

Migration 4.0 event kicks off discussion of digital transformation in managing migration

During Germany's Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community is hosting a discussion with European and international partners on migration and digital technologies.

“Using digital tools to manage migration is not just about technology, but about people and ethical issues,” stressed Stefan Mayer, Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community. When it comes to migration, digital technologies are already firmly established. But many European countries have just started analysing how new technologies affect migration, and many governments are still in the early stages of designing digital processes and measures to manage migration.

At the two-hour virtual kick-off event Migration 4.0, participants from the European Union member states were able to take a look at the entire extent of digital transformation: from how artificial intelligence and machine learning can help to forecast migration movements; to new channels and means of communication, such as social media and virtual counselling; as well as digital aids for managing migration, such as facial recognition, speech recognition and blockchain.

Today's kick-off event will be followed by formats for more detailed discussion, organised by the federal ministry in cooperation with partners including the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees, the European Commission, the International Organization for Migration, the European Asylum Support Office, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Experts can access the discussion space at <https://migrationnetwork.un.org/migration-digitalization> to share ideas and information.