



INTERNET OF HUMANS

# NGI Press Kit

January 2024

[NGI.eu](https://ngi.eu)

# Brief presentation of NGI

## THE NGI INITIATIVE: AN INTERNET OF HUMANS

The **Next Generation Internet (NGI)** is a European Commission (EC) initiative that aims to shape the development and evolution of the Internet into an Internet of Trust. An Internet that responds to people's fundamental needs, including trust, security, and inclusion, while reflecting the values and the norms all citizens enjoy in Europe.

In its first five years, the NGI initiative has already supported more than 1,000 Internet researchers and innovators involved in many hundreds of projects that delivered more than 1'000 open source solutions made accessible via the NGI portal ([ngi.eu](https://ngi.eu)).

The NGI support to researchers and innovators goes beyond EC funding, encompassing mentoring, training, and several other acceleration services in their innovation journey, helping them have a tangible impact for our society.

## AN INTERNET OF TRUST FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

As Europe is charting the course for a resilient and democratic digital future, NGI innovators are at work on developing cutting-edge technologies that can ensure a trustworthy, secure, inclusive and open development of our society and economy.

The NGI supports the EC vision and avenues for Europe's digital transformation by 2030 including secure and sustainable digital infrastructures, digital transformation of businesses and public services and digital skills.

This is backed by several policy initiatives that the EU has set in the areas of data protection, AI, cybersecurity, and electronic identity.

## RESILIENT. SUSTAINABLE. OPEN

The mission of NGI is to re-imagine and re-engineer the Internet. The NGI initiative funds European innovative research projects that make it possible to develop a new Internet that is safer, more open, more respectful of people and more useful to all citizens.

Over a bit more than five years in operation, it has built a unique ecosystem of highly talented and value-driven innovators changing the course of the Internet, mostly working on open source (hardware and software). The NGI has supported projects contributing to

solutions that are available to users, such as CryptPad, Searx, Mastodon and [many more](#).

Open-source software is at the heart of many NGI projects which make an important contribution to the open source community.

The NGI is host to several research and innovation initiatives focusing on technologies that are key to build and internet of trust for all. This includes: **digital commons, decentralised social media, digital identity, open-source supply chain security, web search and large language models, quantum internet, etc.**

## Selection of quotes from the main NGI stakeholders

Robert Viola, Director-General of DG CONNECT (Directorate General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology) at the European Commission

- *“The NGI community has the power to embrace an identity ecosystem that's open, federated and empowers citizens in both the digital and real world.”*

Thierry Breton, Commissioner for the Internal Market at the European Commission

- *“Under Horizon Europe we have a seven-year investment ahead of us and I’m looking forward to seeing the Next Generation Internet Community deliver key technologies, contribute to global Internet standards and open source developments, participate in the policy debate and be part of the larger vision that Europe is pursuing for the future of the Internet.”*

Monique Calisti, Director, NGI Outreach Office

- *“The NGI initiative has gained enormous momentum since its inception, having engaged top experts, researchers, and young innovators from all over Europe. This has been possible by adopting an agile funding approach that allows to attract and support individuals and organisations at the*

*benefit of a growing and vibrant ecosystem of SMEs and Startups. The support provided to NGI researchers and innovators goes beyond funding as it provides an open and collaborative environment where value for its participants is created by increased synergies, as well as open exchange of knowledge and transfer of technologies.”*

Michiel Leenaars, NGI Zero

- *“Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have all realised how critical it is to have the right communication tools in place to remain connected to each other. However, as we become more aware of and attached to our privacy rights, we also become more attentive to the conditions of use of our communication tools. In other words, it is not only important that the tools work but we want to know how they work. We need to trust the communications channels we use in our social circles, in particular private messages among individuals and groups. While certain popular messaging services may deliver core functionality, they show little concern for interoperability and privacy. In fact, a great deal of metadata (for example phone numbers, location information, mobile device information) may be shared with third-parties. By their very nature, we carry around these applications with us the entire day, and they may reveal a lot about ourselves. Who reads the terms of service? Most people don't, but even so, users typically have fewer rights than they think. For example, if providers want to withdraw a user account, they simply can do so. Instant messaging is essential to the everyday life of millions of citizens, and for this reason it is among the areas where the Next Generation Internet initiative is investing to deliver a concrete, trustworthy technology alternative to the end-users.”*

Jaya Klara Brekke, NGI Innovator - LEDGER

- *“What I like the most about the concept human-centric is that it is not individual-centric, nor user-centric. When we use human-centric we widen the scope to a more society-related concept”.*

