

**Report of ASEM Seminar on
Enhancing Human Capital for Sustainable Digital Connectivity
25 October 2019**

Venue: Pullman Bangkok King Power Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

I. Introduction

1. Asia and Europe have both already emerged as global digital leaders in various spheres, which enable the two regions to transform into digitally integrated and seamless societies. However, developing and adapting to digital technology creates not only opportunities but also challenges. As the economy and societies in Asia and Europe move towards a more digitalized, knowledge-based and value-added formation, each and every sector must adapt inevitably to these changes or risk falling behind.

2. The ASEM Seminar on Enhancing Human Capital for Sustainable Digital Connectivity aimed to be a platform for sharing experiences and best practices between Asia and Europe on ways to enhance human capital and adapt to the rapid changes of the digital era and to initiate action-oriented discussions pertaining to sustainable digital connectivity strategy that was based on inclusiveness and people centric concepts. The Seminar also provided an opportunity for both Asia and Europe to explore the priorities and challenges of promoting sustainable connectivity in all dimensions and its contributions to the attainment of Goal 9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation) of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

3. The Seminar was attended by more than 250 participants comprising high-level government representatives and representatives from government agencies and private sectors of countries from Asia and Europe such as Cyberspace Administration of China, Department of Finance of the Republic of the Philippines, Electronic Transactions Development Agency, European Commission, Export-Import Bank of Thailand, Information System Authority of Republic of Estonia, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC), Ministry for Economic Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, Ministry of Information and Communications of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Dtac Thailand (Telenor Group), Finnish Lifelong Learning Foundation from Republic of Finland, Google (Thailand) Company Limited, Hubba Company Limited, LinkAja from Republic of Indonesia, Microsoft (Thailand) Limited, Reuters, Shopee Thailand Company Limited and international organizations such as Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). Moreover, representatives from ASEM

partners including Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Switzerland, Thailand, Vietnam, and the European Union, participated in the Seminar.

II Opening Ceremony

4. Welcoming the participants, **H.E. Mrs. Pornpimol Kanchanalak, Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand**, emphasised that Asia and Europe formed the most significant axis of global commerce, with US\$1.5 trillion of annual merchandise trade and a multitude of connectivities between peoples, businesses and institutions. These connectivities are vital for peace, stability, economic prosperity, as well as fostering inclusive development which the Thai government attaches utmost importance to. Thus, it was propitious that Asia and Europe should collaborate closely to address the many challenges of the digital age as well as to embrace the opportunities it presents for our mutual benefit. Furthermore, the Advisor called for Asia and Europe to unite and work together to achieve comprehensive digital security and digital governance should also be developed to address the ethical and social issues that may arise. In doing so, the most important element is how to enhance human capital to adapt to changes and to gain new skills, while businesses will need to adapt their working culture in order to cultivate innovations and plan for future growth. She then went on to call for leaders and citizens to work together to shape a future that works for all by putting people first, empowering them and constantly reminding ourselves that all of these new technologies are “first and foremost tools made by people for people.”

III High-Level Commitment under the theme “Digital Transformation Trends - What Should Asia and Europe Change for Sustainable Digital Connectivity.”

5. **H.E. Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Former Minister of Digital Economy and Society of Thailand**, began by outlining the three pathways for Asia and Europe to collaborate on during the digital transformation; namely, to reduce disparity, to collaborate rather than to compete and to do so in a sustainable manner. To reduce disparity, he emphasised the vital importance of connectivity to ensure everyone could benefit from digital technology equally e.g. the “Village Internet” project undertaken by the Thai government. The said project could help increase the reach of OTOP products to a wider customer audience online. At the same time, he stressed the need to change the mindset of educational establishments in order to leverage digital technology for the education of the young people for the future. For collaboration, the former Minister suggested that Asia and Europe could work together on the governance of the digital development such as regulatory alignment and trade facilitation. As for the sustainability aspect, he professed that Asia and Europe could work together to ensure cyber resilience

and to leverage digital technology for the attainment of SDGs and other platforms such as smart cities network.

