14 March 2018

Synopsis

Scroll to read full summaries with links to news articles.

China is leading the way in **5G** mobile technology, it occupies 32% of the world's 5G standard contribution and has led approximately 40% of the 5G standardisation research items in 3GPP.

Harin Fernando, the Telecommunication Minister in **Sri Lanka** has announced the ban on social media networks **Facebook** and **WhatsApp** will be lifted 'soon', after it was initially blocked to stop the spread of violence.

Vietnam's new **internet law** which will require internet giants such as **Facebook**, **Google** and **Twitter** to store Vietnamese data solely in the countries data centres could have a major effect on the **economy**.

GCHQ, a **UK** and intelligence **security** organisation is looking to create a joint cyberforce of more than one thousand military personal as well as contractors to deal with hostile nations and terrorists such as **Iraq** and the **Islamic State** in Syria.

Internet giants, **Google**, **Facebook** and **Apple** are being subjected to a three-pronged '**digital tax'** on **EU** turnover which will add an extra five billion euros a year to the tax system.

After allegations that **Russia** was behind the nerve agent attack on former Russian military intelligence double agent and his daughter, the **UK** Government are considering conducting offensive **cyber-operations** against Russia.

The **Federal Communications Commission** in the **United States** are attempting to defend the **net neutrality** repeal despite twelve lawsuits that have been filed against the decision.

Internet giant **Google** has announced that it will provide free **Wi-Fi hotspots** across Mexico in a bid to improve connectivity in emerging markets.

The major providers of US **voting equipment** are being questioned by **United State** Senators to decipher whether **Russia** has had access to the software which could permit a hack into American elections.

The **United Nations** has announced it will decide whether internet giant **Facebook** played a 'determining role' in the **Myanmar crisis** by allowing hate speech to spread on its online platform.

Cyberattacks in **Nigeria** are ruining the countries dream of becoming one of the world's first, twenty economies by 2020. This is because Nigeria loses one hundred and twenty-seven billion Nigerian Naira to cyber-attacks a year.

The **European Internet Forum** met with members of the European Parliament to discuss how to tackle **hate speech** and fake news while not stifling the freedom of speech.

Disclaimer: Please note that this monitor is a summary of news sources and does not reflect the official views of IEEE.

For more information, visit the IEEE Internet Initiative website, and see *IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor* past issues. Join IEEE Collabratec™ Internet Technology Policy Community discussions related to internet policy issues and to collaborate with other members of the global technical and policy communities.

IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor

14 March 2018

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Europe

Internet governance

08.03.18

The European Commission

[FinTech: Commission takes action for a more competitive and innovative financial market](#)

The European Commission have unveiled an action plan to boost the EU's financial technology sector by making it easier to access capital, creating a fintech lab and hosting workshops on cybersecurity.

"The European Commission is today unveiling an Action Plan on how to harness the opportunities presented by technology-enabled innovation in financial services (FinTech)."

"Europe should become a global hub for FinTech, with EU businesses and investors able to make most of the advantages offered by the Single Market in this fast-moving sector. As a first major deliverable, the Commission is also putting forward new rules that will help crowdfunding platforms to grow across the EU's single market."

12.03.18

Euractiv

[Tackling Fake News: To be continued](#)

The European Commission have set up a high-level expert group on fake news to deal with the ever-growing problem of disinformation.

"Fake news has been blamed for the election of Trump, the Brexit vote and the rise of populist parties in Europe. A High-Level Expert Group (HLEG) on fake news has been set up by the European Commission to suggest how to address the problem. Žiga Turk, one of the members, shares his comments on their Final Report, released earlier today (March 12)."

"Žiga Turk is a professor of design communication and vice dean of the University of Ljubljana. He served twice as a minister in the government of Slovenia."

13.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[UN investigators cite Facebook role in Myanmar crisis](#)

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Financial Times

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Internet giants, Google, Facebook and Apple are being subjected to a three-pronged 'digital tax' on EU turnover which will add an extra five billion euros a year to the tax system.

"Brussels is preparing to hit tech giants such as Google, Facebook, Apple with a 'digital tax' on EU turnover that will raise around €5bn a year, according to draft proposals seen by the Financial Times."

