

NEELIE KROES

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 14 October 2014

Dear Jean-Claude,

I am writing to you from the launching event on the Regulation on electronic identification and trust services (eIDAS) where I am discussing with representatives of industry, the Italian Presidency and the European Parliament, the business and growth opportunities for Europe in a fully integrated digital market.

I believe that the European Union should modernise and turn all public administrations digital. And I believe that the Commission should lead by example and become paperless both in-house, and when interacting with the public.

*So my question to you is: **will you accept this challenge to make the European Commission truly digital by using e-invoices, e-procurement and e-signatures under your Presidency – and call for the other EU institutions to do the same?***

If we want a true Digital Single Market, we need digital EU institutions too. This should be a priority to serve our citizens, businesses and public administrations in a digital society. To this end, we can count on and leverage plenty of European good practices and technologies – and the private sector's role will be key in this.

As the outgoing digital Commissioner, I am confident that I have laid the foundation for you to build a digitally-strong house. The eIDAS Regulation was the missing stone to make cross-border electronic transactions across Europe a reality. With eIDAS we have accomplished a major milestone - and we are well ahead of the US in this.

As I like to practise what I preach, I am signing this letter electronically, with my mobile, and using technology developed thanks to the EU funded STORK project which is currently used by citizens in Austria.

Yours sincerely,

*President-Elect Jean-Claude Juncker
European Commission*