6. Mr. Gil S. Beltran, Undersecretary, Department of Finance, the Republic of the Philippines, began his remarks with examples of how technology had changed the way of life in the Philippines such as the arrival of GCash as a virtual wallet which helped propel the growth of mobile payments business or the introduction of the country's national single window called Tradenet.gov.ph as a digital platform to automate the licensing, permit, clearance, and certification systems for regulatory agencies in order to facilitate ease of doing business and to serve as the country's link to the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) gateway. He then urged the business and government sectors to work together to harness the benefits of technology, innovation, digitization, and e-commerce, both at the national and regional levels

7. H.E. Mr. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the European Union to Thailand, emphasised the importance of connectivity between the EU and Asia, both as trading partners and investors. He reasoned that this was why the EU attached prominence to the Europe-Asia Connectivity Strategy announced a year ago and pledged to commit to realise its goal. He stressed that the EU's strategy would be comprehensive, sustainable and based on the rules-based international order. He agreed that access to affordable digital technology and cyber security concerns such as the protection of personal data are as important as maintaining an open business environment for entrepreneurship. He ended his remarks by claiming that connectivity was in the EU's DNA and would remain high on the EU's agenda as a platform for cooperation in the future.

IV Bridging the Digital Skills Gap – Towards a Digital Literated Society in Asia and Europe

8. TED-style Talk under the theme “Skills for Success in the Digital Age” by Mr. Aditip Panupong, Industry Manager, Google Thailand, began his presentation with the proclamation that today's world was just at the very beginning of the Digital Age. Three key drivers for the world's digital transformation were then identified: Firstly, ‘true digital nativeness’, referred to how more and more technology would be increasingly integrated into a human's life and how this process had evolved naturally. Secondly, ‘globalized digital accessibility’, referred to how technology was bringing global population closer together online, and in turn, the skill gap was being reduced. Lastly, ‘machine-learning & automation’ would have great impact on the skill of the workforce and free up workers to do much higher skill jobs. For instance, a Google project developed an eye-scanning machine for detecting diabetes eye disease that free up doctors' time so they could focus better on diagnosing the scan results. Mr. Panupong emphasised that machines were not designed to take over humans.

Rather, every job would need to be evolved and new jobs would be created such as internet influencers, youtubers etc. Turning to the skills that would be essential in the 21st Century, Mr. Panupong outlined three main qualities that companies would look for, namely, foundational literacies, competencies (e.g. critical thinking/ problem-solving, creativity, communication and collaboration) and character qualities (e.g. curiosity, initiative, adaptability, leadership and social and cultural awareness). Finally, he highlighted some Google's strategy to help prepare the world for digitization, namely, building a teacher community for digital citizenship skills development; promoting partnership with companies and institutions for digital transformation; and fostering startup communities in Thailand.

9. Digital economy brings as much opportunities as challenges. When human resources are fused with digital skills, it can result in a huge leap in a country's economy. However, it is not an easy task; not something that the government can succeed without help from other sectors. Investment, ideas and participation in a very large scale, are required to form foundation policies, taking into account socio-economy factors, as well as other situation on the ground. The session, moderated by **Mr. Chayut Setboonsarng, Correspondent, covering business news, Reuters**, discussed the opportunities and challenges for fostering public-private partnership (PPP) at domestic, regional and cross-border levels to promote digital inclusivity and enhance country productivity by enhancing digital literacy in the human workforce. Among other interesting points, he raised the case of the GoJek founder, who had recently joined the Indonesian cabinet. It was agreed by the panel that GoJek case was a brilliant move to promote PPP for a sustainable digital economy.

10. **Ms. Sharifah Nur Izma, Head of Digitalised Skills, Tech Talent Development, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation, Malaysia (MDEC)**, shared Malaysian policy maker's experiences in driving the country towards an inclusive digital economy. To this end, Malaysian Government took a life-long learning approach to improve technology skills and digital literacy for Malaysians. Tax incentives and grants, among others, were used to upskill the workforce, too. School and university curriculums were also revised to be more practical and technology-oriented, and teachers were given ICT trainings. Furthermore, the Government also targeted to improve inclusivity through short courses for people with less exposure to technology, e.g. housewives. Last but not least, as Malaysia has a large agriculture sector, she attached importance to training farmers to embrace technology to increase their produce and generate more income.