"The European Commission will unveil a three-pronged digital tax next week that targets revenues than profits, heeding calls in France, Germany and Britain for a tougher approach to tax avoidance by tech companies."

14.03.18

Reuters

[France to sue Google, Apple over developer contracts: Minister](#)

According to Minister Bruon Le Maire, France will sue Internet giants Google and Apple for 'abusive trade practices' on startups and developers.

"France will take Google and Apple to court over contractual terms imposed by the tech giants on startups and developers, said Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire."

"Speaking on RTL radio, Le Maire said on Wednesday (Mar 14) he had become aware that Alphabet Inc's Google and Apple Inc unilaterally imposed prices and other contractual terms on software developers."

14.03.18

The Guardian

[**Google pulls down 3.2b violating adverts, pays publishers $12.6 billion**](#)

The United States of America's technology company announced that Internet giant Google has removed thirty-two billion adverts that went against its advertising and publisher policies in 2017 in Nigeria and other parts of the world.

"Search giant, Google pulled down 3.2 billion adverts that violated its advertising and publisher's policies in 2017, in Nigeria and other part of the world. The firm said it paid publishers $12.6 billion in the year under review."

"According to Google, that was more than 100 bad adverts per second! By this move, the technology company said it was able to block the majority of bad adverts experiences, like malvertising and phishing scams, before the scams impacted people. Google said it took specific actions against violating adverts involved in scraping; tabloid cloaking; malicious activity; malware and trick to click formats."

Cybersecurity

08.03.18

Computer Weekly

[**UK cyber security certification pilot launched**](#)

The first police-backed cyber security certificate scheme gives UK businesses the opportunity to demonstrate they have safeguards in place to be cyber resilient and to protect personal data.

"UK businesses now have the opportunity to improve their cyber security and prove they have taken steps to protect data they hold, thanks to a police-backed certification scheme."

"The London Digital Security Centre (LDSC) has announced a pilot of the UK's first police-backed cyber security certification scheme."

13.03.18

SC Media

[Cyber-attacks against Russia may follow attempted nerve agent killing in UK](#)

After allegations that Russia was behind the nerve agent attack on former Russian military intelligence double agent and his daughter, the UK Government are considering conducting offensive cyber-operations against Russia.

"Offensive cyber-attacks against Russia are reported to be among options under consideration by the UK if it is dissatisfied with Russia's explanation by midnight today of the use in this country of Russian nerve agent Novichok."

"Either Russia has lost control of its nerve agents, or, suggests UK Prime Minister Teresa May, there has been, "an unlawful use of force by the Russian state against the United Kingdom."

14.03.18

The Times

[British cyberforce of 1,000 to combat hostile nations and terrorists](#)

GCHQ, a UK and intelligence security organisation is looking to create a joint cyberforce of more than one thousand military personal as well as contractors to deal with hostile nations such as Iraq and the Islamic State in Syria.

"Spy and military chiefs are looking to create a new force to bolster their ability to combat hostile states and terrorist groups in cyberspace, The Times has learnt."

"The proposed joint cyberforce will comprise more than 1,000 GCHQ and military personnel as well as contractors. It would be a significant increase from a team of operators engaged in offensive cyberoperations against Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, defence sources said."

Privacy

12.03.18

Computer Weekly

[World Wide Web inventor Tim Berners-Lee wants us to fix the web's bugs](#)

Tim Berners-Lee the creator of the World Wide Web has urged the tech industry to fix the misinformation, fake news and loss of control over personal data in a letter on the World Wide Web Foundation website.

"Too much of the web and people's personal data is under the control of a handful of mega-corporations. Is there a better way?"

"In an open letter on the World Wide Web Foundation website, the father of the web, Tim Berners-Lee, urged the tech industry and users to fix the internet's bugs."

Internet Inclusion

08.03.18

SC Media

[International Women's Day: Security Industry Association creates Women in Security Forum](#)

A new Women in Security Forum has been created with influential leaders in the security industry in the United States and Europe in a bid to increase the number of women in cybersecurity.

"The Security Industry Association (SIA) used International Women's Day as the backdrop to unveil the SIA Women in Security Forum to help support and increase the participation of women in cybersecurity."

"The SIA also announced the inaugural members of the Forum's steering committee and gave some insight into the area the group will be exploring as it moves forward."

