

Glossary

Active and Assisted Living (AAL)

In the European AAL funding programme supports research into innovative and marketable technological solutions which allow older people to maintain the standard of living they are used to and continue living independently in their own homes for as long as possible.

[SERI](#)

Application, App

An application programme (or App) is a computer programme that performs a useful function for the user. The application is different to the operating system and all system and utility programmes, which only enable system operation, but do not offer any user benefits (or support a business case).

Algorithm

An algorithm is a clear-cut set of rules for the solution of a problem or a class of problems.

Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence (AI), sometimes called machine intelligence, is intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence displayed by humans and other animals. In computer science AI research is defined as the study of «intelligent agents»: any device that perceives its environment and takes actions that maximize its chance of successfully achieving its goals

[Wikipedia](#)

Big Data

Big data is data sets that are so big and complex that traditional data-processing application software are inadequate to deal with them. Big data challenges include capturing data, data storage, data analysis, search, sharing, transfer, visualization, querying, updating, information privacy and data source.

[Wikipedia](#)

Cloud computing

Cloud computing is an information technology paradigm that enables ubiquitous access to shared pools of configurable system resources and higher-level services that can be rapidly provisioned with minimal management effort, often over the Internet. Cloud computing relies on sharing of resources to achieve coherence and economies of scale, similar to a public utility.

[Wikipedia](#)

Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding is the practice of funding a project or venture by raising small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the Internet. Crowdfunding is a form of crowdsourcing and alternative finance.

[Wikipedia](#)

Cybercrime

Cybercrime, or computer oriented crime, is crime that involves a computer and a network. The computer may have been used in the commission of a crime, or it may be the target. Cybercrimes can be defined as: «Offences that are committed against individuals or groups of individuals with a criminal motive to intentionally harm the reputation of the victim or cause physical or mental harm, or loss, to the victim directly or indirectly, using modern telecommunication networks.

[Wikipedia](#)

Cleantech

Cleantech is a buzzword which describes products, processes or services which increase operational performance, productivity or efficiency and at the same time reduce costs, the consumption of natural resources, energy consumption, waste or pollution.

Critical infrastructure

Critical infrastructure is a term used by governments to describe assets that are essential for the functioning of a society and economy.

[Wikipedia](#)

Cross-platform

In computing, cross-platform software (also multi-platform software or platform-independent software) is computer software that is implemented on multiple computing platforms.

[Wikipedia](#)

Data

Data and information are often used interchangeably; however, the extent to which a set of data is informative to someone depends on the extent to which it is unexpected by that person.

[Wikipedia](#)

Dematerialization

In economics, dematerialization refers to the absolute or relative reduction in the quantity of materials required to serve economic functions in society. In common terms, dematerialization means doing more with less.

[Wikipedia](#)

Digital divide

A digital divide is an economic and social inequality with regard to access to, use of, or impact of information and communication technologies . The divide within countries.

Digitization

Digitization is the process of converting information into a digital (i.e. computer-readable) format, in which the information is organized into bits.

[Wikipedia](#)

Digital Content

Digital content includes data that is produced and disseminated in digital form, such as video and audio content, digital text, apps, digital games and other software.

Data center

A data center (American English) or data centre (Commonwealth English) is a facility used to house computer systems and associated components, such as telecommunications and storage systems.

[Wikipedia](#)

E-Inclusion

e-Inclusion stands for digital inclusion, i.e. the participation of all in the information society.

E-commerce

E-commerce is the activity of buying or selling of products on online services or over the Internet. Electronic commerce draws on technologies such as mobile commerce, electronic funds transfer, supply chain management, Internet marketing, online transaction processing, electronic data interchange, inventory management systems, and automated data collection systems.

[SECO](#)

E-democracy

E-democracy (a combination of the words electronic and democracy), also known as digital democracy or Internet democracy, incorporates 21st-century information and communications technology to promote democracy. It is a form of government in which all adult citizens are presumed to be eligible to participate equally in the proposal, development, and creation of laws.

[Wikipedia](#)

E-Economy

The terms “e-economy”, “digital economy” and “Internet economy” are of particular appeal to economies that want to tap the full potential in respect of growth, innovation, sustainable development, locational advantages and future viability by employing and using information and communication technologies (ICTs).

E-Government

E-government (short for electronic government) is the use of electronic communications devices, computers and the Internet to provide public services to citizens and other persons in a country or region.

[Wikipedia](#)

E-Health

The term e-Health refers to the application of ICT in the healthcare sector. As instruments, ICT connect participants (people and institutions) and processes in the healthcare sector.

Electronic signature

The electronic signature is a technical procedure which makes it possible to guarantee the authenticity of a document, a message or other electronic data and to ensure the identity of the signatory.

