



# IPR in digital emerging technologies: challenges and opportunities for SMEs

6 April 2021, 10.00 - 11.00 CEST

# **WHO WE ARE**

**Europe's first  
and largest ICT  
SME association**

---

**30 members**

**Representing  
more than  
20,000 digital  
SMEs across  
Europe**



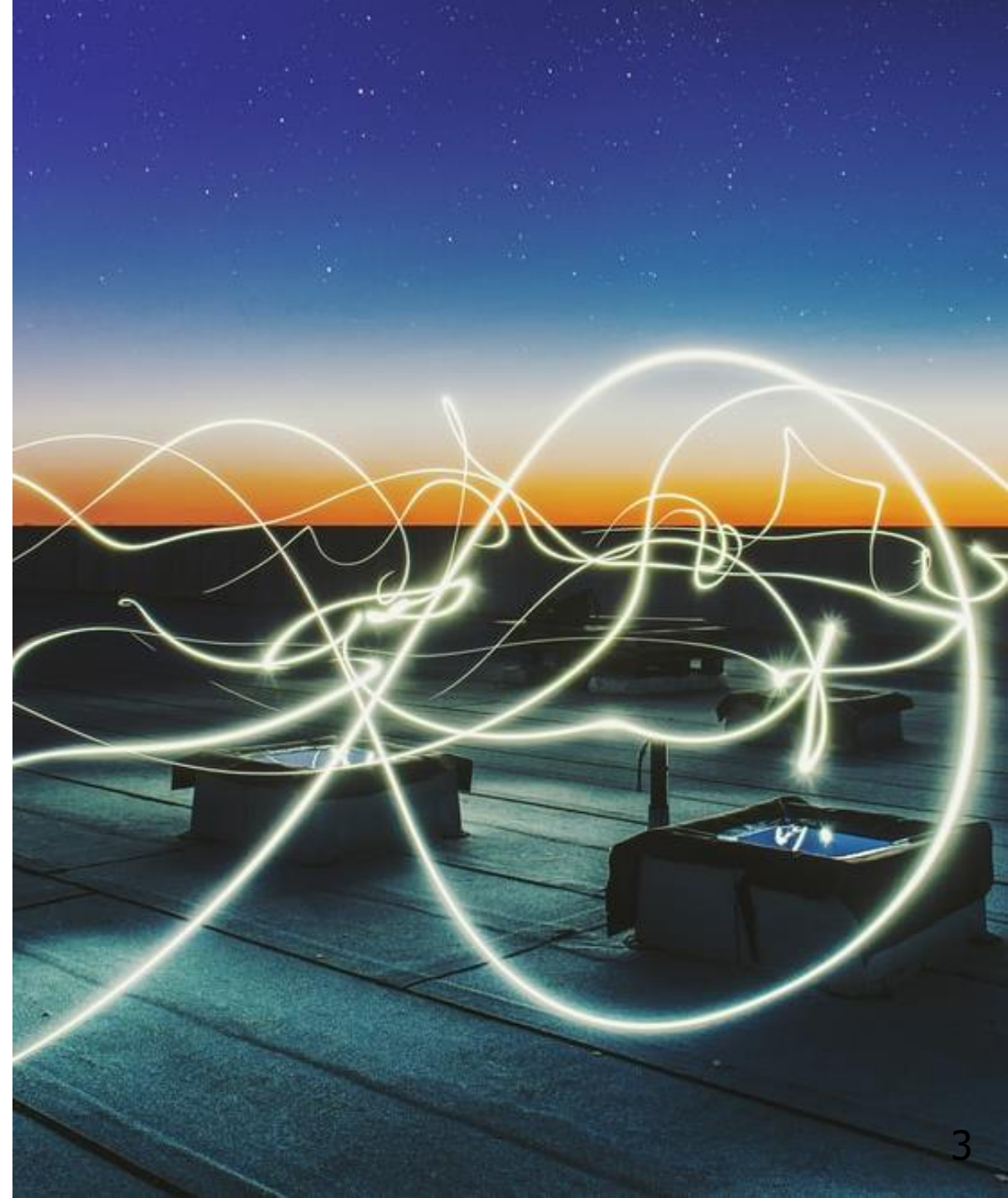
# OUR VISION

A European alliance of digital SMEs

## Building connections

DIGITAL SME provides a unique network of more than 20,000 SMEs in the ICT sector. By working together, associations and SME organisations from across Europe can help to build a Digital Single Market for SMEs in Europe!

We facilitate a discussion among SMEs to **identify strategic synergies** and priorities from the bottom up and **present their concerns towards EU policy makers**.



# WHO WE ARE

## Membership Structure

### macro level

Europe-wide

European DIGITAL SME Alliance

### meso level

Regional, national, pan-European associations...