12.03.18

Computer Weekly

[Scottish government to spend £25m to fill 4G coverage gaps](#)

The Scottish Government has announced that it will devote twenty-five million pounds to provide 4G mobile network coverage across sixteen sites in Scotland where no coverage exists.

"The Scottish government has announced a £25m programme to infill gaps in 4G mobile network coverage across Scotland."

"The Scottish government has launched a £25m programme to address 4G mobile network "not-spots" in Scotland, with 16 sites around the country – but mostly in the Highlands – identified to receive funding for new mobile masts and towers in areas where no coverage yet exists."

12.03.18

Euractiv

[Europe's new era – only possible with 5G](#)

Gunnar Hökmark, the Head of the Swedish delegation of the European People's Party in the European Parliament, If Europe wants to catch up with America and China on 5G mobile technology then it has to deliver on it first.

"If the EU misses out on 5G it could lead to a drain of world leading tech companies in Europe (of which there are only a few), if it wants to catch up to America and China then it has to deliver on 5G before anyone else, writes Gunnar Hökmark."

"Gunnar Hökmark is Head of the Swedish delegation of the European People's Party (EPP) in the European Parliament."

12.03.18

Computer Weekly

[Politicians need to be more involved in tech, says Sadiq Khan](#)

The London Mayor Sadiq Khan has urged the Government to take a more active role in tech by ensuring the rapid growth in technology is being harnessed and utilisied in a way that benefits the country.

"Flying the flag for the UK capital at the SXSW festival in Texas, London mayor Sadiq Khan says government should "do more" for technology, as well as

mitigate the risks that come with it, and calls on social media firms to take responsibility for hate speech on their platforms."

"London mayor Sadiq Khan will call on politicians to take a more active part in the technology revolution, in order to harness opportunities and mitigate risks."

12.03.18

Computer Weekly

[Digital for rural areas worth up to £26bn to UK economy](#)

According to a new study by electric commerce company Amazon, investing in digital technologies in rural parts of the UK could add between twelve billion pounds and twenty-six billion per year to the British economy.

"A study commissioned by Amazon has posited that greater use of digital tools and services could be worth between £12bn and £26bn per annum to the UK economy."

"Greater investment in digital technologies and connectivity in rural parts of the UK could add between £12bn and £26.4bn annually to the British economy, and increase business turnover by £15bn, according to a study conducted by think tanks Rural England and Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) on behalf of Amazon."

13.03.18

Computer Weekly

[Hammond delivers tech-positive Spring Statement](#)

The UK Chancellor Philip Hammond delivered his Spring Statement this week where he announced twenty-five million pounds for 5G mobile technology testbeds, full-fiber funding and emphasised the need for digital skills.

"Delivering his Spring Statement, the chancellor bangs the drum for UK tech businesses, confirms £25m for 5G testbeds, allocates full-fiber funding and highlights the need for digital skills."

"Chancellor Philip Hammond has reiterated the government's commitment to 5G funding, full-fiber broadband, T-levels and digital skills in the Spring Statement."

United States of America

Internet governance

03.07.18

Ars Technica

[GOP tries to block state net neutrality laws and allow paid prioritization](#)

Republicans in Congress are continuing their quest to block net neutrality laws that would allow online services to pay internet service providers for prioritised access to internet users.

"Republicans in Congress are continuing to push a net neutrality law that would preempt state net neutrality rules and let Internet service providers charge online services for prioritized access to Internet users."

"The Open Internet Preservation Act would prohibit ISPs from blocking or throttling lawful Internet content but clear the way for paid prioritization or "fast lanes."

12.03.18

Ars Technica

[FCC must defend net neutrality repeal in court against dozens of litigants](#)

The Federal Communications Commission in the United States are attempting to defend the net neutrality repeal despite twelve lawsuits that have been filed against the decision.

"Twelve lawsuits filed against the Federal Communications Commission over its net neutrality repeal have been consolidated into one suit that will be heard at a federal appeals court in California."

"The 12 lawsuits were filed by more than three dozen entities, including state attorneys general, consumer advocacy groups, and tech companies."

