

Think  
*new things*  
Make  
*new connections*

## **Techno-Democracy: how can democracies adopt AI and other emerging technologies at speed in order to strengthen both global competitiveness and core values?**

24-25 February 2022  
(with departures on 26 February for in-person guests)

### Programme

*Participants and observers are reminded of the private and confidential basis on which Ditchley Foundation conferences are held. All those participating do so in their personal capacities, not as spokespeople for any country or institution. In addition, all the proceedings take place under the 'Ditchley Rule', whereby all contributions are unattributable and interventions are made in strict confidence; this also applies to exchanges that take place outside the formal sessions. Those present are free to draw afterwards on the substance of what has been said, but not under any circumstances to reveal to any person not participating in the conference who it was that said it. The Rule will be scrupulously observed in the Note later produced on the conference by the Director. The verbal discussions will **not** be recorded, and private Zoom chats are, by definition, private. Public Zoom chats (i.e. chats sent to 'Everyone') will be saved, as substantive comments and exchanges may potentially contribute to the final conference report.*

#### **A Note about the programme:**

The following programme encompasses the timings for guests in multiple time zones, as shown (*these are not entirely comprehensive, due to space limitations*). Inevitably, some sessions fall during guests' night-time hours at certain points in the programme and these guests are not *expected* to join at these times; however, all guests are nevertheless *welcome* to attend all the sessions.

**Please note** the timings as they relate to you.

#### **Legend:**

AEDT: Australia Eastern Daylight Time

CET: Central European Time

EST: Eastern Standard Time

GMT: Greenwich Mean Time/UK time

IST: India Standard Time

JST: Japan Standard Time

PST: Pacific Standard Time

SGT: Singapore Time

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## Day 1 – 24 February

	In-person guests	Remote guests
	Arrivals: Guests arriving by train will be collected from the 12.50 service from London Paddington, arriving at Charlbury at 14.00.	
1500 GMT	Tea in the Saloon	
0745 PST 1045 EST 1545 GMT 1645 CET		<i>Ditchley host opens Zoom call early, for those who would like to check their connection or who have a question.</i>  Ditchley telephone number, in case of need: +44 (0)1608 677346 (landline) or email: <a href="mailto:Conference.coordinator@ditchley.com">Conference.coordinator@ditchley.com</a>
1550 GMT	In-person guests take their seats in the <b>Library</b>	
0755 PST 1055 EST 1555 GMT 1655 CET		Remaining guests join the Zoom call.

0800 PST  
1100 EST  
1600 GMT  
1700 CET

Director, James Arroyo, opens the conference, *invites everyone to mute their microphone and turn on their video, and explains the procedure for the day.*

### PLENARY SESSION I

***What could techno-democracy look like (and what do we want it to look like) in the political West? How can we best shape this based on the technology landscape in front of us?***

After introductory remarks, the discussion will be open for interventions from participants. Please use the **'Hand Raise'** function in Zoom or raise your nameplate if you are in the room to indicate your wish to speak.

*Your active participation in the discussion is encouraged. Remote guests: please familiarise yourself ahead of the conference with the location of the Hand Raise button: depending on your device, it is usually found under the 'Reactions' menu; under 'Participants', next to your name; or under 'More' on mobile devices.*

0930 PST 1230 EST 1730 GMT 1830 CET	Break (25 min) Coffee in the Saloon	Break (25 min)
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	<b>In-person guests</b>	<b>Remote guests</b>
<b>0955 PST 1255 EST</b> <b>1755 GMT 1855 CET</b>	In-house guests take their seats in their <b>break-out rooms</b>	Guests re-join the Zoom call, using the <i>same</i> Zoom link.

**1000 PST**  
**1300 EST**  
**1800 GMT**  
**1900 CET**

Following introductory remarks from the Director, participants will be moved into their Zoom break-out rooms.