11. **Mr. Tomoyuki Naito, Senior Advisor, ICT and Innovation for Development Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**, shared Japan's experiences in offering assistance and advice on ICT to other countries to help stimulate the country's development rates and reduce poverty. He believed that, in the Digital Age, having more people with entrepreneurial minds in Government would help bring new perspectives that could solve some longstanding problems in the country better than conservative approaches. At the digital economy policy level, while agreeing that ICT skills were important, he emphasized that its social aspect may not be neglected. Policy-makers should be aware of the generation gap and design development tools that are user friendly for all. As for startup, he advised students to do studies in startup unicorns. An interesting food for thought left for student participants was that successful startup projects were usually those who 'make the impossible possible'.

12. **Dr. Lauri Tuomi, CEO of the Finnish Lifelong Learning Foundation, Finland**, reiterated the importance of life-long learning for all, which had been the core value of his foundation for over 150 years. PPP was emphasized as a key mechanism to promote education and training both informally and formally, to create an impact on important issues, e.g. in shaping urbanization and in tackling climate change. From Finland's experience, life-long learning might be promoted through startups and collaborations with foreign institutions to find the best solutions. From learner's perspective, he was convinced, inspiration and community support held a key to a successful education. The education providers must, therefore, take into account teaching tools appropriate to their target groups.

13. **Mrs. Chu Hong Trang, Senior Manager of ICT Department, Ministry of Information and Communications**, outlined policies and projects undertaken by Vietnamese Government to promote literacy and provide appropriate tools for their people in the Digital Age: their main focus was to attract foreign direct investment to Vietnam. Among others, smart city and precise farming application for farmers were highlighted to promote digital economy in the country. As there was some room for improvement in terms of quantity and quality of ICT resources, the Vietnamese Government encouraged companies to invest in their own vocational courses so they could customize curriculums that cater for the companies directly.

14. **Mr. Amarit Charoeonphan, CEO, Hubba Thailand**, as the first startup coworking space provider in Thai startup ecosystem, he was passionate to share what Hubba had done to bring all stake holders and partners together to build talents for digital economy and increase their access to tech resources. While supporting the idea of having entrepreneurial minds in government, he made observation that at this turning point, those that had already joined the policy makers, like GoJek founder, needed to succeed. Otherwise, their failure would

have an adverse impact on the trend. He believed that it was important to promote inclusivity in the digital economy by giving people the right tools, knowledge and means so they could improve their lives. Emphasis was put on smart farming technology, widely used in Vietnam and Malaysia, as it hadn't been introduced to Thai farmers yet. He also stressed that PPP was very important and one of the government's roles that was crucial in bridging digital skill gap was to provide financial support to training courses. A concern was raised about the lengthy and rather strict immigration process in Thailand which he thought could be counter-productive in terms of foreign technology transfer and investment promotion in Thailand. Turning to educational institution, he believed that the ability to adapt quickly was important to survive – curriculum should then be adjusted to fit current situation from time to time and it shouldn't be too difficult to go through the curriculum changing process. Students should also look outside the courses in university and start experimental learning, aside from doing other free short courses online to improve capability.

V Accessing the Digital Marketplace - Towards an Open and Innovative Digital Global Economy

15. The potential for the digital economy to drive inclusive and sustainable growth is substantial. It is therefore vital for the ASEM partners to fully leverage the benefits of the digital economy and work together in tackling inequality and giving equal opportunities by enabling more people through infrastructure, and training, as well as by promoting business and community engagement, and digital innovation. The session, moderated by **Mr. Jonathan Tsuen Yip Wong, Chief of Technology and Innovation, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**, discussed how to advance digital platforms and ecosystem for digital economy development that benefits all sustainably and the important role of effective law enforcement in the digital era, and private sector in contributing towards innovations to improve financial service availabilities and how ASEM member governments could create a stronger relationship without leaving anyone behind.

16. **Dr. Sak Segkhoonthod, Senior Advisor, Electronic Transactions Development Agency (ETDA), Thailand**, outlined the data on the Thai e-commerce market which had value in 2018 of 100 billion USD with 14 percent growth rate. It was also expected to reach 20 percent in 2020. Social media for online shopping was among 1 in 5 top activities for around 45 million Thai internet users. He also highlighted the importance roles of ETDA, as a public organization, in engaging into an ambitious digital reform programmes in Thailand and in enabling an environment of trust and confidence in e-transactions and e-commerce in the country. Moreover, ETDA's role also covered not only in

protecting consumer rights but also in promoting “soft infrastructure”, including policy recommendation, the implementation of digital economy laws and standards. He mentioned that the coordination with other countries particularly in the region was necessary and underscored that under the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework, Thailand and ASEAN members could work together in facilitating seamless trade and digital payment. Moreover, he shared the view that the challenges for ETDA, as a digital transformation facilitator, were to reach higher performances in regulating businesses related to electronic transactions and to prepare Thai authorities and businesses to transform to digital government and to comply with international standards as well as to build a digitally skilled workforce that served the industry trends.

