

EURODIG 2017: How the Digital Revolution Changes Our Work Life

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1) Relying on a conservative scenario enables flexible solutions!

- given the technological possibilities: at the very least in the short-and medium-term technological unemployment and precarious jobs will increase
 - also the case during the earlier industrial revolutions
 - it is important not to dismiss the costs (social and economic) of the many displaced workers
 - even a smaller disruption can create major challenges at both micro (poverty, income equality, hysteresis, social exclusion, faltering social mobility) and macro (insufficient consumer demand, economic stagnation, budget constraints) level of the economy
- risky, and unnecessary, to exclude the possibility of a more serious disruption
 - political, social, legislative, organisational and macroeconomic factors may affect the development → impossible to forecast long term effects

2) Flexible policies are needed!

- flexible reforms enable combining employment, unemployment, autonomous activities such as voluntary work and lifelong learning
 - reforms that address both current and expected challenges; such as reducing bureaucracy traps in social security
- flexible policies prepares us for different scenarios

3) Digital Flexicurity!

- consolidating social security with other income → access to real-time information on people's incomes (*digital registries*) can reduce delays and reporting obligations
- unemployment benefits could be used more flexibly for starting up a business or studying
- income- and means-testing, obligations and sanctions could be *gradually* reduced
- in general level: more opportunities for the unemployed to define meaningful activities themselves
- a basic income is not the only option to guarantee labour market flexibility in a socially sustainable manner