*Please be ready to engage in active discussion and as a courtesy to your fellow group members, please keep your video on and multi-tasking to a minimum.*

**Working Group discussion, Session One**

**Group A**

**The impact of AI and digital technologies on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy**

**Group B**

**The impact of biotechnology on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy.**

**Group C**

**The safeguards, norms and institutions we will need to develop at speed in parallel to accelerating use of data, AI and biotechnology**

**1130 PST 1430 EST**  
**1930 GMT 2030 CET**

Working Group discussion closes (hard stop: Zoom break-out groups close automatically)

<b>1930 GMT</b>	Drinks in the Saloon	Break
<b>2015 GMT</b>	Dinner	
	<i>The following session is scheduled at a time that makes it possible to bring together <b>participants from the Americas, Asia and Oceania</b>. (Guests for whom these sessions fall during night-time hours are not <b>expected</b> to join but are nevertheless <b>welcome</b> to join.)</i>	
<b>1555 PST 1855 EST</b> <b>2355 GMT</b> <b>Friday:</b> <b>0755 SGT 0855 JST</b> <b>1055 AEDT</b>	(Night-owls who wish to join this session should connect to Zoom using their personal mobile device.)	Ditchley host opens Zoom call. Guests re-join the Zoom call using the <u>same</u> Zoom link.

<b>1600 PST 1900 EST</b> <b>0000 GMT</b> <b>Friday:</b> <b>0800 SGT 0900 JST</b> <b>1100 AEDT</b>		<b>Working Group discussion:</b>  <b>Group D: What can the political West learn from breakthroughs and failures in Asian techno-democracy? Where is partnership and experimentation best going forward?</b>
<b>1730 PST 2030 EST</b> <b>Friday:</b> <b>0130 GMT 0930 SGT</b> <b>1030 JST 1230 AEDT</b>	Working Group D discussion closes (hard stop).	

## Day 2 – 25 February

	<b>In-person guests</b>	<b>Remote guests</b>
<b>0800 GMT</b>	Breakfast	
<b>0900 GMT</b>	A Ditchley discussion on the future of UK science and technology innovation:  <i><b>Space for strategic thinking and decision-making: What are the current barriers to more effective action and how can we address these?</b></i>	
<b>1015 GMT</b>	Coffee	
<b>1035 GMT 1135 CET</b> <b>1835 SGT 1935 JST</b> <b>2135 AEDT</b>	Guests take their seats in the <b>Library</b>	<i>Ditchley host opens Zoom call. Guests re-join the meeting using the same Zoom link as before.</i>

**1040 GMT**  
**1140 CET**  
**1840 SGT**  
**1940 JST**  
**2140 AEDT**

### PLENARY SESSION II

#### *Experimentation in Asian techno-democracy*

After introductory remarks, the discussion will be open for interventions from participants. Please use the ‘**Hand Raise**’ function in Zoom or raise your nameplate if you are in the room to indicate your wish to speak.

	<b>In-person guests</b>	<b>Remote guests</b>
<b>1215 GMT 1315 CET</b> <b>2015 SGT 2115 JST</b> <b>2315 AEDT</b>	Break: Time to check personal emails Drinks in the Saloon	Break
<b>1245 GMT</b>	Buffet Lunch	
<b>0845 EST 1345 GMT</b> <b>1445 CET 2145 SGT</b>		<i>Ditchley host opens Zoom call.</i>
<b>0855 EST 1355 GMT</b> <b>1455 CET 2155 SGT</b>	In-house guests take their seats in their <b>break-out rooms</b>	Remaining guests re-join the Zoom call using the <i>same</i> Zoom link as earlier.

**0900 EST 1400 GMT**  
**1500 CET 2200 SGT**

Following introductory remarks from the Director, participants will be moved into their Zoom break-out rooms.

*Please be ready to engage in active discussion and as a courtesy to your fellow group members, please keep your video on and multi-tasking to a minimum.*

**Working Group discussion, Session Two:**  
***What actions can we take individually and together going forward?***

**Group A**

The impact of AI and digital technologies on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy

**Group B**

The impact of biotechnology on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy.