17. Mr. Feng Mingliang, Deputy General-Manager, Bureau of Policy and Regulations, Cyberspace Administration of China, underlined that China had become the driving force in the global digital economy. In 2018, China’s digital economy accounted for 34.5 percent of the country’s GDP and grew at the rate of 20.9 percent. Both, the Chinese government and the private sector, had gradually become more proactive in shaping digital development through regulations and enforcement. Moreover, the Chinese Government played important roles in encouraging investments in innovation, accommodating private sectors and enterprises in developing new applications, and implementing prudent regulatory frameworks to avoid major systematic risks. The Chinese Government was well aware that the development of digital economy could generate unbalanced results by growing the digital divide and replacing traditional industrial employment. Thus, it put efforts into encouraging and engaging more stakeholders to take part in the process of digital economy development with an aim to share opportunities for all equally. He also reiterated that besides the digital literacy, Asia and Europe could work together in exchanging data and information to find ways in implementing a balanced approach on taxation and protection of personal data in the digital era.

18. Ms. Carolyn Ann C. Reyes, Director of the Information Systems Group, Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Department of Finance, the Philippines, highlighted that the taxation in e-commerce which was the growing segment of the Philippines’ economy was a challenge and underscored the BIR’s roles in implementing the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program and in ensuring the proper collection of taxes from profits gained in the conduct of online business transaction. During the transition into digital economy, the Philippines created a nation-wide e-payment scheme and introduced the e-invoicing system. According to the Philippines’ laws and regulations, taxpayers engaged in e-commerce were required to issue electronic invoices and receipts and to report their sales data to the BIR. In order to use such fully digitalized systems and implement digital transformation in tax administration, digital literacy and up-skilling for all employees were, therefore, vital and challenging. To move

forward, the BIR conducted consultations and studies with stakeholders, such as young business people, start-up companies, and governmental agencies, to come up with a proper framework on taxation of the digital economy for better and simpler taxpayer service and ease of administration. She admitted that there seemed a lot for the BIR to learn more from collecting and analyzing the digitized detail data, so that the organization could optimize the existing tax administration system and allow businesses to comply with the new tax laws properly. Finally, she reiterated that Asia and Europe could work together in sharing data and information on taxation systems and tax laws to tackle the challenges in the allocation of taxing rights between source and residence jurisdiction, particularly from the corporate income tax and value added tax, in the digital economy.

19. Mrs. Alexandra Reich, CEO of DTAC Thailand (Telenor Group), Thailand, underscored the strategy to transform the company for a digital future and viewed that embracing this change could turn the challenges to opportunities in the digitalization and technology disruption era. She noted that according to the World Economic Forum Report, by 2022, an estimated 60 percent of global GDP would be digitized. The world was going to change, as an estimated 70 percent of new value created in the economy over the next decade would be based on digitally enabled platforms. Therefore, the telecom companies like DTAC also needed to change. The company focused more on the customer behavior and customized its service to the customers' need. The company also emphasized on the employee's new skill development and capacity building by curating the learning programme for them to respond to the requirement and need. Moreover, she stressed that the private sector needed to cooperate with the government, not only in terms of facilitating the digital ecosystem and infrastructure, but also in building up the digital IT ability of the future workforce. The future employees should be equipped with critical thinking capabilities and growth mindset. Furthermore, as far as the GDPR was concerned and discussed during the session, she opined that there were two sides of the coin and DTAC would have to ensure customers that the process of handling their personal data would comply with the rules and customers' need. She also called for the ASEM partners to learn more from each other and viewed that Asia needed to innovate more to grow in the digital transformation.