Oskar van Deventer, eSSIF-lab

- *“The whole goal of what we are doing in NGI is the ecosystem building, that will eventually create new types of jobs that we don’t even know yet”.*

Mirko Presser, NGI Pointer

- *“The Next Generation Internet is building some of the foundational protocols or architectural components for people to create a more secure and trusted environment”.*

## Selection of the latest news items

- [NGI FORUM 2023: IGNITING A VISION FOR A DIGITAL COMMONS REVOLUTION](#)



Robert Viola, Director-General of DG CONNECT (Directorate General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology) at the European Commission

- [ETHICS IN SEARCH](#)
- [AI ACT: THE EU AGREES ON RULES TO SUPPORT THE UPTAKE OF TRUSTWORTHY AI](#)
- [SECURING THE OPEN SOURCE FRONTIER](#)

## Latest publications in the media

Nov-2023

***“NGI Forum 2023: Navigating towards the future of the internet”,***  
The Brussels Times, Belgium



Nov-2023

***“Navigating the future: NGI Forum 2023 explores the Next Generation Internet”,*** Science | Business, EU



Nov 2023:

## "Forum NGI 2023: Świętując 5 lat innowacji i uwalniając moc cyfrowych dóbr wspólnych", Fintek, Poland



- AKTUALNOŚCI
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- EVENTY
- FELIETONY
- WYWIADY
- LEGAL
- PODCASTY
- FINTEKEXTRA

### Forum NGI 2023: Świętując 5 lat innowacji i uwalniając moc cyfrowych dóbr wspólnych

Forum NGI 2023, które odbyło się w dniach 15-16 listopada 2023 r. w Blue Point w Brukseli, zakończyło się ogromnym sukcesem. Flagowe wydarzenie inicjatywy Komisji Europejskiej Next Generation Internet (NGI) zgromadziło grupę liderów myśli, decydentów i technologów, zaangażowanych w misję rozwoju bezpieczniejszego, otwartego i zorientowanego na obywatela Internetu przyszłości. Była to również piąta rocznica finansowania NGI.

FINTEK #SEKTOR FINTECH #TECHNOLOGIE  
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Dyrektor generalny DG CONNECT w Komisji Europejskiej, Roberto Viola, otworzył wydarzenie i wygłosił prowokującą do myślenia myśl przewodnią, przedstawiając wizję Komisji dotyczącą odpornego i demokratycznego krajobrazu cyfrowego oraz podkreślając znaczenie wkładu społeczności open source w to przedsięwzięcie. „Społeczność NGI ma moc tworzenia ekosystemu tożsamości, który jest otwarty, sfederowany i wzmacnia pozycję obywateli zarówno w świecie cyfrowym, jak i rzeczywistym”.

Francuski ambasador ds. cyfryzacji, Henri Verdier, podkreślił, że Europa jest domem dla dużej społeczności technologów pracujących nad cyfrowymi dobrami wspólnymi (Digital Commons) i podkreślił inicjatywę Francji na rzecz rozwoju suwerenności cyfrowej oraz znaczenie współpracy w całej UE. „Europa musi dołożyć wszelkich starań, aby wspierać zasoby, które stworzyła w celu zapewnienia suwerenności” – podkreślił.

Podczas dwudniowego wydarzenia, NGI Forum 2023 było gospodarzem prowokujących do myślenia dyskusji na tematy kluczowe dla przyszłości internetu, w tym tożsamości cyfrowej, internetu kwantowego, dużych modeli językowych, wyszukiwania w sieci, zdecentralizowanych mediów społecznościowych i bezpieczeństwa łańcucha dostaw open source. Sesje plenarne i warsztaty zapewniły uczestnikom dynamiczną platformę do angażowania się w dyskusje i wspólne wysiłki na rzecz budowania Internetu jutra.

Pokazując wpływ NGI, zarówno jako programu, jak i społeczności, wydarzenie zawierało również „historie wpływu”, w których członkowie społeczności prezentowali swoje rozwiązania open source mające na celu tworzenie wartości dla wszystkich – niezależnie od tego, czy chodzi o ochronę prywatności, poprawę identyfikowalności czy poprawę tożsamości cyfrowej.