14.03.18

The Guardian

[Google pulls down 3.2b violating adverts, pays publishers $12.6 billion](#)

The United States of America's technology company has announced that Internet giant Google has removed thirty-two billion adverts that went against its advertising and publisher policies in 2017 in Nigeria and other parts of the world.

"Search giant, Google pulled down 3.2 billion adverts that violated its advertising and publisher's policies in 2017, in Nigeria and other part of the world. The firm said it paid publishers $12.6 billion in the year under review."

"According to Google, that was more than 100 bad adverts per second! By this move, the technology company said it was able to block the majority of bad adverts experiences, like malvertising and phishing scams, before the scams impacted people. Google said it took specific actions against violating adverts involved in scraping; tabloid cloaking; malicious activity; malware and trick to click formats."

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Financial Times

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"Brussels is preparing to hit tech giants such as Google, Facebook, Apple with a 'digital tax' on EU turnover that will raise around €5bn a year, according to draft proposals seen by the Financial Times."

"The European Commission will unveil a three-pronged digital tax next week that targets revenues than profits, heeding calls in France, Germany and Britain for a tougher approach to tax avoidance by tech companies."

"The levy, which is likely to be set at a rate of 3 per cent, will be raised against advertising revenues generated by digital giants such as Google, the fees made from users and subscribers to services such as Apple or Spotify, and the income made by businesses selling data to third parties."

14.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Sri Lanka to lift social media ban - minister](#)

Harin Fernando, the Telecommunication Minister in Sri Lanka has announced the ban on social media networks Facebook and WhatsApp will be lifted, after it was initially blocked to stop the spread of violence.

"Sri Lanka is likely to lift a ban on social media networks this week, a government minister said on Tuesday, almost a week after blocking access to prevent the spread of communal violence."

"At least two people were killed in clashes in early March when Sinhalese Buddhists, angered by a killing of a driver, attacked mosques and Muslim-owned properties in the central Kandy district, a popular tourist destination."

Cybersecurity

08.03.18

SC Media

[International Women's Day: Girls Scouts of the USA readying cybersecurity badges](#)

The Girl Scouts in the USA are being encouraged to study STEM subjects and develop their tech skills by working towards earning a cybersecurity badge in those skills.

"International Women's Day is a great time to bring up the fact that the young members of the Girl Scouts of the USA will soon be able to do their part to help buttress the number of women in cybersecurity by working toward earning badges in that exact skill."

"The Girl Scouts introduced the 18 badges in June 2017 with the first becoming available to the girls in September 2018."

Privacy

08.03.18

Channel News Asia

[US senators ask vote machine vendors about Russian access to source code](#)

The major providers of US voting equipment are being questioned by United State Senators to decipher whether Russia has had access to the software which could permit a hack into American elections.

"Two Democratic senators on Wednesday asked major vendors of U.S. voting equipment whether they have allowed Russian entities to scrutinize their software, saying the practice could allow Moscow to hack into American elections infrastructure."

"The letter from Senators Amy Klobuchar and Jeanne Shaheen followed a series of Reuters reports saying that several major global technology providers have allowed Russian authorities to hunt for vulnerabilities in software deeply embedded across the U.S. government."

Internet Inclusion

08.03.18

Channel News Asia

[Google Maps lets businesses promote themselves as women-led](#)

Google maps, has announced that businesses on the web mapping service can now state whether they are owned, led or founded by a woman.

"Businesses can now describe themselves in Google Maps listings as being owned, led or founded by women, the Alphabet Inc unit announced Wednesday."

"The feature would roll out this week in celebration of International Women's Day, on March 8, Google said in a blog post."

08.03.18

SC Media

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"The SIA also announced the inaugural members of the Forum's steering committee and gave some insight into the area the group will be exploring as it moves forward."

14.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Google brings free Wi-Fi to Mexico, first stop in Latin America](#)

Internet giant Google has announced that it will provide free Wi-Fi hotspots across Mexico in a bid to improve connectivity in emerging markets.

"Alphabet's Google said on Tuesday that it will launch a network of free Wi-Fi hotspots across Mexico, part of the search giant's effort to improve connectivity in emerging markets and put its products in the hands of more users."

"Google Station, an ad-supported network of Wi-Fi hotspots in high-traffic locations, is launching in Mexico with 56 hotspots and others planned, the company said."