20. Mr. Danu Wicaksana, CEO of LinkAja, Republic of Indonesia, underlined that, in Indonesia, the e-commerce sector had grown the fastest, and mobile money could play a key role in driving the financial inclusion. Presently, some 66 percent of Indonesia's population of 260 million were unbanked. The FinTech solutions like mobile money, thus, could offer easier access for millions of the unbanked population to financial services. He viewed that mobile money platform could not only offer payment transactions, but also could provide an online lending facility. Moreover, LinkAja was open to collaboration with the Indonesian Government, banks, and other digital payment platforms to build up

new digital services. Through the mobile money platform, this could help transform unicorn startups and boost financial inclusion for all people, not only for those who lived in the cities but beyond. Moreover, as far as the data privacy was concerned, he emphasized that imposing rules to protect people's data with rights over their data were needed. However, ultimately, the efforts to find a balance to ensure both privacy and security for the digital economy were important. It should not get too far on the other side. Finally, he opined that ASEM members should collaborate together in digital literacy and education system development and, at the regional level, the Central Banks in ASEAN should work together in developing a framework on digital taxation.

21. Ms. Pabhasiri Mahatharadol, Head of Corporate Development, Shopee Thailand, that e-commerce platforms can strongly support entrepreneurs and micro, small and medium size enterprises. She elaborated that Shopee, as a leading e-commerce platform in Southeast Asia and Taiwan, is now operated in 7 major countries, namely Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Singapore, Thailand, and Taiwan. Shopee focus at localization strategy and conducted many in-house researches on what the market and the seller in each country needed. Shopee had launched various SMEs empowerment initiatives such as Shopee University, Shopee Bootcamp, providing a series of in-depth workshops, to aid local entrepreneurs and businesses in setting up their online businesses and equip them with knowledge such as online marketing & selling technique to succeed in the competitive e-commerce environment. Realizing that small to medium enterprises (SMEs) were one of the key sectors driving forward the Thai economy, and digital commerce ecosystem could provide opportunities for offline SMEs, Shopee, therefore, had been collaborating with various organization in digital training to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises and retailers in local communities to support their business online, as well as supporting marketing activities to ensure SMEs growth in Shopee platform.

VI Towards Sustainable Digital Connectivity and Security in Asia and Europe

22. The adoption of digital technology has undoubtedly been a powerful approach to increase economic growth, elevate the competitiveness and improve economic inclusion. However, it is undeniable that a wide range of challenges has arisen from the emergence of disruptive technology. On one hand, despite the advancement in digital and technological development, inadequate capacity in utilizing new technology, security problems, and low level of trust in the system can potentially impede digital optimization. On the other hand, the speedy and easy-to-access features of digital technology have brought about the utilization of technology in dark and dangerous ways, particularly as a channel for fake news, hate speech and radical mobilization. The session, moderated by **Dr. Darmp**

Sukontasap, Governor of Thailand to ASEF, Executive Director and Chair of IT Strategy and Policy Committee, Export-Import Bank of Thailand, discussed the development of local capacity and public-private partnership towards an inclusive and secured digitalized society, and actions taken by different sectors to promote cybersecurity and to combat disinformation and online radicalism.

23. **Mr. Desarak Teso, Director-Corporate External & Legal Affairs, Microsoft, Thailand,** presented the private sector's perspective on digital economy and security. He viewed digital adoption as a key to sustainability in digital economy which should also be supported by public policies on data privacy, cybersecurity and digital skills, and inclusivity. For Thailand, there is a need for a comprehensive digital skills programme in local capacity development, starting from the primary school to university level to cope with the talent shortage, especially of data scientists and cybersecurity professionals. In this regard, Microsoft works with a number of universities to customize and localize curriculums on data science and cybersecurity. The company also joined hands with Digital Economy Promotion Agency (DEPA) to launch "Coding Thailand" as a platform for children to learn about coding. Moreover, through the company's own platform, the company provides short online courses on digital technology, including AI school for business. In addition to sustainable capacity building, he also emphasized the active roles of private sector in combating violent extremism. The Christchurch mass shooting in March 2019 was a wake-up call for Microsoft and IT industries to provide newer technologies against violent extremism problems. Regarding the industry-wide approach, apart from the collaboration among different IT companies, including Microsoft, Google, Facebook and Twitter, to monitor online extremism and hateful speech, he underlined a virtual command center that was introduced as an operation platform for different IT companies to coordinate and share intelligence in response to an incident similar to Christchurch mass shooting.

