Ansip on 6 May 2015



1, Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services

- Facilitating cross-border e-commerce, especially for SMEs, with harmonised consumer and contract rules and with more efficient and affordable parcel delivery.
- Tackling geo-blocking: enable using online services that are available in other EU countries.
- Modernising copyright law to ensure the right balance between the interests of creators and those of users or consumers.
- **Simplifying VAT arrangements** is important to boost the cross-border activities of businesses, especially SMEs.



2, Shaping the environment for digital networks and services to flourish

- Encouraging investment in infrastructure on high-speed internet and secure networks: the lifeblood of new, innovative digital services. The Commission will review the current telecoms and media rules
- European approach to Spectrum management and its coordination; Broad roll-out of the latest 4G technology
- Growing importance of online platforms (search engines, social media, app stores, etc.) for a thriving internet-enabled economy including to strengthen trust in online services and swift removal of illegal content.
- The swift adoption of the Data Protection Regulation is key to boosting trust in using of personal data online₆



3, Creating a European Digital Economy and Society with long-term growth potential

- Integration of new technologies in all industrial sectors towards smart industrial systems ("Industry 4.0").
- Faster developed **standards** ensuring interoperability for new technologies
- Materialise the data economy including the challenges of data ownership to data protection to standards.
- **Cloud computing** need the right framework to flourish and be used by more people, companies, and public services
- Citizens 'centric interoperable e-services and offers to develop their digital skills to boost their chances of getting a job.



Where do we stand now with DSM?

- EU cross-border online services account for only 4% of the Digital Market
- Only 7% of SMEs in the EU sell cross-border
- 15% of consumers buy online from other EU countries, 44% only from their own country

Source: Digital Single Market factsheet <u>http://europa.eu/rapid/attachment/IP-15-</u> <u>4653/en/Digital_Single_Market_Factsheet_20150325.pdf</u>



Examples of language barriers affecting DSM?

- The online shop does not speak the **buyer's language**
- National public procurement: tender documents only in the national language, tenders required in the national language
- Incompatible concept systems (e.g. product nomenclatures, equivalence of diplomas, medicine classification...)
- Obstacles for cross-border data flows: analytics technology does not "understand" many languages, only English data gets analysed



What is needed for the DSM?

- Innovative solutions for multilingual and cross-border business
- Innovative solutions for multilingual, pan-European public services
- Innovative solutions for cross-border, cross-lingual data value chains



Expected solutions for the multilingual business - examples

- Automated translation for eCommerce, textual content, messaging between buyer and seller
- Automated subtitling for audiovisual material
- Cross-lingual search to **find** products, services, content

Must be **fit for purpose** (rather than perfect)



Expected solutions for the pan-European public services - examples

- Multilingual Online **Dispute Resolution** system (ODR)
- Making national **public procurement** accessible to all EU providers, irrespective of language
- Enabling health services: removing language barriers between patient, healthcare provider and administration
- Facilitating business operations across border (e.g. access to translated business register documents, certificates etc.)
- Facilitating life of citizens: multilingual eJustice services (e.g. marriage, childbirth, job search across borders)



Solutions for cross-lingual data value chains

- Creating a European data economy would unlock huge growth opportunities
- This requires free flow of data across borders
- A significant part of (big) data is human language: social media content, responses to questionnaires, news articles, films and video material (spoken language, subtitles)
- Solutions are needed to make sense of multilingual data: analyse, detect trends/sentiments, predict outcomes, provide support for decision-makers
- Solutions should cover all EU languages (and not only English)



Conclusions

- A single online market for 500+ million consumers brings huge economic and social benefits
- LT can solve one of the most prominent obstacles blocking the DSM
- Bridging the language barriers of DSM will speed up bridging the **other barriers**
- Language technologies can help creating a European data economy



Thank you – and good luck!

http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/content-and-media/data http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/science-and-technology/language-technologies