Robota prowadzona w celu budowania Internetu przyszłości. Jak internet wolał stworzyć całą dotychczasową sieć, tak konstrukcja

Szukana fraza



#### OSTATNIE PODCASTY

- #PODCASTY SFINTECHOWANI**  
Hakerzy rosną w siłę. Poznaj strategię cyberbezpieczeństwa Prebytes [Podcast]
- #PODCASTY SFINTECHOWANI**  
Fenige kończy 10 lat i przechodzi rebranding [Podcast]
- #PODCASTY SFINTECHOWANI**  
System workflow w bankowości. O zaletach i możliwościach [Podcast]
- #PODCASTY SFINTECHOWANI**  
Nowa odsłona Fintek.pl. O planach na 2023 rok
- #PODCASTY SFINTECHOWANI**  
Cognitive Banking. Czym jest i jak może nas wspierać w czasach kryzysu? [Podcast]

PODCASTY ↗



## Synthesis of the innovators' Catalogue

**Next Generation Internet Innovation. A catalogue showcasing trustworthy technology solutions is now available.**

After five years of operation, the Next Generation Internet (NGI) initiative is delivering several concrete technology solutions across a wide range of technology areas.

These solutions are now accessible through an online catalogue, presenting hardware, software, and apps solutions to build an Internet fit for the digital age, fostering diversity, decentralisation, and inclusivity. The catalogue presents over 1'000 NGI solutions developed by Europe's top Internet talent.

<https://www.ngi.eu/discover-ngi-solutions>

Thanks to the NGI funding mechanism, innovators are granted easy access to small and medium sized grants, mentorship, and access to markets. Many individuals and organisations work with open source solutions and would otherwise struggle to find time or funding to pursue their endeavour. Their solutions, designed to overcome the limitations of today's Internet with challenges around data ownership and privacy concerns, are now available in an online catalogue. The new catalogue includes a broad range of technology building blocks that can be used in any sector, from health, energy, supply chains, research to responsible media platforms. The searchable catalogue allows for a quick discovery of results covering a wide variety of innovative technologies, in the following categories:

- Trustworthy hardware and manufacturing
- Network infrastructure, including routing, peer-to-peer and virtual private networking
- Software engineering, protocols, interoperability, cryptography, algorithms, proofs
- Operating systems, firmware and virtualization
- Measurement, monitoring, analysis and abuse handling
- Middleware and identity
- Decentralised solutions, including blockchain and distributed ledger technologies
- Data and machine learning



- Services and applications such as email, instant messaging, video chat and collaboration.
- Vertical Use Cases, Improving Search and Discovery and Community Building

The new catalogue also allows the NGI solutions to be easily identified by country, keyword, status and the NGI intermediary project that selected and funded it.

Some examples of innovative solutions available in the catalogue include:

**PeerTube**, an open source free and decentralised alternative video sharing platform which was designed at the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision, to manage one of the largest digitalised media archives in the world.

[https://www.ngi.eu/funded\\_solution/peertubesearch](https://www.ngi.eu/funded_solution/peertubesearch)

**ORATORIO** project which delivers a trusted energy data hub. End-users can safely and easily store and share their data with their preferred energy services providers.

[https://www.ngi.eu/funded\\_solution/ngidapsiproject-9](https://www.ngi.eu/funded_solution/ngidapsiproject-9)

**IRMA** is a mobile app for identity management that resembles a digital wallet.

[https://www.ngi.eu/funded\\_solution/irma-made-easy](https://www.ngi.eu/funded_solution/irma-made-easy)

**CryptPad** is a suite of private-by-design collaboration tools which shares rich text, spreadsheets, polls, presentations, whiteboard functions and code. A welcome tool for remote working.

[https://www.ngi.eu/funded\\_solution/cryptpad-communities](https://www.ngi.eu/funded_solution/cryptpad-communities)

These solutions and hundreds more can be found on the NGI solutions catalogue at <https://www.ngi.eu/discover-ngi-solutions/>.