24. **Mr. Andrus Kaarelson, Director of State Information Systems, Estonia,** presented the successful experience of implementing e-government in Estonia where more than 99 percent of public services can be accessed online. To achieve that, he underscored life-long learning to develop people's digital skills. In terms of digital facility, internet connectivity should be reliable, accessible and affordable. He also emphasized the big achievement of Estonia in building trust in the government system among peoples. In doing so, electronic IDs and real time data exchanges have to be secured and protected. Importantly, the development towards digitalized society of Estonia was a result of over 30 years of visionary leadership from top executive level and the contributions from advisory teams and working groups composed of scientists and IT experts. In addition, the Estonian private sector became a key sector in delivering inventions and mobilizing technologies. Finally, he reiterated the importance of preventive

measures not only in building trust for online activities, but also to great extent in handling fake news during the Estonian parliament election in March 2019.

25. Mr. Petri Koistinen, Principal Administrator, DG CONNECT (Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology), European Commission, highlighted three concepts when considering sustainable digital connectivity. First, he emphasized the *holistic* measurement of successes, especially in innovation, cybersecurity or digital inclusivity. Second, he drew attention to *evidence-based regulation* that signifies the involvement of business sector, consumers and policy makers as well as the trust-building among all stakeholders. Third, he pointed out *cooperation* under the existing regional frameworks, including the EU and ASEAN. In regard to the regional-wide practices of the EU towards capacity development of the business and cybersecurity, he presented the EU's new voluntary framework that seeks to, on one hand, certify products and services that are safe in the digital market and, on the other hand, provide security assurance to the consumers. In addition, he shared the EU's good practice of tackling disinformation and fake news activities which became a big concern for the EU before the European Parliament Election in May 2019. The EU in 2018 adopted "Action Plan against Disinformation" consisting four main elements, which are improving detection, coordinating responses, engaging online platform and industries, and raising awareness and empowering the citizens. The implementation of the action plan was considered contributive to a progress in the fight against disinformation during the election, which was also evidenced by a very low percentage of junk and fake news stories shared among Twitter users according to independent analyses and researches.

26. Ms. Marietta S. König, Senior External Co-operation Officer, Office of the OSCE Secretary General, pointed out that the OSCE is the world's largest regional security organization, with 57 participating States in Europe, Asia and North America. It works to enhance stability and security for more than a billion people through political dialogue and co-operation. The participating States further agreed to strengthened co-operation with 11 Partner States including Thailand, which is the only OSCE Partner who is also a member of ASEAN. Regional co-operation is high on the OSCE agenda including initiatives for strengthening relations with regional frameworks. With the digital age gathering pace, the OSCE together with its regional partners is looking into the security implications of this transformation. The 2019 OSCE Asian Conference was dedicated to the question on how to achieve comprehensive security in the digital area. One of the issues addressed was how to tackle risks of conflict stemming from the use of Information and Communication Technologies. The OSCE has started to work on cyber/ICT security issues in 2012, when the open-ended Informal Working Group was established with the goal to develop confidence building measures to reduce the risks stemming from the use of ICTs. These are non-binding, voluntary measures, but all the 57 States made a political

commitment to adhere to these measures. The aim of the confidence building measures is to enhance interstate co-operation, transparency, predictability, and stability, as well as to reduce the risks of misperception, escalation, and conflict that may stem from the use of ICTs. To date, the OSCE participating States adopted 16 practical cyber/ICT confidence-building measures (CBMs), which constitute a core pillar of international cyber diplomacy. Another session of the Conference in Tokyo focused on the digital economy as a driver for promoting co-operation, security and growth. The digital economy is a powerful catalyst for innovation, growth and prosperity. With its manifold areas of application and impact, digital transformation is rather a cross-cutting issue and already at the 2018 OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, the nexus between technology and security has been explored paving the way for a declaration on the digital economy, and a decision on human capital in the digital area at the 2018 OSCE Ministerial Council. Acknowledging the importance of the exchange with the youth in local capacity building, the OSCE is engaging the youth on the topic of youth and security. Finally, with the changes in environment led by the digital era, she also mentioned utilization of online platforms by the OSCE to promote expertise and knowledge through a number of projects, such as workshops for judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers on countering the use of the internet for terrorist purposes or the “OSCE United in Countering Violent Extremism (#UnitedCVE)” campaign which is an online media outlet– , which looks into joint efforts to countering violent extremism that leads to terrorism
