

## Global Forum 2018 Opening Speech of Caroline Ferrari, Ambassador of France in Denmark

I am very honored to address the Global forum today in Copenhagen.

I have this privilege because the Global forum was created and developed thanks to the commitment of **a French woman, Dr. Sylviane Toporkoff who I would like to pay a special tribute to.**

It was really a great idea in the early 90's to create an **independent think tank** and **an international network** with all relevant actors, governments, companies, NGOs, international organizations in order to discuss the challenges of digitalization.

Today, I am very pleased that Global forum has chosen **Copenhagen** to host its 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Copenhagen is not only a very nice city, it is also one of the smartest in the world! Denmark stands as a digital frontrunner in many fields including public services, opportunities for industries and big data investors. It really deserves to be acknowledged as a first-class player in the digital world.

The timing of this meeting is also perfect. You are gathering just one week before the **Paris digital week** when 3 major events concerning the challenges of digitalization are organized:

- 1) **The Paris Peace Forum, organized for the first time in the context of the centennial of WWI**, on how to improve global governance in favor of peace and security, taking also into account new technologies
- 2) **The GovTech summit** with the support of the mayor of Paris, Anne Hidalgo, and of the European Commission, on how technology can help transform the central governments, regional administration and cities
- 3) And **the Internet Governance Forum** organized by the United Nations on the topic "internet of trust"

On this regard, I would like to invite you **to endorse the Call for trust and security in cyberspace**, which will be made public by the French President, Emmanuel Macron, on the 12th of November. The endorsement is open to all actors, public or private ([paris.roadmap@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:paris.roadmap@diplomatie.gouv.fr)). This call aims at promoting international cooperation between all the actors under the rule of law.

One last word in order to call your attention on the **publication this morning in the Danish newspaper Børsen of an editorial from French Minister for the Economy and Finance**, Bruno Le Maire, advocating for a European Digital Services Tax. An appropriate topic, if any, for a living discussion on fairness in the digital economy!

I wish you all some very fruitful exchanges in the coming days.