

# MOOC Digital Youth Work

## 2.2 Video transcript “Digitalisation of society”

In this video we are going to explore key changes in society, especially focusing on digitalisation and we'll explore how these changes are affecting us now.

The use of digital media and technologies is growing fast and gets quickly rooted in our everyday lives. Let's look at the world around us.

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Machine learning, artificial intelligence, chatbots, search algorithms, virtual assistants, internet-connected devices, robots, virtual and augmented reality are not a future vision - they are part of our lives.

Technological changes go hand in hand with societal changes too and often both are intertwined. How do *you* see things?

We see climate change, decreasing biodiversity, increasing amounts of pollution. Climate-driven population shifts are reshaping cities, towns and rural areas.

Polarized media, inequity and higher stress levels ruin our physical and mental health. We see an increasing number of toxic narratives and misinformation online. This leads to rising populism and admiration for “strong leaders” who sell simple solutions to complex issues.

Increasingly we experience how digital media and internet play an enormous role in igniting rapid civic actions across the globe. It's not just about communication and access to information. Social networks became a kind of playground to shape opinions, promote ideas and create online communities devoted to specific causes.

The recent pandemic suddenly put many people into situations where the internet was the only way to keep connections or continue working. How could they catch up quickly without the required competences and equipment? The unexpected need for “low-touch” solutions showed the really diverse levels of readiness to embrace technology and use it for the continuation of youth work, counselling, information, and education among many other fields.

All this leave us with many questions, like:

- How do we use technology for a good cause?
- How can it boost outreach and support the goals of youth work?
- What can we do to ensure that people aren't left behind developments?
- How can we stay agile and keep up with recent changes?

So, here are a few tips about how to keep up and find direction in these rapidly changing times:

- Be curious about recent inventions and changes. Check out some reliable sources on innovation, media and technology;
- Stretch yourself and learn new things - try out a new app or construct something tangible and technological
- Quite simply: experiment! If much of the world is embracing tech solutions, why not try something with young people?

## References

[Mega Trends cards](#), 2020 edition SITRA

Eurostat, [data visualised](#) through maps

Eurostat, [The profile of the digital society](#)

[Forecast 5.0](#) – The Future of Learning: Navigating the Future of Learning