[🔗](#) [OFCOM](#)

E-Voting

e-Voting allows the submission of votes via the internet in elections and ballots. In a further phase, the electronic collection of signatures for initiatives and referenda (e-Collecting) as well as for nominations will also be made possible.

[🔗](#) [OFCOM](#)

Fintech

Fintech is a comprehensive term for technologically advanced financial innovations which result in new financial instruments, services or intermediaries.

Fundamental right

Inalienable right granted by the state to everyone, which, irrespective of the nationality of a person, is guaranteed by the Constitution or by international conventions in order to protect basic ways and necessities of life.

[🔗](#) [Federal Chancellery](#)

High-speed broadband

Demand exists for powerful broadband networks for the internet, mobile television and data transmission services, e.g. DSL (Digital Subscriber Line) for telephone lines or UMTS (Universal Mobile Telecommunications System) for mobile telephony. For even greater transmission capacity, high-bandwidth next generation networks - NGNs - exist which use technologies such as DOCSIS-3 (cable television), FTTH (fibre) and LTE (Long Term Evolution) in mobile telephony.

Information and communications technology

Information and communication technology (ICT) is another/extensional term for information technology that stresses the role of unified communications[1] and the integration of telecommunications (telephone lines and wireless signals), computers as well as necessary enterprise software, middleware, storage, and audio-visual systems, which enable users to access, store, transmit, and manipulate information.

[🔗](#) [Wikipedia](#)

ICT competencies

ICT competencies or digital competencies refers to the ability of individuals to procure, classify, understand, evaluate and independently produce information using digital technologies.

Information society

An information society is a society where the creation, distribution, use, integration and manipulation of information is a significant economic, political,

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and cultural activity.

[Wikipedia](#)

Information security

Information security refers to the properties of information processing and storage systems that ensure confidentiality, availability and integrity. Information security is used to protect against dangers or threats, to prevent damage and to minimise risks.

Intelligent Transport System (ITS)

An intelligent transportation system (ITS) is an advanced application which, without embodying intelligence as such, aims to provide innovative services relating to different modes of transport and traffic management and enable users to be better informed and make safer, more coordinated, and 'smarter' use of transport networks.

[Wikipedia](#)

Internet

The Internet is the global system of interconnected computer networks that use the Internet protocol suite (TCP/IP) to link devices worldwide.

[Wikipedia](#)

Internet domain names

Among other things, domain names make it possible to assign a unique address to every website.

[OFCOM](#)

Internet Governance

Internet governance is the development and application of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programs that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.

[Wikipedia](#)

Internet of things

The Internet of Things (IoT) is the network of physical devices, vehicles, home appliances, and other items embedded with electronics, software, sensors, actuators, and connectivity which enables these things to connect and exchange data.

[Wikipedia](#)

ICANN

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) is a nonprofit organization responsible for coordinating the maintenance and procedures of several databases related to the namespaces and numerical spaces of the Internet, ensuring the network's stable and secure operation

[ICANN](#)

Industry 4.0

Industry 4.0 is the name for a future project for the comprehensive digitalisation of industrial production, in order to better equip it for the future.

Open Government Data (OGD)

Official data which is publicly accessible.

“Once Only” Principle

The objective of the Once Only principle is that citizens and businesses only have to communicate specific standard information to the authorities and administrations once only.

Privacy by default

Data protection by means of technical default settings which take account of the development of new technologies and processes as early as the development stage.

Privacy by design

Data protection by means of technological design which takes account of the development of new technologies and processes as early as the development stage.

Sustainable development

Sustainable development is the organizing principle for meeting human development goals while at the same time sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resources and ecosystem services upon which the economy and society depend.

Sharing economy

Shared Economy is also known as collaborative consumption or collaborative economy or peer economy.

 [Wikipedia](#)

Social media

Social media are interactive computer-mediated technologies that facilitate the creation and sharing of information, ideas, career interests and other forms of expression via virtual communities and networks.

 [Wikipedia](#)

Smart city / Smart region

In a Smart City/Region, modern technologies from the domains of energy, mobility, town planning, administration and communication are interlinked to that residents' quality of life improves.

 [Wikipedia](#)

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Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Development is sustainable if it ensures that the needs of today's generation can be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

[Wikipedia](#)

UNESCO

UNESCO is an international organisation and at the same time one of the legally autonomous specialised agencies of the United Nations. It has its headquarters in Paris (France).

[Wikipedia](#)

World Wide Web

The World Wide Web (WWW), also called the Web, is an information space where documents and other web resources are identified by Uniform Resource Locators (URLs), interlinked by hypertext links, and accessible via the Internet.

[Wikipedia](#)