



Action-oriented workshop 26 November: feedback on principles

WEB4HUB: 'A SPACE FOR THE METAVERSE
–VIRTUAL WORLD AND THE TRANSITION
TO WEB 4.0'



Collected feedback on the principles

The table below summarises the feedback received on the preliminary policy and technical principles presented during the workshop. The feedback was collected through Slido.

Table 1. Feedback received on the preliminary principles

POLICY PRINCIPLES	TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES
<p>Quantum will have an impact on the current Internet we know today but the 'quantum Internet' and the current Internet are not the same things. The application of quantum technology is completely different</p>	<p>Is it recommended that an enforcement policy should be created? How to enforce laws when different principles can be applicable in different countries?</p>
<p>Who will select which are 'core Internet Protocols' and which are not?</p>	<p>For policy principles a regulated sandbox model would be more beneficial on all levels and across a larger area.</p>
<p>The principles should be more concrete and focus on technical principles. They sound more like political statements.</p>	<p>Stakeholder consultations are not the same as a multistakeholder model, where each stakeholder has an equal say and vote.</p>
<p>Basing on the graphic illustrating the evolution of the Web, we are not yet fully at the Web 3.0 stage (for ex. the use of blockchain is not widespread and we cannot say it is meaningfully built into Web infrastructure at the present moment). What is the reasoning behind focusing on Web 4.0 if we have not reached the previous stage yet?</p>	<p>I share the questions and concerns about definition and the premise of 'web 4.0' (including all the technologies mentioned) that underpins this exercise.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I do not see the term decentralised, which is the promise of Web 3.0 and Web 4.0. Or is it denoted by the term 'distributed'. We may need to really define what we mean by decentralised or distributed - what is being decentralised and to what extent. • What do you mean by controllability? • Explaining it would help. Maybe it is good to have a reference to precautionary principle from environmental law. • It is also important to state that Web 4.0 should be developed in a gender-just manner. • In terms of data governance, it is not enough to just stress on privacy and security; there should also be focus on ensuring that data commons or public data sets are not captured by corporates without appropriate benefit sharing principles back to the community. In Web 4.0 individuals and community should have access and control over their data, and to be able to benefit from it. 	<p>The principles of transparency and accountability should be central in policy approaches as well. It is important to not just to ensure access to new technologies, but also securing self-determination of people and groups so that they can participate in design, development and deployment of the technology for their benefits. Further, preventing data capture and securing individual's and community's control and autonomy over their own data should come in the policy segment</p>
<p>Please consider Accessibility as a Principle in Point 1 or 2, as technological convergence can directly jeopardize it.</p>	<p>User's digital identity and digital property should be specifically safeguarded.</p>

POLICY PRINCIPLES	TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES
<p>It would be beneficial to add a glossary with precise definitions to make sure all these terms are not used interchangeably especially when they refer to fundamentally different technologies — concepts like the Internet, Web, digital technology, cyberspace need to be defined accurately.</p>	<p>From what I see with member states and given what I heard in the last discussion, it seems we need a better understanding of Web 4.0 and why Web 4.0 when Web 3.0 does not have an agreed-on definition (to build on) and has not been achieved. We should consider ensuring that understanding before confirming these principles especially on the policy side as there is quite a bit of confusion amongst policymakers that could negatively impact feasibility and relevance; while also being dangerous in implementation. Thanks.</p>
<p>(2) seems to conflate a lot of different things with internet. Blockchain, for example, or quantum, are different types of technology to the internet. What does it mean to say the governance model for the internet applies to quantum computing?</p>	<p>Please explain better the concept of ‘unjust interference to access’.</p>
<p>It's not just about security and privacy risks, but risks of disinformation, manipulation, propaganda. Users need to be protected and informed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immersive literacy (start at an early age teaching children but also teachers & parents and all workforce) is essential if we want people to adopt this emerging tech> I'm missing education as such • Misinformation, gender & race biased input (AI) • Legislation is a big issue today (EU legislation is only ‘valid’ in the 27 EU countries and on top of that if the local - national - legislation is not more strict). So we'll have to take this issue into account cfr governance • Workforce legislation (where to pay taxes? adherence to which legislation?)
<p>Principles are good; agree overall. On principle 2, ‘technically appropriate’ may be difficult to define and distracting, suggest changing. On principle 4, perhaps change ‘avoiding’ to ‘mitigating’ for better feasibility.</p>	<p>Again, more focus needs to be paid to risks of manipulation, disinformation, propaganda. Education on critical digital literacies for immersive tech, starting from early age, are a priority.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about IP? • What in case of ‘bigger internet/electricity outage’ > dependency = is a global risk Accessibility cfr devices used (not only in terms of which device but also the person) • Regulated sandboxes could be a huge added value as a basis (including legal, tech, policy, dev, end-users etc) • Tech at the service of humankind, putting the WHY above innovation for the sake of it (ethics by design) • What about ‘own your own data/identity’ and the right to change this or the right to ‘be anonymous’ 	
<p>Please clarify what is meant by controllability</p>	
<p>What does it mean to integrate principles like transparency or privacy ‘from the ground up’?</p>	
<p>Principle 5 should specifically include consumer protection.</p>	

POLICY PRINCIPLES	TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES
I would like to see 6G and satellite broadband/internet mentioned in the text in principle 1. Same manner as AI, cloud, QC etc. is mentioned in principle 2.	
We agree a lot with the technical focus on open, distributed architectures with interoperability and cohesion of the metaverse. However, we would suggest dropping the term Web 4.0. It is also questionable whether efforts at interoperability and cohesion will be in line with environmental side goals, we suggest dropping the latter.	