**Group C**

The safeguards, norms and institutions we will need to develop at speed in parallel to accelerating use of data, AI and biotechnology

**1015 EST 1515 GMT**  
**1615 CET 2315 SGT**

Working Group discussion closes (hard stop: Zoom break-out groups close automatically)

	Tea in the Saloon	Break
<b>1550 GMT</b>	In-house guests take their seats in the <b>Library</b>	

<b>1055 EST 1555 GMT</b> <b>1655 CET</b>		Remote guests re-join the Zoom call using the <i>same</i> Zoom link as earlier.
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Director welcomes everyone back, and explains the procedure for the following sessions

### PLENARY SESSION III

#### Report-back sessions:

*In a series of overlapping report-back discussions, the Rapporteurs and Chairs from each group will provide the main points, as they see them, to have emerged from their discussion, before the remaining members of those groups are invited to add their comments.*

*Each session will last approximately 20 minutes.*

**1100 EST 1600 GMT**  
**1700 CET**

#### Presentation of key points from discussions in Group A

The impact of AI and digital technologies on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy.

**1120 EST 1620 GMT**  
**1720 CET**

#### Presentation of key points from discussions in Group B

The impact of biotechnology on the economy, civil society and defence and how we can accelerate our levels of innovation, development and adoption, including through funding and industrial strategy.

**1140 EST 1640 GMT**  
**1740 CET**

#### Presentation of key points from discussions in Group C

The safeguards, norms and institutions we will need to develop at speed in parallel to accelerating use of data, AI and biotechnology.

**1200 EST 1700 GMT**  
**1800 CET**

### PLENARY SESSION IV

#### Conference Rapporteur presentation:

Final discussion, followed by closing remarks

	<b>In-person guests</b>	<b>Remote guests</b>
<b>1240 EST 1740 GMT</b> <b>1840 CET</b>	Coffee	Conference closes

The following portion of the programme will bring an invited audience from the wider Ditchley community, via Zoom, to hear a presentation of the of the main findings, lines of discussion and conclusions (if any) from the conference, and to participate in a Q&A.

<b>1300 EST 1800 GMT</b> <b>1900 CET</b>	In-house guests take their seats in the <b>Library</b> for Director's briefing ahead of the post-conference panel discussion.	A <b>separate</b> Zoom link will be provided to our remote guests for this session, and all conference participants are welcome to re-join for this discussion, if they would like to do so.
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**1315 EST 1815 GMT**  
**1915 CET**

Briefing for an invited Ditchley audience, followed by a Q&A:

***Techno-Democracy: how can democracies adopt AI and other emerging technologies at speed in order to strengthen both global competitiveness and core values?***

**1415 EST 1915 GMT**  
**2015 CET**

Briefing closes

<b>2000 GMT</b>	Drinks in the White Drawing Room	
<b>2040 GMT</b>	Black-tie Dinner and overnight	

## Day 3 – 26 February

**08.00 GMT** Breakfast followed by departures

**09.00 GMT** Transport to Charlbury station for the 09.27 train to Paddington (arrives 10.39)

### **NOTE 1: Luggage**

*It is helpful if your luggage is labelled with your name, so that your luggage may more easily be directed on arrival and departure.*

*Please place your baggage (other than hats, coats and hand luggage) outside your bedroom **by 8am** on Saturday, so that it may be collected and brought to the Hall. Individual arrangements will be made should anyone need to leave earlier.*

**Please note:** Luggage will be arranged in the Hall according to whether you are travelling to the station or by car. Please check that your luggage is in the correct place prior to your departure and avoid placing belongings in the vicinity of luggage destined for the station.

### **NOTE 2: Internet Access**

*Wi-fi is available throughout the ground floor of the main house. The network name is '**Ditchley Guest**' and no password is required.*