National associations

Supra-national associations

Local hubs or clusters

Regional associations

### micro level

Individual enterprises

*New service: Innovators Club*

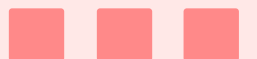
Company  
A

Company  
B

Company  
C

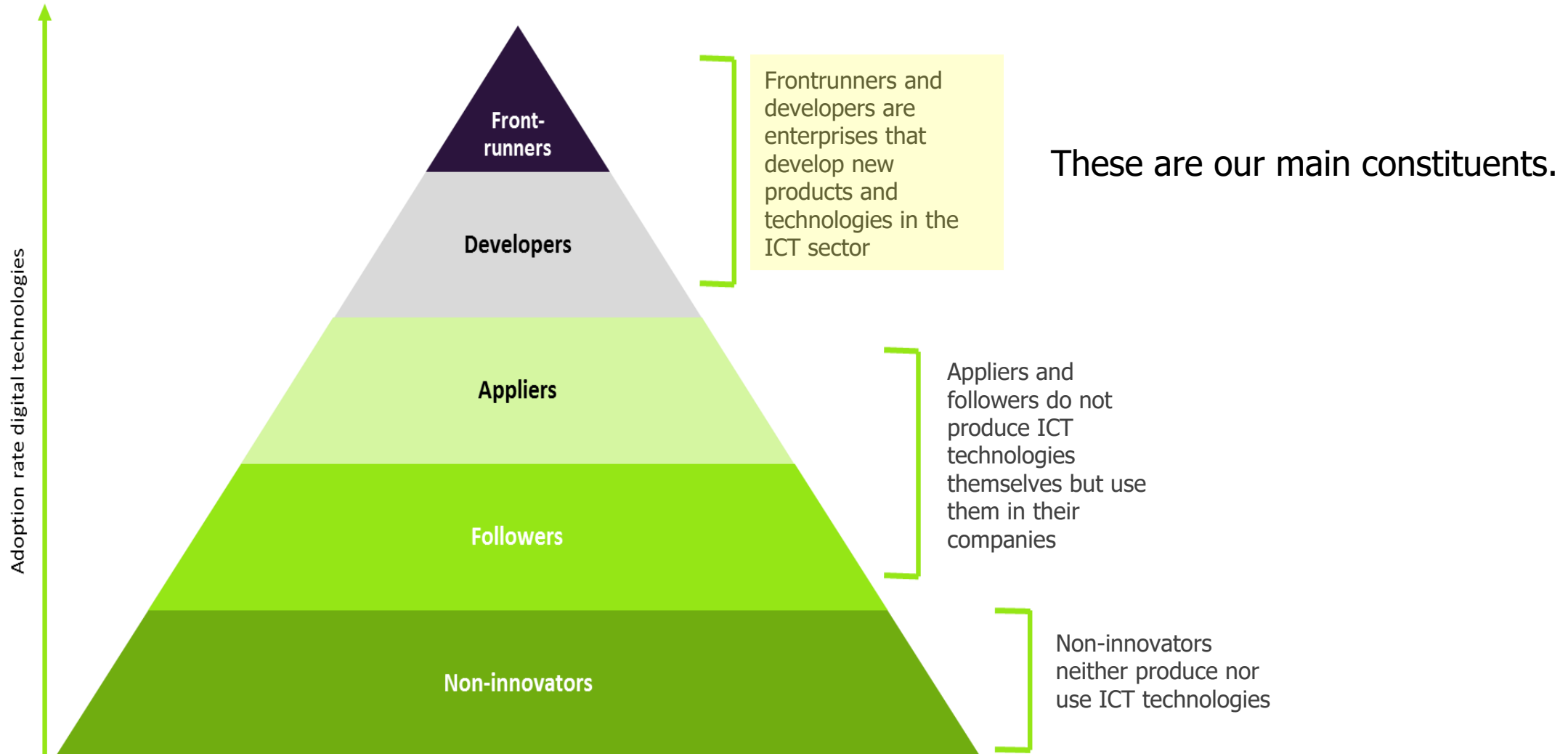
Company  
D

Company  
E



# DIGITAL MATURITY

## Main Constituents



# OUR MEMBER COMPANIES

Digital SMEs & their expertise



B2B software solution  
providers



IT security providers



industrial AI developers



data- and IoT-specialised SMEs

**DIGITAL  
ENABLERS**



IT consultants

# OUR NETWORK

A network of partners that can be yours!