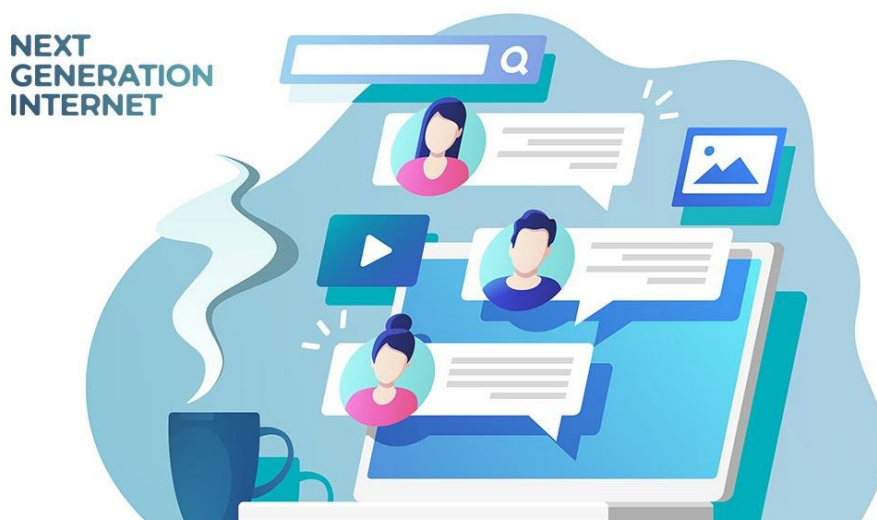
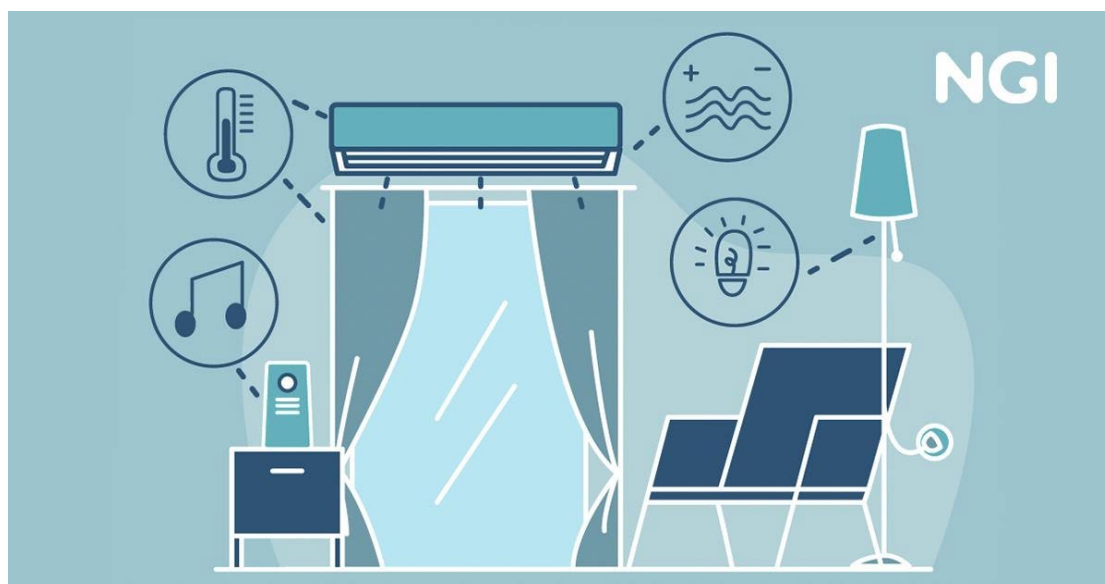
## Selection of pictures and videos from events and projects

YouTube channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCafmIQ\\_fwe\\_FiwiiYj6QLUA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCafmIQ_fwe_FiwiiYj6QLUA)

Photos: <https://ngiforum2023.eu/pictures>

## Selection of graphics:



NEXT  
GENERATION  
INTERNET



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### Social

[Mastodon](#)

[Peertube](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Twitter](#)

[YouTube](#)

## NGI graphic items



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## Note to editors

The Next Generation Internet (NGI) is a European Commission initiative that aims to shape the development of the Internet into an Internet of humans. NGI unites a vibrant community of Internet innovators and stakeholders around a common goal: building an Internet that responds to people's fundamental needs, including trust, security and inclusion, and reflects the values and the norms that we enjoy in Europe.

EC investment in the NGI research and innovation of more than €300m have already supported more than 1,000 Internet researchers and innovators involved in many hundreds of projects. Support goes beyond financing, to mentoring and the journey from an idea to a real business.

Through an agile and flexible process, following the Horizon Europe cascade funding mechanism, ongoing NGI Research and Innovation Actions (RIAs) provide support to projects from outstanding academic researchers, hi-tech start-ups and SMEs.

Funding is allocated to projects using short research cycles targeting the most promising ideas. Each of the selected projects pursue their own objectives, while the NGI RIAs provide the programme logic and vision, technical support, coaching and mentoring, to ensure that projects contribute towards a significant advancement of research and innovation in the NGI initiative.

The focus is on advanced concepts and technologies that link to relevant use cases and that can have an impact on the market and society overall. Applications and services that innovate without a research component are not covered by this model.

Topics covered by the NGI Open Calls include Digital Commons; Digital Identity in Web 4.0 era; Trust and Data Sovereignty on the Internet; Trustworthy Open Search and Discovery; Internet Architecture and Decentralised Technologies; Open Web Search and Large Language Models, Decentralised social media and Fediverse.



## NGI Social Channels