Pan-Asia

Internet governance

08.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Japan punishes seven cryptocurrency exchanges over regulatory lapses](#)

Japan's financial regulator has reprimanded seven cryptocurrency exchanges and ordered two of them to stop operating in a bid to protect consumers after five hundred and thirty million dollars of digital money was stolen from Tokyo based Coincheck.

"Japan's financial regulator on Thursday punished seven cryptocurrency exchanges, suspending business at the two of them, in an effort to shore up consumer protection after the US$530 million theft of digital money from Tokyo-based Coincheck."

"Japan punished seven cryptocurrency exchanges, ordering two of them to suspend business, in an effort to shore up consumer protection after a US$530 million theft of digital money from Tokyo-based Coincheck Inc earlier this year."

12.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Vietnam's new Internet law will make the economy lag](#)

Vietnam's new internet law which will require internet giants such as Facebook, Google and Twitter to store Vietnamese data solely in the countries data centres could have a major effect on the economy.

"Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security thinks it is killing two birds with one stone by passing new laws regulating data storage."

"But it could soon find out it has no use for two dead birds while the stone flies off and damages the economy."

13.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[UN investigators cite Facebook role in Myanmar crisis](#)

The United Nations has announced it will decide whether internet giant Facebook played a 'determining role' in the Myanmar crisis by allowing hate speech to spread on its online platform.

"U.N. human rights experts investigating a possible genocide in Myanmar said on Monday that Facebook had played a role in spreading hate speech there."

"Facebook had no immediate comment on the criticism on Monday, although in the past the company has said that it was working to remove hate speech in Myanmar and kick off people who shared such content consistently."

13.03.18

Channel News Asia

[Facebook defends track record on fighting Myanmar hate speech](#)

Internet giant Facebook has announced it is "seriously" fighting hate speech in Myanmar after it came under criticism from the United Nations for spreading violence against Rohingya Muslims.

"Facebook said on Tuesday (Mar 13) it is "seriously" fighting hate speech in Myanmar, following blistering criticism from UN officials who said the platform had morphed into a "beast" that helps spread vitriol against Rohingya Muslims."

"The social media giant has faced mounting pressure to snuff out inflammatory posts aimed at the Rohingya, a persecuted Muslim minority that the UN says are victims of army-led ethnic cleansing."

14.03.18

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The United States of America's technology company has announced that Internet giant Google has removed thirty-two billion adverts that went against its advertising and publisher policies in 2017 in Nigeria and other parts of the world.

"Search giant, Google pulled down 3.2 billion adverts that violated its advertising and publisher's policies in 2017, in Nigeria and other part of the world. The firm said it paid publishers $12.6 billion in the year under review."

"According to Google, that was more than 100 bad adverts per second! By this move, the technology company said it was able to block the majority of bad adverts experiences, like malvertising and phishing scams, before the scams impacted people. Google said it took specific actions against violating adverts involved in scraping; tabloid cloaking; malicious activity; malware and trick to click formats."

Cybersecurity

07.03.18

China Daily

[**Talent dearth worsens cybersecurity problems**](#)

Zhou Hongyi, Chairman and CEO of 360 Security Technology an internet platform company said China is facing a major talent gap in the cybersecurity sector and the only way to solve this is for more training institutions to be built.

"China should set up more education and training institutions to cultivate cybersecurity talent, as the country faces a huge talent gap in this sector, said Zhou Hongyi, chairman and CEO of 360 Security Technology Inc."

"In his proposal to the first session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Zhou, a member of the committee, called for more cooperation between internet security companies and universities in cybersecurity talent cultivation and construction of related disciplines."

Privacy

No new items of relevance

Internet Inclusion

10.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[China eyes 'black tech' to boost security as parliament meets](#)

Local police in China are testing out new smart glasses technology which can detect facial features and car registration plates and match them automatically with a database of suspects.

"At a highway check point on the outskirts of Beijing, local police are this week testing out a new security tool: Smart glasses that can pick up facial features and car registration plates and match them in real-time with a database of suspects."

"The AI-powered glasses, made by LLVision, scan the faces of vehicle occupants and the plates, flagging with a red box and warning sign to the wearer when any match up with a centralised 'blacklist'."

12.03.18

China Daily

[Drones give rural economy tech push](#)

A drone delivery system has been created in the rural areas of China to make it easier to transport parcels, letters and newspapers.