Alliance for Internet of Things Innovation



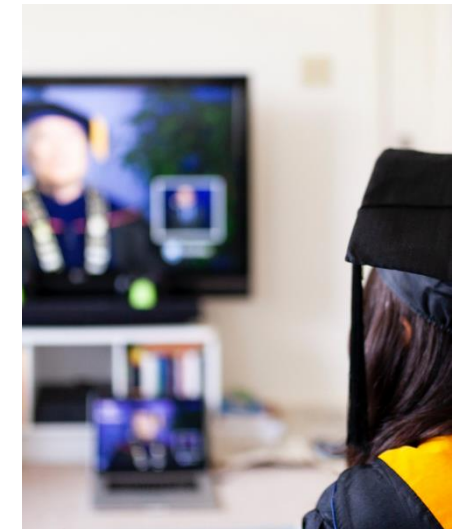
**EUIPO**

EUROPEAN UNION  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

Small  
Business  
Standards



DIGITAL SME contracted to  
deliver **European platform for  
digital skills and jobs**



# POLICY PRIORITIES

Manifesto for 2019-2024



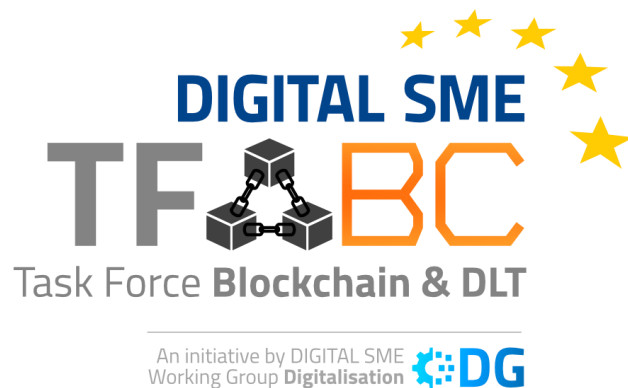
## MANIFESTO FOR EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE



1. Ending tax inequalities & unfair competition
2. Starting up Europe-led innovation
3. Building Europe's digital single market
4. Unleashing the potential of the data economy
5. Building a sustainable digital Europe
6. Paving the way for Europe-led Artificial Intelligence
7. Closing the digital skills gap
8. Unlocking standards for SMEs
9. Towards Europe's digital sovereignty
10. Building an inclusive digital Europe and social model

# FLAGSHIP PRIORITIES IN 2021

Buidling a Digital Single Market with SMEs!



# POLICY ACTIVITIES

## Working Groups



Working Groups are where our experts from across Europe come together to develop policy positions and respond to topical issues of relevance to European digital SMEs.

### Composition & tasks:

- Experts proposed by members of DIGITAL SME; geographical balance
- Formulation of DIGITAL SME's policy positions
- WG Chairs can speak at public events on behalf of the Working Groups

**JOIN A WORKING GROUP NOW!**

<https://www.digitalsme.eu/working-group-registration/>



An initiative together with  
the European Commission's  
**Joint Research Centre**



# A network of AI innovators in Europe

The focus group forms a network of AI innovators in Europe that will develop joint activities and positions.



# DIGITAL SME Focus Group on AI



## Members

- Members provide AI solutions or are intensive AI users **from across Europe**.
- They are leading AI innovation in **different sectors**.

## Benefits

- Visibility at European level.
- Enabling access to EU policymakers.
- Information exchange.
- Building a network of innovative AI companies from across Europe.

# DIGITAL SME blockchain activities



Task Force **Blockchain**

An initiative by DIGITAL SME  
Working Group **Digitalisation** 

- **Blockchain Task Force:** transversal cooperation between digital sectors, practical tools and resources, information about the initiatives and opportunities offered by the EU, analysis of the workforce needs as regards blockchain
- Participating in **Skills Alliance for blockchain:** European Blockchain Skills Strategy, European Blockchain Skills Cooperation Network, National Blockchain Skills Partnerships, Blockchain MOOCs
- Blockchain accelerator for SMEs in logistics, finance and agri-food sectors (funding, business and technical support)

# WG IPR

What is at stake for SMEs in IPR?



**DIGITAL SME** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**WG**  **IPR**  
Working Group Software Patents &  
Intellectual Property Rights

# WG IPR

## What is at stake for SMEs in IPR?




### Activities of WG IPR:

- The group will form a **network of SMEs to help increase understanding and knowledge of Software Patents & IPR among** digital SMEs.
- For this purpose, the group brings together legal experts and SMEs to identify **pressing issues in relation to patents, copyright and IPR in general (i.e. know-how, trade secret, designs, trademarks)**.
- We are organising informative webinars and workshops, networking activities, and writing policy positions.
- The group is chaired by **Ms. Silvana Marcotulli**, *International Business Lawyer specialised in IP Law strategy and leveraging*, and **Mr. Rasmus Keller**, *lawyer for IP-law and software developer*.

- Increasing knowledge among SMEs of the value of intangible assets (trademarks, designs, Know-how, industrial secrets, patents)
- One-stop shop procedures, offering the right coverage for IPR
- Fair markets in digital sector
- Ensure a smooth uptake of 3D printing technologies, clarify the position on the protection of 3D printing files and on the limitations for the private use of designs
- Protection of software (software and/or patent software)
- Ensure better IP enforcement, increasing the knowledge of ADR system




# Thank You

 DIGITAL SME Team

 @eudigitalsme

 [office@digitalsme.eu](mailto:office@digitalsme.eu)

 [www.digitalsme.eu](http://www.digitalsme.eu)