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| **Dear Raphael** Welcome to our 24th Newsletter - August 2021**Up Coming Autumn Events****We are continuing our Webinars Season - please book early and join us for:****Date**: Wednesday 8th September 2021**Topic**: **Legal and Ethical aspects of Technology****Time**: 13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announcedRegister by email to Westsqas@mac.com **Date**: Wednesday 22nd September 2021**Topic**: **Technology and Carers****Time**: 13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announcedRegister by email to Westsqas@mac.com **Date**: Wednesday 6th October 2021**Topic: Technology for people who really are older (over 85) and the challenges!****Time**: 13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announcedRegister by email to Westsqas@mac.com **Date**: Wednesday 20th October 2021**Topic**: **How can we help Governments understand they don’t need to fund Corporates to develop any more technology,****Time**: 13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announcedRegister by email to Westsqas@mac.com    **Date**: Wednesday 3rd November 2021**Topic: How do we really manage technology when some of us feel we already have too much of it?****Time**13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announced Register by email to Westsqas@mac.com    **Date**: Wednesday 17th November 2021**Topic: Getting Governments to realise if they don’t educate the very young about technology, it will never work.****Time**13.20-14.30 BST 14.20 -15.30 CETPanel to be announced Register by email to Westsqas@mac.com  --------------------------------------**News**------------------------------------------**Europe moves to ban any AI tech it doesn’t like the look of** [Read More](http://news.telecoms.com/c/110r5uMBS1W9SilUUcsbsF4MwmMDM)  **Make drones a part of the overall transport system** ITF Secretary-General Young Tae Kim opened the ICAO Drone Enable Symposium with an appeal to think of drones holistically. Citing five areas for considering how drones form part of the transport system, Dr Kim proposed this approach as the pathway to reap the full economic and social benefits from drone technology [Read More](https://www.itf-oecd.org/make-drones-part-overall-transport-system?ct=t(2018_Sept_Newsletter_COPY_01)&mc_cid=bf9ba58f93&mc_eid=08e11c18f0) **GP use of Tech Helps Prevent Prescribing Harm while Saving NHS Hundreds of Millions**Academic analysis shows primary care prescribers have been preventing adverse drug reactions, harm and hospital admissions through safer prescribing, after using prescribing tech. [Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6444:gp-use-of-tech-helps-prevent-prescribing-harm-while-saving-nhs-hundreds-of-millions&catid=61:firstdatabank) **New AI Technology Protects Privacy**Digital medicine is opening up entirely new possibilities. For example, it can detect tumors at an early stage. But the effectiveness of new AI algorithms depends on the quantity and quality of the data used to train them. [Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6442:new-ai-technology-protects-privacy&catid=164:research)  **EU Health Policy Platform Calls for Proposals** Thematic Networks Commission Opens First European Innovation Council Calls Worth €1 BillionAccelerating Data Solutions to Save LIVES from COVID-19 [Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6325:accelerating-data-solutions-to-save-lives-from-covid-19&catid=17:open-calls)  **Council of the European Union** EU transport ministers are expected to adopt conclusions on the Commission’s strategy for sustainable and smart mobility to achieve a green and digital EU transport syste. [Read More](https://europeanmovement.eu/news/weekly-european-agenda-31-05-2021/#council)   **UK government bid to censor the internet faces growing resistance** A proposed set of new UK laws would appoint Ofcom as censor of all digital communications in the country. Not everyone thinks that’s such a great idea. [Read More](https://telecoms.com/510273/uk-government-bid-to-censor-the-internet-faces-growing-resistance/)    **Aspirations from the Ambassador** *Delo* writes about the Slovenian government’s presentation of its priorities for the Council Presidency that started yesterday. Journalists at the press briefing in Brussels expressed interest especially in the Fit for 55 climate legislation package that the European Commission aims to release in mid-July and for which negotiations will commence in the coming months. Ambassador Jarc used the occasion to state that the Slovenian government supports the European Public Prosecutor’s Office and hopes that the appointment of its prosecutors is completed swiftly. The Slovenian Presidency also hopes to achieve a breakthrough before September on the accession negotiations for North Macedonia and Albania. The Ambassador also shared that Slovenia would prioritise the rule of law and aims to hold a debate towards the end of the year on the Article 7 proceedings [Read More](https://www.delo.si/novice/slovenija/najvec-zanimanja-za-svezenj-fit-for-55-ki-bo-sprozil-zakonodajni-cunami/)  **EU Digital COVID Certificate Enters into Application in the EU**The EU Digital COVID Certificate Regulation enters into application. This means that EU citizens and residents will now be able to have their Digital COVID Certificates issued and verified across the EU. 21 Member States as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein had already started to issue certificates ahead of today's deadline, and five EU countries are starting now.  [Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6470:eu-digital-covid-certificate-enters-into-application-in-the-eu&catid=72:development)  **Using Artificial Intelligence to Overcome Mental Health Stigma**Depression is a worldwide problem, with serious consequences for individual health and the economy, and rapid and effective screening tools are thus urgently needed to counteract its increasing prevalence. Now, researchers from Japan have found that artificial intelligence (AI) can be used to detect signs of depression. [Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6467:using-artificial-intelligence-to-overcome-mental-health-stigma&catid=164:research)  **Innovative Tools for Use and Re-Use of Health Data**[Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6465:open-call-horizon-hlth-2021-tool-06-03-innovative-tools-for-use-and-re-use-of-health-data-in-particular-of-electronic-health-records-and-or-patient-registries&catid=17:open-calls)**Accelerating Data-Driven Solutions to Save Lives from COVID-19**[Read More](https://www.digitalhealthnews.eu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6455:open-call-2-for-accelerating-data-driven-solutions-to-save-lives-from-covid-19&catid=17:open-calls) **Digital literacy and disinformation in Europe - DIGITOL keeps you updated**  The DIGITOL project combats the effect and the spread of fake-news by developing older persons' digital literacy and promoting EU common values. Learn more about DIGITOL’s approach through the Training of Trainers infographic (also available in Italian - Bulgarian - Greek - German), its newsletter and AGE’s involvement in the project [Read More](https://www.age-platform.eu/policy-work/news/digital-literacy-and-disinformation-europe-digitol-keeps-you-updated)  **Digital and Assistive Technologies for Ageing: insights from European large-scale pilot projects** The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched the Digital and Assistive Technologies for Ageing. The initiative will encourage the global development, synthesis, and use of affordable, quality, digital and assistive technologies for ageing well [Read More](https://www.age-platform.eu/policy-work/news/digital-and-assistive-technologies-ageing-insights-european-large-scale-pilot) **Robot helps autistic pupils to make human friends** Pepper, a socially intelligent robot, has spent the past three weeks helping pupils at the Mendip School in Somerset, in a first project of its kind to embed a humanoid robot in a school. Programmed at the University of the West of England’s (UWE) Bristol Robotics Laboratory, Pepper can take part in social and physical activities with children, such as storytelling, dancing, and using relaxation techniques such as t’ai chi and cuddles to help autistic pupils manage their wellbeing.  **Drone support for remote NHS facilities** Alongside the UK Space Agency, they have a program to develop space-based solutions to pandemics, and as part of this there has been a successful trial of satellite-enabled drones delivering essential medical supplies to NHS hospitals in remote, sparsely populated areas of Scotland.Drone delivery cut the average transport time from 21 hours using the existing road-based system to just 60 minutes...[Read More](https://www.independentliving.co.uk/industry-news/drone-support-for-remote-nhs-facilities/?omhide=true)  **Making the extra years count – Inequalities in disability and dependency with increasing longevity** The proportion of life spent in good health has declined and ill health and disability have been on the rise in recent decades, according to a new report published by the International Longevity Centre UK (ILC)[Read more](https://ilcuk.org.uk/making-the-extra-years-count/) **Many measures of life expectancy have improved** The estimated overall life expectancy at birth has increased for both men and women from 72.9 years in 1990 to 79.2 years in 2017 for UK men, and from 78.5 years in 1990 to 82.7 years in 2017 for women.Both genders have seen increases in total time spent in good health. Between 1990 and 2017, healthy life expectancy at birth grew by 4.4 years for men (to 68.5) and by 2.7 years for women (to 70.0).Between 1991 and 2011, men gained 1.7 years of independent life, and women gained 0.2 years.But while there have been increases in life expectancy and time spent in good health over the past decades, these gains haven’t kept up with those for general life expectancy. In other words, ill health and disability have been increasing while the proportion of life spent in good health and free from disability has been declining. Moreover, ILC’s report highlights that changes in life expectancy haven’t been equal.Dr Brian Beach, Senior Research Fellow at ILC and report author, said: “Increased longevity is a success story, but the opportunities that stem from this will not be maximised if the extra years are spent in poor health or with increased levels of disability and dependency. Our new report – unfortunately – provides further evidence that the UK’s position in this respect is worsening, with gains in overall years outpacing gains in healthy years.“Moreover, the research reinforces the lessons that have been made stark through the course of the pandemic – that socioeconomic inequalities remain prevalent, with the least advantaged members of society suffering from worse outcomes. A key finding here is how the most advantaged have seen improvements while the least advantaged saw little change.“As the UK moves into recovery from Covid-19, political pledges to ‘build back better’ will only be fulfilled if policies actively reduce the kinds of inequalities that have grown since the financial crisis over a decade ago.” **Amazon mental health initiative backfires**Tech giant Amazon is so concerned about its warehouse workers’ mental health that it’s providing capsules in which they can sit and sort their heads out. [Read More](https://telecoms.com/509939/amazon-mental-health-initiative-backfires/)  **Openreach announces plan to fibre-up three million more premises**[Read More](https://telecoms.com/509934/openreach-announces-plan-to-fibre-up-three-million-more-premises/) ***The Next EKTG Newsletter will include similar material. If you would like to suggest materialplease email Maggie Ellis at EKTG.eTechnology@gmail.com*****\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*****If you want to know more about us you can download a document that outlinesthe***[*background and history of EKTG*](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/67744b2cb64423c16bf1d1207/files/European_Knowledge_Tree_Group.pdf)[*.*](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/67744b2cb64423c16bf1d1207/files/8f12ceb2-789f-4576-a89f-11c415a5a17d/European_Knowledge_Tree_Group.01.pdf) |

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