"Rural deliveries in China aren't easy," said Yang Guoping, a village postman in Hanggai township, Anji county, East China's Zhejiang province, since 1992."

He rises early, has a quick breakfast and pedals several hours from the post office in the town center to remote villages, bringing parcels, letters and newspapers.

12.03.18

China Daily

[Minister: Plan to boost AI research](#)

Wan Gang, Minister of Science and Technology has announced that China will increase artificial intelligence research to solve public issues including security, health and environment issues.

"China will strengthen the use of artificial intelligence to solve security, health, environment and other key public issues, Wan Gang, minister of science and technology, said on Saturday."

"The country also plans to soon publish a guideline and detailed regulations on AI development and breakthroughs in critical technologies, he said."

13.03.18

China Daily

[China joins top ranks in field of 5G technology](#)

China is leading the way in 5G mobile technology, it occupies 32% of the world's 5G standard contribution and has led approximately 40% of the 5G standardisation research items in 3GPP.

"The nation has joined the top ranks in the field of 5G technology, transforming from a follower to a global innovator to gain a lead in the uphill battle for the next generation of mobile communication technology."

"Currently, China occupies 32 percent of the world's 5G standard contribution, submitting more than 8,700 related documents to the 3rd Generation Partnership Project and has led about 40 percent of the 5G standardization research items in 3GPP, said Liu Duo, NPC deputy and president of the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology."

Rest of the World

Internet governance

13.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

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14.03.18

The Guardian

[Cybercrimes threaten Nigeria's Vision 20:2020 project](#)

Cyberattacks in Nigeria are ruining the countries dream of becoming one of the world's first, twenty economies by 2020. This is because Nigeria loses one hundred and twenty-seven billion Nigerian Naira to cyber-attacks a year.

"Nigeria's dream of becoming one of the world's first 20 economies by 2020 may be doomed if cyber security was not put in place to contain increasing cybercrimes in the country. It was learnt that the Nigerian space has not only become more porous, but the country also loses 0.08 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) or N127 billion yearly to cybercrimes."

"Experts who gathered at a Breakfast Forum on Cyber Security in Nigeria, organised by the United States (U.S.) Commercial Service and McAfee Incorporated, stated this yesterday in Lagos. They argued that year 2016 took cyber-attacks to an unprecedented level, as there were reports alleging that it was used to influence and sway votes during elections, adding: "In Nigeria, several organisations suffered cyber-attacks, some had to pay ransom for their data to be released.""

Privacy

08.03.18

Channel News Asia

[US senators ask vote machine vendors about Russian access to source code](#)

The major providers of US voting equipment are being questioned by United State Senators to decipher whether Russia has had access to the software which could permit a hack into American elections.

"Two Democratic senators on Wednesday asked major vendors of U.S. voting equipment whether they have allowed Russian entities to scrutinize their software, saying the practice could allow Moscow to hack into American elections infrastructure."

"The letter from Senators Amy Klobuchar and Jeanne Shaheen followed a series of Reuters reports saying that several major global technology providers have allowed Russian authorities to hunt for vulnerabilities in software deeply embedded across the U.S. government."

Internet Inclusion

12.03.18

IT News Africa

[Vaal University of Technology students receive IT bursaries](#)

Vaal University of Technology in South Africa and Liquid Telecom a telecommunications company has announced they will grant more students with IT bursaries to prepare them for the digital age.

"Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Liquid Telecom South Africa and the Vaal University of Technology will see more students accessing bursaries in the field of Information Technology."

"Ten students received bursaries in 2017 to the value of R470 000, with this number and value to possibly increase in 2018."

12.03.18

IT News Africa

[Women urged to seize the opportunities of STEM careers](#)

Sasol, a company that provides bursaries to thousands of South Africans in technology-based courses has urged millennials to study science, technology, engineering and math courses to fill the skills gap.

"Sasol is urging female learners in Grade 12 to seize the opportunity to be at the forefront of economic growth and innovation by studying science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) courses at tertiary institutions."

"The company has provided all-inclusive bursaries to thousands of young South Africans over the years to study engineering, science and accounting, many of them women. The bursary programme seeks to address the dire shortage of STEM skills in South Africa, attract talent to Sasol and pave a road to a STEM-related career for more young South Africans."

