

Joint Statement

Connect Europe and KTOA reaffirm their long-standing partnership in advancing innovation, reliability, and sustainability across global communications networks.

On 29 September 2025, the two associations jointly participated in the **Global Forum on Reliable Networks in the AI Era** in Seoul, which gathered policymakers, industry leaders, academia, and civil society. Hosted by the National Assembly of Korea, and with the participation of the Ministry of Science and ICT, GSMA, European stakeholders, and Korean businesses, the event provided a high-level platform to exchange views on how telecom networks can best serve the digital economy in the age of Artificial Intelligence.

The discussions highlighted the importance of future-ready networks, sound regulatory frameworks, and global cooperation to ensure that digital transformation remains inclusive and sustainable. Both associations underlined that reliable, high-quality connectivity is the backbone of innovation in AI, advanced computing, and next-generation services.

Connect Europe and KTOA stressed their shared commitment to fostering a healthy and sustainable investment environment for network deployment. This includes building resilient infrastructures, supporting responsible adoption of AI, and ensuring that telecom investment continues to benefit consumers, businesses, and society at large.

In Europe, a new cycle of policy and regulatory reform is beginning for the telecom sector. The forthcoming Digital Networks Act and Cloud and AI Development Act will be central to shaping the future of connectivity and digital services. **Connect Europe and KTOA** believe these initiatives can strengthen investment conditions for telecom operators while unlocking new waves of innovation for businesses and consumers.

This cooperation takes place in the broader context of closer **EU–Korea** digital relations. The **EU–Korea** Digital Trade Agreement, signed in March 2025, establishes modern rules to facilitate equitable, open, and secure digital trade. In addition, the mutual adequacy decision on privacy, adopted in September 2025, will enable trusted and seamless transfers of personal data between the **EU and Korea**. Together, these milestones create a strong foundation for deeper collaboration between European and Korean telecom operators.

By working together, **Connect Europe and KTOA** will continue to promote policies and practices that enable equitable, sustainable, and innovative telecom ecosystems worldwide.

Signed on 29 September 2025

Connect Europe

KTOA

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