

a particular opinion can rapidly sway the opinions of a large majority 'sitting on the fence'. The Internet has given a large, global platform to such influencers.

Proving some of Professor Szymański's theories on social networks, the FIA delegates spent two days mixing with 'people like them' in a number of parallel sessions where they have heard about recent progress made by projects funded through FP7 including the Future Internet Public Private Partnership.

But even after three years of debate, one question remains unanswered: **what will be the architecture of the Future Internet?** The researchers all agree that the current iterative approach of 'bolt-on' solutions to specific problems cannot continue. There is also wide consensus on the main requirements and design principles for the Future Internet.

But the cry goes out: we want to see implementation and deployment! "*We must not lose momentum,*" concluded [Theodore Zahariadis](#) [9] in the final session of the event. "*FIA has made good progress, but we must not be having these same discussions about requirements in two years time.*"

It is now time for the Future Internet to show its face, to try out different guises, and demonstrate just what it can do.

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