12.03.18

The Guardian

[Scientist develops keyboards in Nigerian languages](#)

Nnenna Nwosu, Senior Lecturer at the Federal University of Ndufu-Alieke Ikwo announced that he has created keyboards in Igbo, Hausa and Yoruba languages to ensure they do not die out.

"A scientist has developed linguascript keyboards that could text and type in Igbo, Hausa and Yoruba languages to ensure Nigerian languages don't go into extinction."

"The author of the project, Nnenna Nwosu, who is a senior lecturer at the Federal University of Ndufu-Alieke Ikwo (FUNAI), Ebonyi State, explained that the plug and play keyboards incorporate all the alphabets of the three major languages."

14.03.18

The Guardian

[ICT experts task Nigerians on acquisition of digital skills](#)

Keji Giwa, Founder of Digital Bananas Technology was speaking at a social media event in Lagos last week where he ordered Nigerians to acquire ICT skills to keep up with the digital age.

"Nigerians from all walks of life have been urged to acquire various Information Communications Technology (ICT) skills to prepare job-seekers for work and enable employees remain in various work places in the country."

"Founder/Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Digital Bananas Technology, Keji Giwa, who spoke at an event to mark the social media week in Lagos organised by Digital Bananas, noted that to remain relevant in careers, people need to acquire skills that are in tandem with the digital age and take career risks in evolving technology."

14.03.18

The Guardian

HP to deepen capacity in Computer Village

Technology company Hewlett- Packard (HP) has announced that it will use their resources and expertise to help entrepreneurs in Africa and Nigeria to help tech startups grow their businesses.

"To increase capacity and boost free enterprise in the country, computer giant, Hewlett-Packard (HP) has expressed readiness to use their resources and expertise to aid entrepreneurs grows their businesses in Nigeria."

"Managing Director, HP Africa, David Rozzio, stated this during a working official visit to Computer Village, Ikeja, Lagos.Rozzio who said the company has deployed resources to assist entrepreneurs across Africa, Nigeria inclusive, promised HP would partner with SMEs in Computer Village and aid their growth. Rozzio also promised to bring more innovative products to the market through their authorized channels to build stronger ties with the village."

08.03.18

IT News Africa

Digitally-driven education is vital to South Africa's future

According to Pierre Aurel, Strategic Project Manager at e4, a technology company in South Africa, offering bursaries does not solve the education crisis, more universities need to be built to solve the digital skills gap.

"South Africa's ongoing education crisis, specifically access to schooling and learning material has been well publicised. Government has responded with subsidy offers, but simply providing financial aid does not solve the crisis that South Africa faces."

"Compounding the issue is the fact that universities are at capacity, with no new plans to build more facilities. According to Pierre Aurel, Strategic Project

Manager at e4, this is not a scalable solution and South Africa is limiting itself to brick and mortar as the rest of the world enters the fourth industrial revolution."

Global Institutions

European Internet Forum

Fake News & Hate Speech

The European Internet Forum met with members of the European Parliament to discuss how to tackle hate speech and fake news while not stifling the freedom of speech.

"On 6 March, MEP Eva Kaili and EIF invited MEPs, EIF Members and friends to debate how to tackle hate speech and fake news whilst safeguarding freedom of expression."

"Eva Kaili praised the value of unfiltered communication with citizen and voters provided by social media and pointed to the fact that fake news phenomenon has always existed, even before the existence of social media. Regulators are trying to find ways in which social platforms can address the issue while safeguarding freedom of speech."

Diary Dates

Living in the Internet of Things- Cybersecurity of the IoT – 28.03.18-29.03.18

London, England

RSA – 16.04.18–20.04.18

San Francisco, USA

Data Centre Risk Radar- Technical Skills Shortage – 26.04.18

London, England

Africa Internet Summit – 29.04.18-11.05.18

Dakar, Senegal

Cyber in the Digital Economy – 17.05.18

London, England

2018 Digital Festival – 21.05.18

London, England

Diversity in Technology – 24.05.18

London, England

EuroDIG – 05.06.18-06.06.18

Tbilisi, Georgia

Data Centres Risk Radar – 24.06.18

London, England