



•MITD

MINISTRO

PER L'INNOVAZIONE TECNOLOGICA
E LA TRANSIZIONE DIGITALE

DIGITAL MINISTERS' MEETING

5th August 2021

Media Handbook
www.g20.org

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ABOUT THE G20



The G20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies. Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP, 75% of global trade and 60% of the population of the planet. The forum has met every year since 1999 and includes, since 2008, a yearly Summit, with the participation of the respective Heads of State and Government. In addition to the Summit, ministerial and finance track deputies meetings, working groups and special events are organised throughout the year.

Participants

The G20 members are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union. Spain is also invited as a permanent guest.

Each year, the Presidency invites guest countries, which take full part in the G20 exercise. Several international and regional organisations also participate, granting the forum an even broader representation.

How the G20 works

The G20 does not have a permanent secretariat: its agenda and activities are established by the rotating Presidencies, in cooperation with the membership.

A "Troika", represented by the country that holds the Presidency, its predecessor and its successor, works to ensure continuity within the G20.

The Troika countries are currently Saudi Arabia, Italy and Indonesia.

Origins of the G20

In 1999, in the wake of the 1997 economic crisis, the G7 Finance Ministers announced the creation of the "Group of 20", aimed at including other countries in their discussions related to global economics and finance. The first official meeting of the G20 was held in Berlin in December that same year.

Following the 2008 financial crisis, the United States proposed to increase the level of participation of the G20 to Heads of State and Government.

At the 2009 Pittsburgh Summit, the Heads of State and Government decided to institutionalise the G20 as the main forum for global economic and financial cooperation.

The G20 Leaders have met every year since 2010.

ITALIAN G20 PRESIDENCY

PEOPLE

PLANET

PROSPERITY

The world is facing many difficult challenges today, which the G20 is intensely working to address, by identifying – and implementing – shared, coordinated and equitable responses. This requires vision, dialogue, mutual understanding, and a profound awareness of our common global responsibilities.

The pandemic has had profound impacts on the health of humans worldwide. It has affected peoples' livelihoods, our economies, and international trade. It has added its burden onto other systemic problems, from climate change to inequality, which are hampering our ability to fully prosper and express our potential. It has also made one thing clear: we live in an era in which local problems swiftly become global challenges. This, however, also means that we can work together to recover from this crisis and seize the opportunity to build back better, learning from our shared experience and ensuring that efficient, innovative tools and technologies become the basis for a more resilient, sustainable and greener growth.

In an increasingly interconnected world, multilateralism is far more than an abstract concept. It is the key to responding to these challenges, and the G20, bringing together much of the world's population and of the global economy, must live up to its role. This is why the 2021 G20, under the Italian Presidency, will focus on three broad, interconnected pillars of action: **People, Planet, Prosperity**.

Within these pillars, we are taking the lead in ensuring a swift international response to the pandemic - able to provide equitable, worldwide access to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines - while building up resilience to future health-related shocks.

We are also looking beyond the crisis, towards ensuring a rapid recovery that addresses people's needs. This implies a focus on reducing inequalities, on women's empowerment, on the younger generations and on protecting the most vulnerable. It means promoting the creation of new jobs, social protection and food security.

The G20 is also intent on paving the way to rebuilding differently in the aftermath of the crisis. More efficiently, through a better use of renewable energies and with a firm commitment to protecting our climate and our common environment.

This is a prerequisite for our sustained prosperity. A prosperous future, however, also requires that we properly harness the main drivers of growth and innovation. We are working to bridge the digital divide and make digitalization an opportunity for all, improve productivity and – in short – to leave no one behind.

2021 MINISTERS' MEETINGS

Many institutional meetings (Working Groups, Ministerial Meetings and final Summit) and special events will take place over the course of the year-long Italian Presidency.

The intense schedule will embrace a large part of the country, highlighting many of the excellences scattered throughout Italy.

The dates and format of the events may be subject to change.

		
4 th May	Tourism	VTC
22 nd - 23 rd June	Labour and Education	Catania
29 th June	Foreign Affairs and Development	Matera
30 th June	Ministerial Event on humanitarian assistance	Brindisi
9 th - 10 th July	Economy and Finance	Venice
22 nd - 23 rd July	Environment, Climate and Energy	Naples
29 th - 30 th July	Culture	Rome
5 th - 6 th August	Digital Ministers' Meeting - Research Ministers' Meeting	Trieste
5 th - 6 th September	Health	Rome
17 th - 18 th September	Agriculture	Florence
12 th October	Trade	Sorrento
30th - 31st October	G20 Summit	Rome

DIGITAL MINISTERS' MEETING

CONTEXT

The global crisis caused by the Covid-19 outbreak accelerated the digital transition process already underway. The Italian Presidency of the G20 focuses its work on ensuring a rapid recovery centered on *People, Planet and Prosperity*.

