

Digital Single Market

DSM blog post

Monday, 1 October, 2012

Delivering better public services through the use of social media?

In what areas and how could EU action on social media benefit employability, jobs and growth across Europe?



The screenshot shows the 'Digital Agenda Assembly' website. The header includes the European Commission logo and the text 'Connect, discuss and collaborate on the Digital Agenda for Europe'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Groups', 'People', 'Map', 'About', and 'Login'. A sidebar on the left lists various topics under 'Groups', with 'Social Media' selected. The main content area displays a post titled 'Social media and public sector' submitted by Paul Timmers on Thursday, 2012-04-26 at 13:18. The post text asks: 'The public sector is bubbling with social media initiatives, such as civil servant 2.0. Do these create new jobs? Or are they really there to 'make government better'? Or is that the same in this case? Examples welcome!'. Below the text are buttons for 'Interesting', 'Tweet' (with a count of 13), and 'Consignia'. At the bottom of the post area, it says '3 users have voted' and 'Log in or register to post comments'.

--- Posted by Paul Timmers, Director "ICT Addressing Societal Challenges" at DG INFSO

In what areas and how could EU action on social media benefit employability, jobs and growth across Europe?

These questions will be addressed during the [Digital Agenda Assembly](#) [1] on 21 and 22 June in Brussels, more specifically in the [workshop](#) [2] Social Media Social Networking for Economic Recovery, Jobs and Growth. We will explore the use and great potential of social media for growth and jobs in

Europe from three perspectives:

1. businesses;
2. social media platform providers;
3. the public sector.

We are interested in discovering successful European cases from which lessons can be learned, be it from the business usage of social media or web-entrepreneurs' point of view.

We also want to hear about the barriers and bottlenecks they came across. Our aim is to identify concretely where policy action is needed and what exactly could EU policy do in this area.

We also want to take this opportunity to examine how social media could help to deliver public services more efficiently and increase citizens' satisfaction and stakeholders' participation in public affairs. In other words, how can social media generate social capital?

This is then where you come in! We need your experience and expertise to come up with the questions that need answering and to steer the debate in the right direction.

[Join the discussion today](#) [3], provide your ideas and comments, and feel free to launch new themes to make this Digital Agenda Assembly, 'your' Digital Agenda Assembly.

Follow us also on twitter [@DigitalAgendaEU](#) [4] and use the hashtag [#da12social](#) [5] to share your ideas on the matter.

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Links

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/daa/index_en.htm

[2] http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/daa2012/item-display.cfm?id=8279

[3] <http://daa.ec.europa.eu/group/5/content>

[4] <https://twitter.com/#!/digitalagendaEU>

[5] <https://twitter.com/#!/search/%23Da12social>