To this aim, [the G20 Digital Economy Task Force \(DETF\)](#) - co-chaired by the Minister for Technological Innovation and Digital Transition (MITD) and the Minister of Economic Development (MiSE) - pursued a pragmatic approach. The DETF valued and encouraged information sharing among Members in order to nurture mutual learning while remaining cognisant of the diverse normative approaches and technological solutions. The DETF agenda has been organised into two streams: Digital Economy, chaired by the MiSE, and Digital Government, chaired by the MITD. The G20 Digital Ministers' Meeting's session on Digital Government will be chaired by Minister Colao and it will focus on three issues.

Digital identity

Digital identity is a tool that can provide citizens with both a secure identification method and a trustworthy access to digital services. Secure and privacy-compliant digital identity solutions facilitate the continuous and reliable delivery of public services and unlock full participation in society. The Presidency also focussed on the potential of digital identity solutions in humanitarian aid in emergency contexts. The Presidency facilitated a constructive international dialogue on digital identity among G20 members by gathering members' experiences in developing and implementing digital identity, with a view of working towards increasingly portable and interoperable solutions.

Digital tools for public services and their continuity

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of digital tools to ensure the continuity, safety, security and resilience of public services. Artificial intelligence applications and other emerging technologies solutions to public services can transform the way governments develop and deliver services and policies that meet the needs of citizens. The G20 Presidency has collected numerous experiences reported by the countries themselves in the *Compendium on the use of digital tools for public service continuity*.

Agile Regulation

Digitalisation and technological innovation are raising new governance and regulatory challenges for governments worldwide. Agile regulation can support growth and innovation. Technological breakthroughs are enabling the development of new products, services and business models that were hardly imaginable even a few years ago. If well governed, these innovations can result in substantial welfare gains, agile regulation can support growth and innovation by allowing for their experimentation in controlled environments - through regulatory sandboxes - before they are rolled-out in society at large.

By doing so, Governments can minimise unintended consequences while nurturing the development of innovations for the public good. The G20 Members' contribution to the debate has been summarised in the *Survey on agile regulation across G20 Members*.

At the *Ministerial Meeting*, to be held on 5 August 2021 in Trieste, G20 members will adopt the *Declaration of G20 Digital Ministers - Leveraging Digitalisation for a Resilient, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery*.

HOST CITY: TRIESTE



(photo: Municipality of Trieste)

Unique in its kind and endowed with a fascinating atmosphere typical of Mitteleurope, the multicultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious city of Trieste is a fertile ground for the flourishing of culture and innovation.

Its commercial port is the leader for freight traffic in Italy and a strategic trade hub for the country, in the European context.

Trieste is a gateway to Central and Eastern Europe, rediscovered and appreciated by the ever-increasing number of tourists from around the globe. From this area you can visit four countries and, in just ninety minutes, make excursions to Venice, Slovenia, Croatia and Austria.

The requalification of the *Porto Vecchio*, an area of 65 hectares which had been inaccessible for decades, has transformed the warehouses for goods into warehouses for ideas and projects, aimed to support and enrich the social, cultural, economic and commercial growth of the city.

In recent years, Trieste has been building its future and broadening its horizons to become a reference point for a Europe that is increasingly open to the East.

AGENDA 5th August 2021



	Opening remarks by the Italian G20 Presidency
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm	
	Joint Session Mise and MITD - “Enabling Digital Transformation”
Break	
	“Digital Government” Session – G20 Digital Ministerial Meeting
2:30 pm - 4:10 pm	
	Adoption of the Declaration
	Closing remarks
4:30 pm	Press Conference with Minister Colao

MEDIA PROGRAMME: INFORMATION

Journalists, photographers and TV crews interested in physically attending the media programme, the final Press Conference, and accessing the Media Centre, **may request accreditation** by 3 August 2021, no later than 6:00pm CET, via the following link: <https://g20italia2021.org/> or by clicking on the “Accreditation” section of the Italian G20 Presidency website: <https://www.g20.org/>

For first-time registration (if not already registered for G20 events) applicants must fill in the form providing the required details and upload a copy of the following documents (PDF or JPEG format, max 2MB):

- Valid passport or ID card (mandatory)
- Letter of assignment on official letterhead (mandatory also for freelance journalists)
- Photo (exclusively JPEG format, max. 2MB)
- Press card

The **Media Centre** is located within the Trieste Convention Center and will be open on August 5th from 8:00am to 6:30 pm.

To access the Media Centre, media representatives are required to show a negative rapid antigen test, carried out within 48 hours prior to entry.

After the approval of the registration, accreditation badges will be provided to media representatives at the Accreditation Centre, located at the “Savoia Excelsior Palace” (Riva del Mandracchio, 4). The Accreditation Center will be open from 9am to 6pm on August 3th, from 9am to 8pm on August 4th and from 8am to 8pm on August 5th.

Please note that due to Covid-19 restrictions there may be additional restrictions and controls in place.

The **Press Conference with Minister Colao** will take place at 4:30pm at the Convention Center (simultaneous translation available).

CONTACTS

Press Office Ministry for Technological Innovation and Digital Transition (MITD)



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G20 Social Media accounts



Twitter
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